

Uncovering the Maya Civilisation

Learning objective: To structure an informative report about the daily life, beliefs, and achievements of the ancient Maya people.

Use this writing frame to organise your research. Think like Ellie the elephant, remembering key historical facts to build a clear picture of the past. Use the word bank to help your sentences flow smoothly.

Hidden deep within the lush rainforests of Central America, the Maya civilisation flourished for hundreds of years, creating a culture rich in mystery and innovation.

Word bank: Furthermore · In addition · Consequently · Interestingly · Sophisticated · Ancient · Inhabitants · On the other hand · Significantly · As a result

1. Location and Environment: Describe where the Maya lived and how the rainforest environment influenced their way of life. Start with: The Maya people settled in... (2 marks)

2. Daily Life and Farming: Explain what the Maya ate and how they grew their crops. Start with: Life for a typical Maya farmer revolved around... (2 marks)

3. Achievements: Discuss one major invention or discovery of the Maya, such as their number system, calendar, or writing. Start with: One of the most impressive achievements of the Maya was... (2 marks)

4. Religion and Temples: Describe the importance of the great stone pyramids. Start with: Religion was at the heart of Maya society, which is why they built... (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise why the Maya civilisation is considered so important to history. Start with: The legacy of the Maya remains significant today because... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a specific Maya city like Tikal or Palenque. Write a short paragraph explaining why archaeologists find these ruins so valuable for understanding the past.