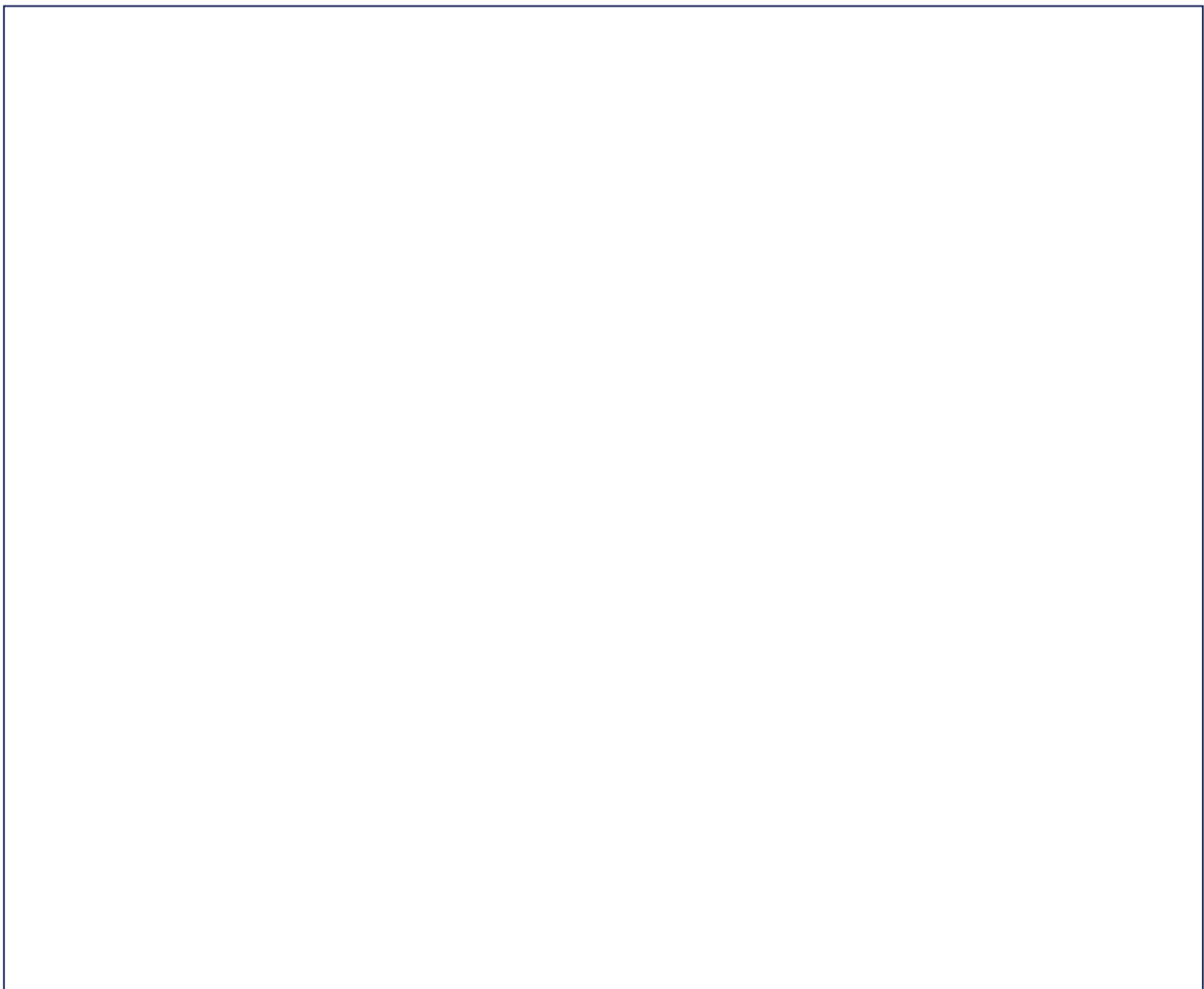


Exploring the Maya Civilisation with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To identify and illustrate key features of Maya city-states and their architectural achievements.

Use your knowledge of the Maya Civilisation to complete the drawing below. Use the word bank to label the important features of a Maya city.

Draw: Draw an aerial view of a Maya city-state. Include a large stone step-pyramid with a temple on top in the centre. In front of the pyramid, draw a large, flat, rectangular plaza. Place a tall, carved stone pillar (a stela) somewhere in the plaza. Surround the entire city with thick, lush jungle foliage to show its location in the rainforest. The style should be clear and descriptive, like a diagram in a history textbook.



Label words: Step-pyramid · Plaza · Ball court · Stela · Temple · Jungle

Steps:

1. Why did the Maya build their temples and pyramids so tall? Give one historical reason.
2. Step 1: Draw a large step-pyramid in the centre of your page.
3. Step 2: Add a flat open space (a plaza) in front of your pyramid for the citizens to gather.
4. Step 3: Draw a stone column, known as a stela, and label it.
5. Step 4: Surround your city with dense trees to represent the rainforest environment.

6. Which feature of a Maya city would have been used for sport? Label this on your drawing.