

READ AND ANSWER:



A long time ago, around 400 BC, a new people suddenly appeared and settled in the rainforests of the Yucatan Peninsula of Central America. These people were called the Mayas. They were very clever people. Their system of mathematics was among the most sophisticated in the ancient world. The Mayas were master builders. They did not have metal tools. Their tools were made of stone, bone and wood. They built big cities and excellent roads. They also built hundreds of religious centers, each filled with huge pyramids and temples. Excellent roads ran for miles through the jungles and swamps.

The Mayas daily life and culture was wrapped around their religion. The priests decided nearly everything in their daily life. The priests decided when to plant, when to marry, and who to sacrifice.

Many of Mayas were farmers. Families lived in thatched roofed houses - one family per house. Farmers and their families ate very well. Food included hot corn porridge for breakfast, and tortillas filled with cooked vegetables for lunch and dinner. Farmers worked very hard. Fathers and sons worked their land mostly by hand, helped a little with stone axes. Even though their tools were very simple, farmers grew so much food that they produced surplus crops.

Wives and daughters cooked, cleaned and sewed. Girls babysat their youngest siblings. Women carried goods in baskets on their heads from the fields and to market. Women helped in the fields as necessary.

The Mayas loved music and dancing. Dance costumes were colorful and headdresses were huge! Their dances included the Monkey, the Grandfather, the Shadow of the Trees, and the Centipede. They also played drums. They rattled turtle shells and played pottery flutes. They loved games.

Match titles to correct paragraph

- A. Music and dance.
- B. The history of Mayas.
- C. Daily life.
- D. The Mayas occupation.

True or false.

1. The Mayas settled in South America.
2. The Mayas were good at numbers and counting.
3. They have metal tools.
4. They built a lot of sanctuaries.
5. The clerics decided about everything in Mayas life.
6. Their houses' roofs were made of straw.
7. The women worked in fields everyday.
8. The Mayas didn't like music.
9. The Monkey is kind of dance.
10. They played on turtle shells..

Read the text again and find past form of these words

carry	_____
settle	_____
run	_____
build	_____
be	_____
grow	_____
sew	_____



NGDA GASTAGNOLA