

**UNIT 4: NON-WESTERN CIVILIZATIONS**  
**Reading Guide 27: Aztecs and Incas**

**Directions:** Complete each question after reading.

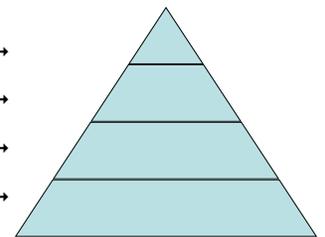
**16.3: The Aztecs Control Central Mexico**

• **Objective A: Describe the Teotihuacán and Toltec cultures of the Valley of Mexico.**

1. What advantages did the Valley of Mexico offer?
2. At its peak in the sixth century, \_\_\_\_\_ had a population of between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ people, making it one of the largest cities in the world at the time.
3. Define *obsidian*:
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ were an extremely \_\_\_\_\_ people whose empire was based on \_\_\_\_\_. They worshipped a fierce war god who demanded ...
5. Describe the legend of Quetzalcoatl:

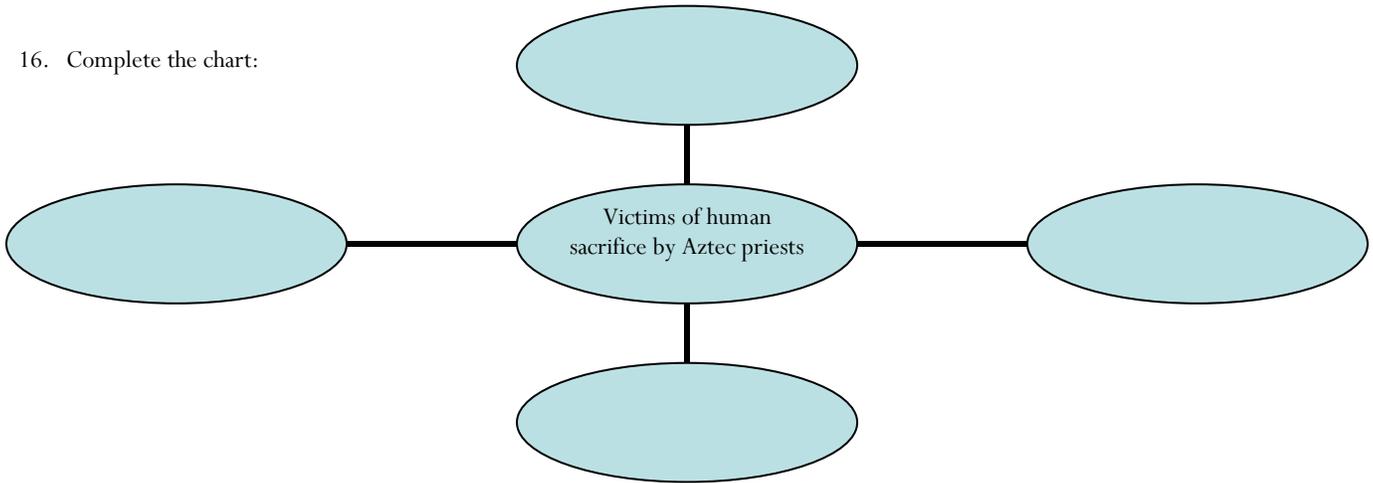
• **Objective B: Describe Aztec society, religion, and urban planning.**

6. The \_\_\_\_\_ arrived in the Valley of Mexico around \_\_\_\_\_ AD. They were then called the \_\_\_\_\_ and came from ...
7. In 1325, the Aztec founded their city, named \_\_\_\_\_, on a small island in \_\_\_\_\_.
8. By the early 1500s, the Aztec controlled a vast empire with an estimated population of between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ m. people.
9. The Aztecs based their power on \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ they gained from their conquered subjects.
10. Describe the Aztec social pyramid:
  - a) Emperor whose power was \_\_\_\_\_ →
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_ = government officials, priests, and military leaders →
  - c) Commoners included ... →
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_ who did many different jobs →



11. With a population of between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ people by the early 1500s, Tenochtilan was larger than \_\_\_\_\_ or any other \_\_\_\_\_ at the time.
12. What foods were grown on *chinampas*?
13. The Aztecs worshipped the Toltec god \_\_\_\_\_ who they saw as ...
14. The Aztecs pictured Quetzalcoatl as:
  - a)
  - b)
15. To make sure Huitzilopochtli was strong enough battle the forces of evil to make the sun rise each day, he needed ...

16. Complete the chart:



17. The most worrying event for Montezuma II was the arrival of \_\_\_\_\_ who, for many Aztecs, brought to mind the legend of ...

**16.4: The Inca Create a Mountain Empire**

• **Objective A: Trace the Incan rise to power.**

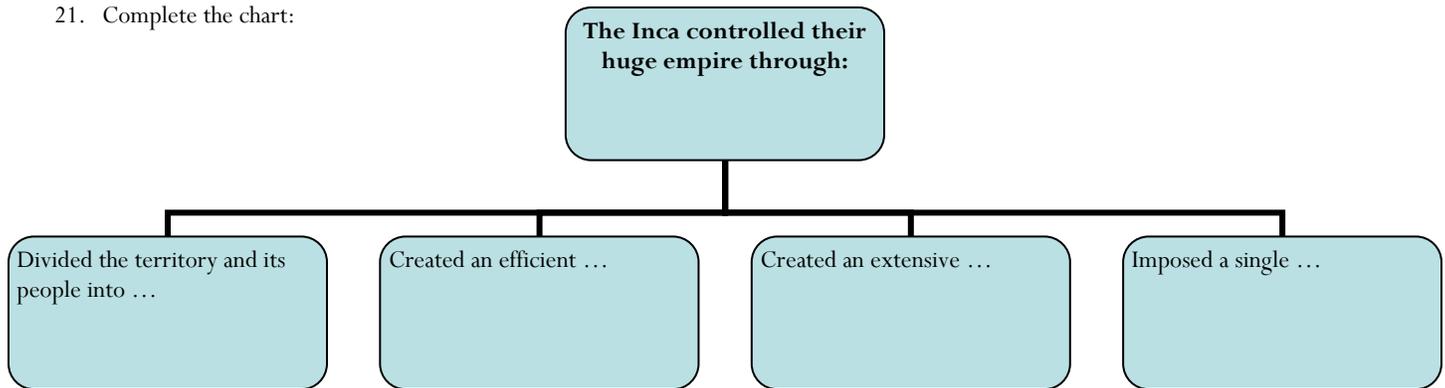
18. The Inca believed their ruler was descended from \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

19. By 1500, the Inca ruled an empire that stretched \_\_\_\_\_ miles along the \_\_\_\_\_ coast of \_\_\_\_\_ which was home to as many as \_\_\_\_\_ million people.

20. Was Incan diplomacy effective?

• **Objective B: Describe Incan government and religion.**

21. Complete the chart:



22. Define *mita*:

23. How was the Incan system like a type of socialism or a modern welfare state?

24. How did the Incan record information despite a lack of writing?

25. \_\_\_\_\_ was a common sight throughout Cuzco.

26. What probably killed Huayna Capac?

27. Incan rulers created schools to teach “Incan ways.” How does modern education serve a similar purpose?