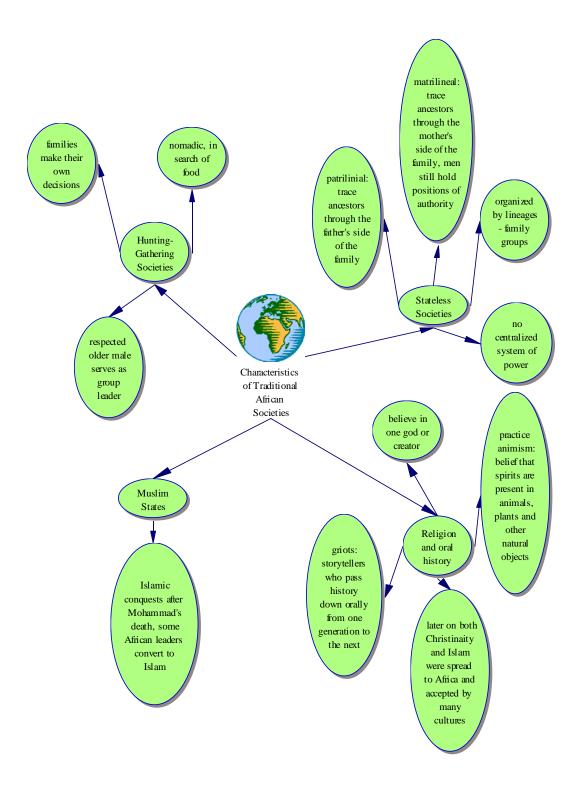
Africa and the Americas



West-African	Ghana	Mali	Songhai	
Civilizations Time Period	700's – 1000's	1200's – 1400's	1400's -1600's	
Location	West Africa	West Africa	West Africa	
Government	Kingdom, ruled by king or Ghana who acted as a religious leader, chief judge and military commander. Charged taxes to neighboring chiefs.	Empire, ruled by a mansa. Large empire was broken into provinces with appointed governors.	Empire, ruled by king. Largest and the wealthiest of all the kingdoms of the Sudan. Well- administered state, probably the most highly organized of all the African states.	
Religion	Began as animism which most common people continued despite the fact that rulers converted to Islam as a result of trade.	Traditional African beliefs – some converted to Islam	Islam	
Economy	Gold-Salt trade	Agriculture and gold- salt trade Niani, capital of empire and trade	Timbuktu, major trading center connecting North Africa with West Africa	
Achievements	Built large empire by forcing taxes from neighboring chiefs. Controlled gold-salt trade.	Mansa-Musa's pilgrimage to Mecca spread Mali's wealth. Built city of Timbuktu. Ibn Battuta's travels spoke of Mali's wealth and mosques.	A great trading empire and a center of Muslim scholarship and learning.	
Cause of Decline	Conquered by Muslim Almorsvids from North Africa which disrupted the Gold-Salt trade.	Weak leaders, shifting of Gold-Salt trade routes.	Defeated by Songhai warriors	

Pre-Columbian Civilization of the Americas

	Maya	Maya Aztec		
Dates	• 2400's BCE-1300's	• 1200's – 1500's	• 600's – 1500'S	
	CE			
Location	 Central America 	 Mexico 	Andes mountain region	
Groups in society	 United culture Kings Priests Artists / Craftspeople Farmers 	 United culture Ruler Priests Artists / Craftspeople Farmers Warriors 	 United culture Emperor [The "Inca"] Priests Artists / Craftspeople Farmers Warriors 	
Religion	 Plays a major role in society and government Many gods Sun god Corn god Gods of the rain and earth 	 Plays a major role in society and government Many gods Sun god War god Human sacrifice practiced for religious offerings 	 Plays a major role in society and government Sun-god king Many gods Sun god 	
Government	 City-state ruled by priests and kings Loyalty to the king Theocracy Independent city states 	 Warrior-kings Ruler and council Empire built of tribute states local kingdoms ruled indirectly, but paid taxes to the Aztecs Theocracy Loyalty to the emperor Powerful army 	 Hereditary Emperor ruled over the entire empire Theocracy Loyalty to the emperor Built a type of welfare state with a huge bureaucracy: cared for entire population during good and bad times 	
Achievements	 Calendar Writing using heiroglyphics Stone Pyramids Jade and Gold Jewelry Carved Stele Math system with zero Developed astronomy to support religious beliefs. Intensive agriculture, more food production feeds a large population Trade links between city-states and other Meso-American groups. 	Floating gardens Largest Indian city in the Americas Canals Calendar Picture Writing Pyramid builders Trade links between citystates and other Meso-American groups. Land, power, prisoners and wealth are used for religious sacrifices	Beautiful jewelry and statues of gold Domesticated llama Terraced agriculture Quipu to keep records Extensive road network Fine stonework Anesthetics NO WRITING SYSTEM!	
Reason for decline	Many physical and religious resources funneled into religious activities Frequent warfare occurs between kingdoms Population growth creates need for more land	 Many physical and religious resources funneled into religious activities Need for prisoners changes warfare style to less deadly and less aggressive Tribute states are rebellious and need to be controlled 	 Many physical and religious resources funneled into religious activities Enemy could also use roads to move troops People struggle to care for themselves with the end of the welfare state 	