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A flood killed everyone.

The Mayans were conquered by neighbouring tribes.

An earthquake killed everyone.

There was a drought so there was not enough water to survive or grow food.

A great battle between city states killed too many Mayan men for the civilisation to continue.

A volcano erupted and killed everyone.

The Mayans stopped offering blood to the gods so the sun stopped rising, meaning people couldn't live.

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Name: _____ Date: _____



Around the year 900, the great Mayan cities fell into decline and were abandoned. No one knows why. Order the Cause Cards from most likely to least likely to show what you think the most likely causes for the Mayan decline were.

most likely ↑

least likely ↓

I think this cause is most likely because...

I think this cause is least likely because...

Name: _____ Date: _____



Some Mayans continued living on small farming settlements when the great cities declined. Prepare an interview with a Mayan farmer, asking what happened to the cities and why, and how other Mayans feel about what happened.

Question 1:

Answer:

Question 2:

Answer:

Question 3:

Answer:

Question 4:

Answer:

Question 5:

Answer:

Name: _____ Date: _____

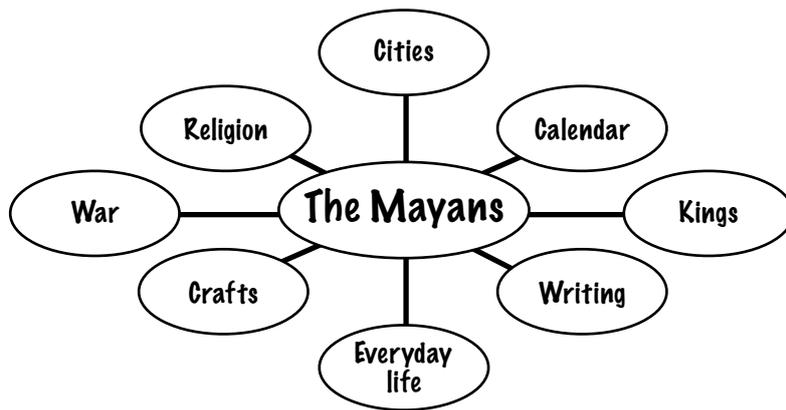
The Decline of the Maya

Name: _____ Date: _____

codex glyphs pyramid city state temple tomb funerary mask sacrifice blood letting offering heart

hieroglyphs astrology Long Count Tzolkin Haab turtle fishing jaguar warrior shield hunting spear obsidian stone weapon

gods goddesses ceremony cenote slave labourer farmer merchant craftsman palace official noble priest king palace house



dye cloak tunic weaving chocolate turkey chilli pumpkin maize farming hearth thatched