Rise of the Aztecs

Fill-in-the-blank

Geography of Mexico:

- The _____ was a major geographical feature of central Mexico.
- The best farmlands were located in the _____.
- The advantages of farmland in central Mexico were _____ soil and _____ climate.
- The Aztecs were also called the _____.
- The Aztecs settled on an _____ in Lake Texacoco.
- The chief god told them to settle in a place where they would see an _____ perched on a thorny cactus.

Advantages of the island settlement:

- _____: Lake and marshy shoreline rich in food, shoreline ideal for farming
- _____: canals helped to move goods and people easily by boat
- _____: island was easily defended against attack

In 1440 they formed an empire that included most of the _____.

In 1502 _____ came to power and in 1519 the Spanish invaders arrived

The Aztecs built their city in the middle of a _____.

The Kings of the Aztec empire ruled with both _____ and _____. They also had powerful _____.

The Aztec people built _____ houses instead of reed houses.

After two years of fighting the Aztec Empire surrendered to the _____.

The Mexica people came from a system of _____.

Although the Aztecs loved the arts, they expanded their empire through _____.

They worked on expanding the farmland by stacking mud and soil in the lake itself, creating rectangles of dry land. This farming technique was called _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Matching:

A. Florentine Codex

B. Templo Mayor of Tenochtitlan

C. Chinampas

D. Triple Alliance

E. Canals

F. Human Sacrifice

G. The Great Pyramid

H. Aztlan

I. Tenochtitlan

1. _____ - floating gardens used to expand the island and grow more food
2. _____ - capital of the Aztec Empire; known as the Venice of the New World
3. _____ - biggest building in the city dedicated to the war god of Huitzilopochtli and the rain god Tlaloc
4. _____ - research compiled by a Spanish friar
5. _____ - The Great Pyramid was also called this
6. _____ - An Aztec religious ritual that they believed brought everyone closer to the gods
7. _____ - formed by the Aztecs in the early 1400's with two other city-states
8. _____ - used to bring water into the city
9. _____ - city built by the Aztecs; can be translated as "the place of herons" or "the place of white birds"

LIVEWORKSHEETS