

Art History

Art of the Americas Artifact Interpretation

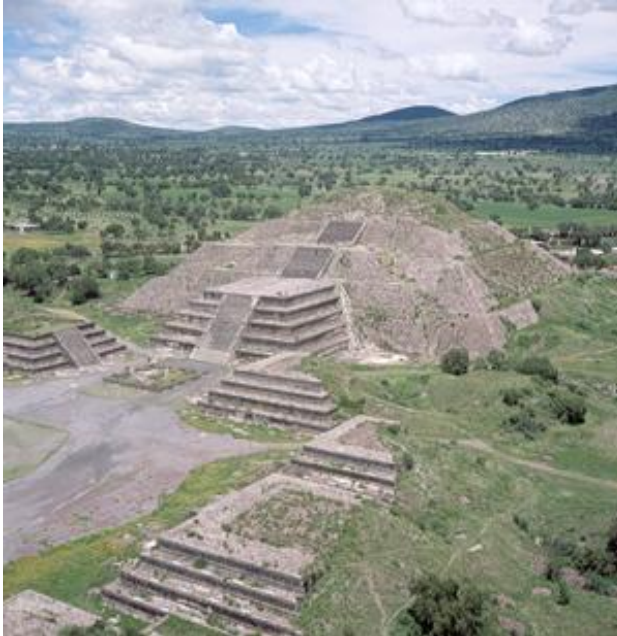
Name: _____

Section: _____

Score: ____/5

Directions: Answer the following questions based off the following pictures and descriptions to the best of your abilities.

Station One: Teotihuacan Civilization (Mesoamerica) 200B.C.E. – 750 C.E.



Teotihuacan: Pyramid of the Moon (built between 100-250 C.E.)



Teotihuacan: Pyramid of the Sun (built between 100-250 C.E.)

Thought Questions:

1. Despite the fact there is no connection between classical Teotihuacan and ancient Egypt they are able to come up with similar building styles. What might explain the development of similar architectural styles?
2. What does the fact that the two temples are dedicated to the Sun and Moon reveal about the civilization of Teotihuacan? **Explain** two possible theories and your reasoning for them?
3. List at least two design elements

Station 2: Moche Civilization (Peru) 1st – 8th Century C.E.



Portrait Head Bottle (5th–6th century)

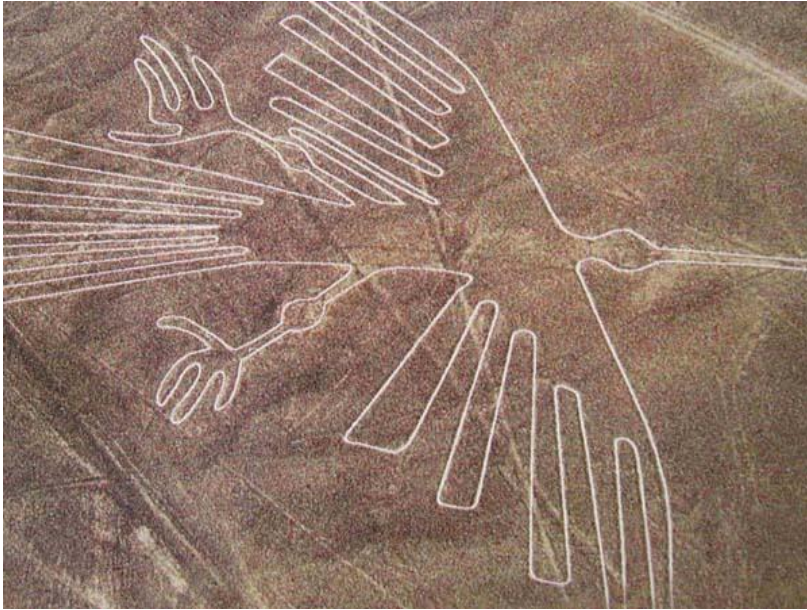


Fox Warrior Bottle, 4th–6th century

Thought Questions:

1. What classical civilizations does the pottery of Moche have similarities with? Explain your reasoning?
2. Based off the pottery examples above what are two things we can theories about the Moche civilization? Explain your reasoning?
3. List at least two design elements

Station 3: Nazca Civilizations (Peru) 200 B.C.E. – 600 C.E.



