

First Grade “Early People and Civilizations” Assessment

- 1a. The _____ bridge used to connect Asia and America.
- 1b. What used to connect Asia and America?

- 1c. Explain what the “land bridge” between Asia and America was.

- 2a. Why did many people travel from Asia to America?
a. The soil in America was better for growing crops.
b. They followed the animals they hunted.
- 2b. Why did many people travel from Asia to America?
a. They didn’t like living in Asia.
b. The soil in America was better for growing crops.
c. They followed the animals they hunted.
d. The animals in America had better tasting meat.
- 2c. Why caused many people to travel from Asia to America?

- 3a. Ancient people began as _____ and then became farmers.
- 3b. Ancient people started out _____ animals. Later they started _____ the land.
- 3c. Describe the change that early people experienced as they changed from hunters to farmers.

- 4a. As the early people moved into the Americas they settled and built cities and _____.
- 4b. Early people in the Americas built _____ and _____ where people could settle and live.
- 4c. What does it mean to say that the early settlers in the Americas built civilizations?

- 5a. Which civilization began in the rainforests of Central America and in parts of Mexico?
- a. The Mayans
 - b. The Egyptians

5b. Which civilization began in the rainforests of Central America and in parts of Mexico?

5c. Circle the places that the Mayans NEVER lived in:

- a. Central America
- b. Canada
- c. Australia
- d. Mexico
- e. Egypt

6a. Circle the items that are TRUE about Mayan civilization:

- a. They developed the first car.
- b. They grew corn, squash, and beans.
- c. They lived in tepees.
- d. They worshipped animal gods and nature gods.
- e. They made a calendar.
- f. They invented the airplane.

6b. Circle the items that are TRUE about Mayan civilization:

- a. They invented the covered wagon.
- b. They grew corn, squash, and beans.
- c. They lived in tepees.
- d. They worshipped animal gods and nature gods.
- e. They made a calendar.
- f. They lived in South America.
- g. They hunted dinosaurs.

6c. Give three details about the life of the Mayan civilization.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

7a. What group of people built their civilization where Mexico City is today?

7b. What modern day city is where the Aztecs built their empire?

7c. Retell the legend of why the Aztecs settled where they did in Mexico.

8a. What ancient city is now Mexico City?

- a. Tenochtitlan
- b. Jaguar

8b. What does “Tenochtitlan” mean?

8c. Why was the location of Tenochtitlan so unusual?

9a. Who was the leader of the Aztecs when the Spanish came and conquered the Aztecs?

- a. Montezuma
- b. Francisco Pizarro

9b. Who was the leader of the Aztecs when the Spanish came and conquered the Aztecs?

9c. How did the end of the Aztec Empire occur?

10a. What ancient people lived in the mountains of Peru and Chile?

- a. The Babylonians
- b. The Inca

10b. Where did the Inca people live?

- a. Mexico
- b. Asia
- c. Brazil
- d. Peru

10c. Describe the land where the Inca built their empire.

11a. The Inca called Macchu Picchu the “city in the _____.”

11b. The “city in the clouds” built by the Inca is called _____.

11c. Compare Macchu Picchu to Tenochtitlan.

The following Colorado Model Content Standards are covered in this assessment by the questions indicated.

Questions 9a, 9b, 9c: History Standard 3.1. Students know how various societies were affected by contacts and exchanges among diverse peoples.

Questions 9a, 9b, 9c: History Standard 5.3. Students know how political power has been acquired, maintained, used, and/or lost throughout history.

Question 7c: History Standard 6.2. Students know how societies have been affected by religions and philosophies.

Questions 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 10a, 10b, 10c: Geography Standard 1.2. Students develop knowledge of Earth to locate people, places, and environments.

Questions 10a, 10b, 10c: Geography Standard 2.1. Students know the physical and human characteristics of places.

Questions 2a, 2b, 2c: Geography Standard 4.1. Students know the characteristics, location, distribution, and migration of human populations.

Questions 9a, 9b, 9c: Geography Standard 4.5. Students know how cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface.

Answer Key

- 1a. land
1b. the land bridge
1c. Acceptable answers could include:
-At one time Asia and America were connected with a strip of land. People and animals traveled across land from Asia to America.
- 2a. b. They followed the animals they hunted.
2b. c. They followed the animals they hunted.
2c. Acceptable answers could include:
-Many ancient people followed the animals they hunted across the land bridge from Asia to America.
- 3a. hunters
3b. hunting, farming
3c. Acceptable answers could include:
-Early people groups hunted animals and gathered berries. As time went on, people planted their own food in the rich soil where the climate was warm enough to grow food. Eventually, people relied more on crops than on gathering berries and other plants.
- 4a. towns
4b. cities, towns
4c. Acceptable answers could include:
Instead of wandering from place to place, people began to settle in one place. They built cities and towns. They made works of art and started to write.
- 5a. a. The Mayans
5b. The Mayans
5c. b. Canada
c. Australia
e. Egypt
- 6a. b. They grew corn, squash, and beans.
d. They worshipped animal gods and nature gods.
e. They made a calendar.
6b. b. They grew corn, squash, and beans.
d. They worshipped animal gods and nature gods.
e. They made a calendar.
6c. Acceptable answers could include:
-They lived in the rainforests of Central America.
-They built stone palaces.
-They grew corn, squash, and beans.
-They worshipped animal gods and nature gods.
-They made a calendar.
-They had their own writing.

- 7a. The Aztecs
7b. Mexico City
7c. Acceptable answers could include:
-They believed the sun god told them to build a city where they would find an eagle sitting on a cactus. Legends tell that they found the eagle on a cactus at the sight of Tenochtitlan.
- 8a. a. Tenochtitlan
8b. Place of the prickly pear cactus
8c. Acceptable answers could include:
-It is built in a lake.
-It is on islands in the middle of a lake.
- 9a. a. Montezuma
9b. Montezuma
9c. Acceptable answers could include:
-When Montezuma was the leader of the Aztecs he had a dream that something bad would happen to his people. The Spanish, led by Cortes, conquered the Aztec Empire.
- 10a. b. The Inca
10b. d. Peru
10c. Acceptable answers could include:
-It was high in the Andes Mountains.
-It was in Peru and Chile in high mountains.
- 11a. clouds
11b. Macchu Picchu
11c. Acceptable answers could include:
-Macchu Picchu was built in the mountains and Tenochtitlan was built on islands in a lake.
-Both cities had many stone buildings.
-Tenochtitlan had many bridges and waterways and Macchu Picchu did not.