

Medieval/ Early Modern Americas Study Guide

Terms/ Vocab

slash and burn

maize

isthmus

Mesoamerica

Andes

canal

observatory

Popul Vuh

city-states

Holy Lords

quipu

mita

Machu Picchu

harquebus/arquebus

Smallpox

Chinampas

causeway

Tenochtitlan

Lake Texcoco

cacao

People

Atahualpa

Francisco Pizarro

Moctezuma II

Hernan Cortes

Malintzin (Malinche)

Essential Questions

- How did the environment affect the expansion of agriculture, population, cities, and empires in Mesoamerica? (Mayans)
- How did the environment affect the expansion of agriculture, population, cities, and empires in Mesoamerica? (Aztec)
- How did the environment affect the expansion of agriculture, population, cities, and empires in the Andean region?
- Why did the Maya civilization, the Aztec Empire and the Inca Empire gain more power over people and territories?
- Why were the Spanish able to conquer the Aztecs and Incas and not the reverse?