Thought Questions:

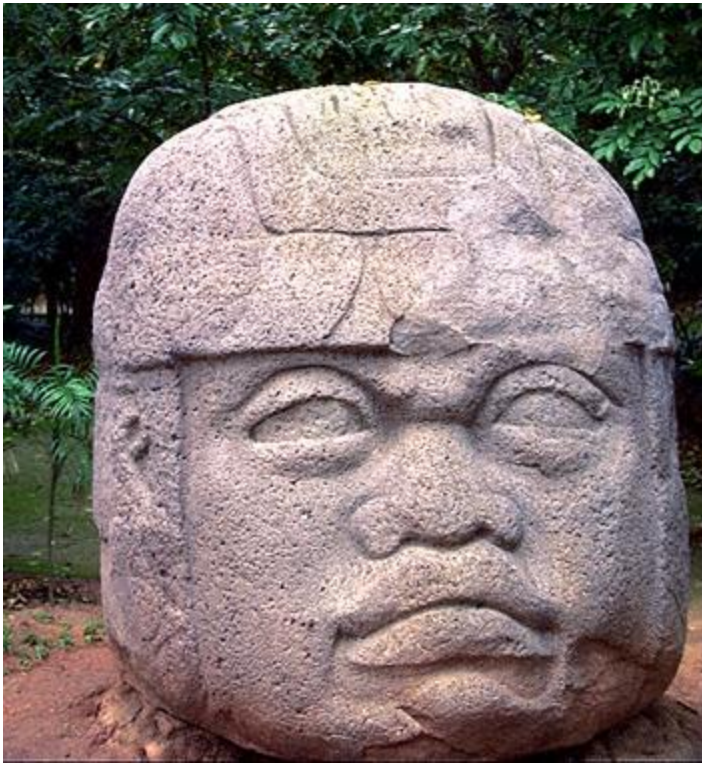
1. What possible purpose could these designs in the desert have?



2. Explain three specific skill sets a civilization would need to have to make these .

4. List at least two design elements

Station 4: Olmecs (Mesoamerica) 1200-400 B.C.E.



Thought Questions:

1. Why might later civilizations of the Americas and Europe not believe that these were made by a civilization native to the Americas? Explain two possible reasons they might come up with to explain the presence of such large (on average 6m tall) monuments?
2. What type of people might have been sculpted as the giant heads? (List 3 and explain why they might have been sculpted)
3. List at least two design elements

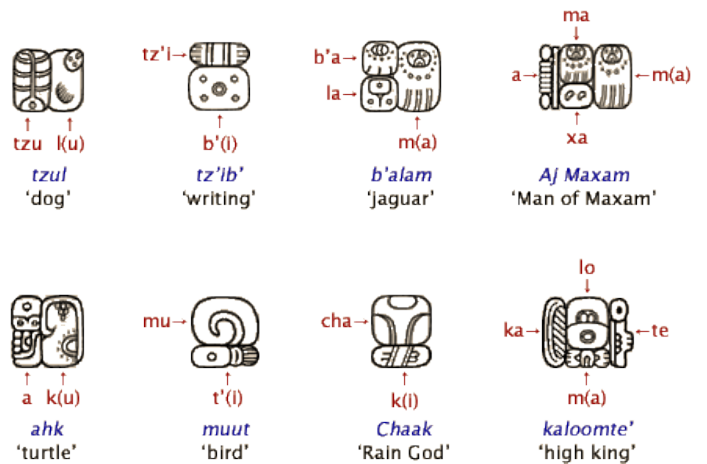
Station 5: Mayan Civilization (Yucatan Peninsula) 250-900 C.E.



