Reading Guide—Unit 7—Chapter 15 and 32

*Chapter 15*

Skim: pg. 365 and the first paragraph on pg. 366

Be prepared to add basic information and dates to your timeline.

Skim: **Mesoamerica**

Answer:

Be familiar with: Olmec, Maya, Toltec

Identify the dates for the following periods:

The Preclassic period (Formative)

The Classic period

The Postclassic period

Read: Olmec and Preclassic West Mexico

Answer:

Where were the Olmecs located?

Why are they sometimes referred to as the “mother culture” of Mesoamerica? Is this accurate?

Read: Olmec Ruler Portraits

Answer:

What are the colossal Olmec heads made of?

Why is this material significant?

Read: Teotihuacan AND Pyramids

Answer:

What significant does the layout of the buildings at Teotihuacan have?

How far did the influence of Teotiuacanos reach?

Read: Classic Maya

Answer:

In what present-day regions were the Maya located?

What was the purpose of Mayan architecture and art?

How cool were the Mayans when it came to writing and mathematics?!

Read: The Mesoamerican Ball Game

Answer:

What is some of the basic information that is known about the Mesoamerican ball game?

What is still a mystery?

Read: Copan

Answer:

What subject did much of Mayan art depict?

What conventions were used to depict Mayan rulers?

Read: Bonampak

Answer:

What narrative scene is depicted in this wall painting?

Are these murals unique to this site and time? Explain

Read: Postclassic Mexico AND Tula

Answer:

What type of people were the Toltecs?

Define: Atlantid

*Chapter 32*

Skim: **Mesoamerica**

Focus:

The Postclassic period

Key Groups:

Mixteca-Puebla

Aztec

Read: Borgia Codex

Answer:

Choose one other “book” that we have learned about this year. Create a venn diagram comparing that piece with the Borgia Codex.

Skim: Aztec  
Read: Tenochtitlán

Be prepared to add basic information to your timeline

Answer:

Describe the layout of Tenochtitlán. What was the surrounding area like? Where were the temples placed?

Read: Coyolxauhqui

Answer:

Who was Huitzilopochtli?

What did he do?

What is the function of the sculpture in 32-4?

Read: Coatlicue

Answer:

Explain the symbolism in this piece.

How does this piece relate to the religious beliefs of the Aztecs?

*Chapter 15*

Skim: **South America**

Answer:

Be familiar with: Tiwanaku, Nasca

Identify the dates for the following periods:

Early Horizon

Early Intermediate

Middle Horizon

Late Horizon

Read: Nasca

Answer:

What subject matter was common in the Nasca culture?

*Chapter 32*

Read: Inka

Be prepared to add basic information to your timeline

Answer:

What engineering and mathematical feats were the Inca most adept at?

Read: Machu Picchu

Answer:

What is the geographical location of Machu Picchu like?

*Chapter 15*

Skim: **North America**

Answer:

Be familiar with: Mississippian, Anasazi

Read: Mississippian AND Serpent Mound

Define:

Effigy Mounds

Answer:

What is the possible symbolism of the snake motif?

Read: Ancestral Puebloans

Define:

Kiva

Answer:

Why did the Ancestral Puebloans choose to build Cliff Palace in this particular location?

*Chapter 32*

Read: North America

Read: Hopi Katsinas

Answer:

What is the function of a katsina figurine?

Read: Northwest Coast and Alaska

Read: Haida Totem Poles

Answer:

What function do Totem Poles serve?