

Name: _____

Hi. I'm Peter Weller for the History Channel. Join me while we explore the Ancient Aztecs.



Engineering An Empire: Aztecs

1. The Aztec civilization rivaled _____ in its sophistication. Aqueducts, pyramids, _____ and _____ stood as tribute to the gods.
2. Instead of getting married, what happened to the princess?
3. Peter Weller - Aztec sacrifices were important because without them they believed "the sun would refuse to _____ and the universe _____.
4. The Aztecs were chased to a swampy island in Lake _____. That large valley is now the site of the modern day _____.
5. Aztec King Tenoch had a vision and saw an "eagle perched on a _____" and declared this to be the site of their capital city of Tenochtitlan.
6. Tenochtitlan is modeled after a city 25 miles to the north called Teotihuacan. It means "_____." The original founders believed the city was the birthplace of the sun and constructed this to honor it - _____.
7. How did the Aztec leader Acampapichtl (1376 AD) engineer a solution to the swampy land? (How did they build a base?)
8. Describe a causeway. (What is it? How was it built?)
9. All human labor was used to build everything in the city. One large stone took _____ men to move it.
10. What did the mainland Tepanec tribe control that the Aztecs very much needed and a war would start over? _____
11. With the help of Nezahualcoyotl (leader of the Texcoco tribe) the Aztecs wiped out the Tepanec. The leader of the Aztecs did what with the defeated king's heart? _____ (Signaled the beginning of the Aztec Empire.)
12. How many tubes did the aqueduct have? _____ How far did it run? _____
13. How many times a day did the king bathe?
14. Montezuma I expanded the borders of the empire. By 1449 it contained _____ people.
15. Nezahualcoyotl designed the engineering solution to the problem of the flooding in the 5 lakes. How long was the dike? _____ miles. How tall? _____ ft. How wide? _____ ft.
16. What are "sluice" gates with the dike?
17. Describe a "chinampa" or floating island.
18. King Ahuitzotl (1486-1502) ruled during the "Golden Age" of the Aztecs. He constructed "superhighways" and had runners pass messages from one end of the empire to the other. A message could travel _____ miles in just _____ hours.

19. The massive temple built by Ahuitzotl honored two gods, the god of _____ and the god of _____. How many people were sacrificed to honor them? _____
20. It's 1502 and the rule of Montezuma II starts. How big is the Empire? _____ square miles. How many people live in the Aztec Empire? _____ million.
21. In 1519, Cortez sailed from Cuba to Mexico with 11 boats and 500 men. What did the Mexicans call the boats?
22. If a tribe resisted they were slaughtered. Cortez ended up marrying a chieftain's daughter who became his _____ and advisor.
23. Montezuma II invited Cortez to the Great Palace. What happened a week after the Spanish were in Tenochtitlan?
24. In 1520, after interrupting a sacred sacrifice, Cortez and his group planned to leave. What does "Noche Triste" _____.
25. Cortez came back with a vengeance to wipe out Tenochtitlan. In May of 1521, he brought 600 Spaniards, _____ cavalry, and _____ Indian allies to attack.
26. After defeated by war, disease was the real killer of the native population. How many people died of disease? _____ million, and the population was reduced by _____%.