

Name _____

Date _____

Mesoamerica - Answer Key

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. Many historians believe that people first came to the Americas by crossing the _____.

A. Atlantic Ocean

B. Gulf of Mexico

☒ C. Bering Strait

D. Rocky Mountains

2. Which civilization is considered the "Mother Culture" of early Central America?

☒ A. the Olmec

B. the Inca

C. the Maya

D. the Aztec

3. Where did the Mayan civilization develop?

A. in what is now Ecuador

B. in what is now Mexico City

C. in the Andes Mountains

☒ D. in the Yucatan Peninsula

4. Tikal was _____.

A. an Incan city in the Andes

B. the first place the Spanish invaded

☒ C. an ancient Mayan city

D. a floating garden

5. Tenochtitlan was _____.

☒ A. a city built by the Aztecs in what is now Mexico City

B. an Incan city built on a 9,000-foot mountain

C. the city where the first Olmec stone heads were discovered

D. a Mayan city with more than 3,000 structures

6. Which kingdom was the biggest in the Americas, based in the Andes Mountains of Peru?

- A. the Olmec
- ☒ B. the Inca
- C. the Maya
- D. the Aztec

7. What do historians think Machu Picchu was mostly likely used for?

- A. a school
- B. a sacrificial altar
- C. a marketplace
- ☒ D. an astronomic observatory

8. Which of the following is a **false** statement?

- A. The Aztecs performed human sacrifice.
- ☒ B. Nobody knows why the Aztec civilization disappeared in 869.
- C. Aztec children attended school.
- D. The Aztec people held slaves.

9. Which of the following is a **false** statement?

- ☒ A. The ancient Incan city of Machu Picchu was destroyed by the Spanish.
- B. The Incan city of Machu Picchu was built on a 9,000-foot mountain top.
- C. The Incan kingdom contained over 20,000 miles of roads.
- D. The Incas built aqueducts.

10. The losers of the Mayan ball games were _____.

- A. forced into slavery
- ☒ B. killed in a ritual
- C. exiled from the kingdom
- D. shunned for a year