Reading



Instructions. Read the following text.

Palenque and the Red Queen.

Palenque was an important Maya city. Today, we can visit this place in Chiapas, Mexico. It had beautiful temples, palaces, plazas, and tombs. There were also sculptures and stone inscriptions that tell us about Maya rulers, beliefs, and history. Today, Palenque is an important archaeological site and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In 1994, archaeologists discovered a tomb in Temple XIII, near the Temple of the Inscriptions. There was a large stone sarcophagus with the remains of a woman. Her body and the sarcophagus had a red mineral called cinnabar. This is why people called her the Red Queen.

Archaeologists found many objects in her tomb. There was a beautiful mask made of green stones, and there were also necklaces, bracelets, and an elaborate headdress. These objects showed that she was a woman of high status.

Researchers identified the Red Queen as Tz'ak-b'u Ajaw, the wife of Pakal, one of Palenque's most famous rulers. Tz'ak-b'u Ajaw was the mother of two Maya rulers: Kan B'alam and K'inich K'an Joy Chitam. She died in the seventh century, around the year 672.

The Red Queen helps us understand the important role that women played in Maya society. Her tomb and the buildings of Palenque are valuable parts of Mexico's history and cultural heritage.



This text was adapted from information published by the INAH and UNESCO.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Instructions: Choose the correct answer (A, B, C, or D).

1. What is the text mainly about?

2. Why is Palenque important today?

3. When did archaeologists discover the tomb?

4. Why did people call the woman the Red Queen?

5. What did archaeologists find in the tomb?

6. What was the relationship between Pakal and the Red Queen?

7. What did the objects in the tomb show?

8. What was the Red Queen's name, according to researchers?

9. What can we learn about Maya society from the Red Queen?

10. When did the Red Queen die?



CCH English III Unit 2
Grupo de Trabajo: Timottilia

LIVEWORKSHEETS