**MAYA JOURNALS**

**You will complete journals on the Maya, Aztec and Inca Empires to complete our final unit.**

**Journal Entry #1**

In the morning, a lookout screams “land!” You have reached 90° W, 20° N. You set up camp and are greeted by what seems like peasants and are welcomed to their huts inland. On the walk back to camp you discuss with the crew that you did not see any treasure. Later that night, by the campfire, **you write two paragraphs in your journal and draw a map**:

**First paragraph (6 sentences) COMPARING Mayan life to yours in San Diego:**

**Compare Maya class structure and family life to ours in America. How is it similar/different?**

**Second paragraph: Be creative! Conclude by declaring which of the following decisions you have made and why:**

**You and the crew will fight to capture the Mayan farmers you met yesterday and force them to reveal the whereabouts of their hidden riches**

**– OR –**

**You will ask the Mayans to show you more of their culture and hope to learn about their fabled wealth**

**Hand-drawn Map:  Sketch the borders of the map on p. 391, label the peninsula, label two Mayan cities, label two modern countries, and draw your ship arriving from correct direction.**

\*Challenge: draw in the longitude and latitude line of your landing (90° W, 20° N) in the correct place

**Journal Entry #2 (Fought)**

If you fought, you end up losing and are captured by the Mayans. They take you to one of their cities. You manage to write you **write four paragraphs in your journal and draw a hieroglyph** in your journal while imprisoned:

**(Paragraph 1 – 3 sentences) You are forced to play the Mayan ball game Pok-a-tok…and fortunately win. Why were you fortunate to win?**

You are taken back to your tiny cell where you can see city life.

**(Paragraph 2 – 3 sentences) Give your opinion of the architecture you see in the city to your journal. Use facts to explain why you have the opinion you do.**

**(Paragraph 3 – 3 sentences) How do the religious sacrifices make you feel? Why are the Mayans practicing their religion the way they do?**

**(Paragraph 4 -4 sentences) What do you think of the usefulness of the Mayan calendar? Why? -OR- Do you agree or disagree with the statement “the Maya were great astronomers.” Why or why not?**

In your cell, someone has scratched hieroglyphs onto the wall.

**(Hand Drawing) To pass the time you copy a Mayan hieroglyph you saw on the wall and then draw a Mayan style hieroglyph for some aspect of your own Californian culture. (You need a drawing)**

As a prisoner of the Maya, you have made friends with one of the Mayan jailers. Together you plot to escape, but only if you promise to take him along.  He tells you of a city of gold to the north called Tenochtitlan, the capital of the Aztecs. You and your men escape and head north.

**–OR–**

**Journal Entry #2 (Peaceful)**

If you decided to greet them peacefully, the Mayans take you to one of their citiesand you stay witha wise old Mayan priest. Your write you **write four paragraphs in your journal and draw a hieroglyph** about a guided tour he takes you on, including:

**(Paragraph 1 – 3 sentences) Watching an intense Pok-a-tok game. Tell your journal about the game. Why was the game so intensely played?**

**(Paragraph 2 – 3 sentences) Give your opinion of the architecture you see in the city to your journal. Use facts to explain why you have the opinion you do.**

**(Paragraph 3 – 3 sentences) How do the religious sacrifices make you feel? Why are the Mayans practicing their religion the way they do?**

**(Paragraph 4 – 4 sentences) What do you think of the usefulness of the Mayan calendar? Explain why by telling the journal how it is used.**

**(Hand Drawing) To honor the Mayan culture you decide to copy a Mayan hieroglyph you saw in the city and then draw a Mayan style hieroglyph  for some aspect of your own Californian culture.**

Unfortunately, there is little gold to be found, but the priest tells you of rumors of a golden city to the north called Tenochtitlan, the capital of the Aztecs. The priest provides a guide to aid you on your journey and you start the march north.