

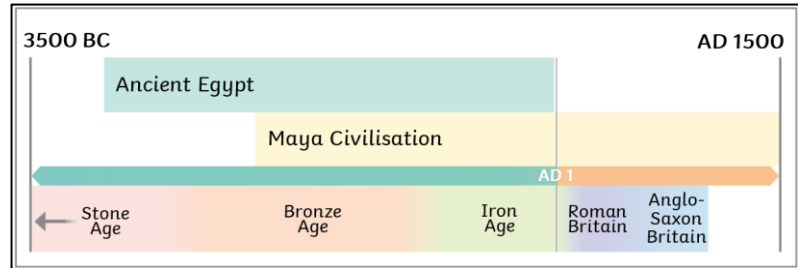


History – The Maya Civilisation

Significance – factual knowledge of place and time and commemoration.

Vocabulary

- civilization: a human society with well-developed rules and government.
- scribes: people trained to write things down.
- codices: ancient handwritten texts.
- maize: another word for sweetcorn or corn on the cob.
- cacao beans: cacao trees sprout pods directly from their trunks.



The Maya believed in many gods and goddesses. They thought that the gods/goddesses had a good side and a bad side and that they could help or hurt them. The Maya people would dance, sing and make offerings to the gods/goddesses. Maya priests were believed to be able to communicate directly with the gods/goddesses. As a result, they were very important in society.

Writing

The Maya writing system was used to write several different Maya languages. It was made up of many symbols called glyphs.



Food

The Maya people mainly ate maize (corn). Maize was very important to them as they believed that the first humans were made from maize dough by the gods.



The Maya also made a bitter chocolatey drink from cacao beans that was enjoyed by the rich.