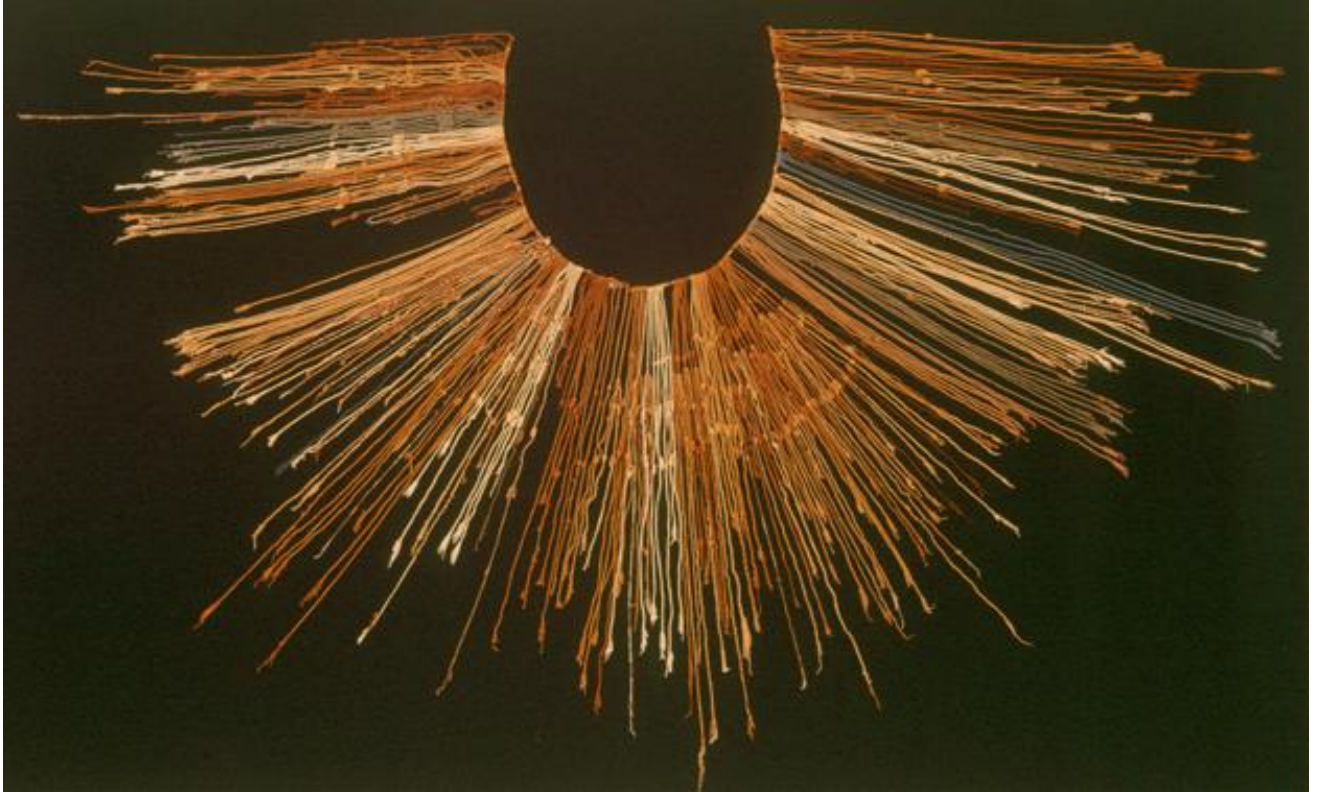
Thought Questions:

1. Explain why it might have taken archaeologists so long to decipher the writing system of the Mayans? What elements can you easily decipher?

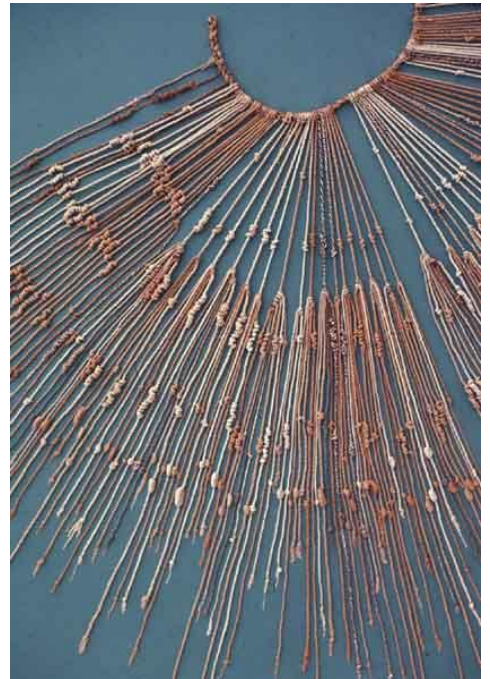
2. How would you classify the Mayan writing system (Ideograph, Pictograph, Alphabet, or Hieroglyphic)?



Station 6: Incan Civilization (Andes) 13th-16th Centuries



1. What might be the possible use for the following items? Explain two possible uses.



2. What might be the possible reason for the different size and location of the knots? Explain your reasoning.

Station 7: Incan Civilization (Andes) 13th-16th Centuries



Machu Picchu, Built c. 15th Century C.E.

Thought Questions:

1. What types of special advantages or disadvantages did the Inca have by living in the mountains? Explain three advantages and three using evidence from the picture above. (Think of houses, communication, agriculture, government, defense, etc...)

Station 8: Aztecs (Mesoamerica) 13th-16th Century



Head of a Water Deity, 15th–early 16th century



Maize Deity (Chicomcoatl), 15th–early 16th century

Thought Questions:

1. How can these votive statues teach us about Aztec society? Explain two ways.

2. Explain two design elements present here