



EARLY PEOPLES

The Inca

The Inca explores the daily life, history, and culture of the early Inca and their huge empire, which extended from present-day Columbia to Chile.

What did you learn?

QUESTIONS

1. The highest-ranking group of Incan nobles represented the ...
 - a. Capana
 - b. Panaca
 - c. Nacapa
 - d. Sapa
2. The most magnificent of all Inca buildings was Cusco's ...
 - a. Mummy House
 - b. Punchao
 - c. Coricancha
 - d. Cucaracha
3. The royal messengers were called ...
 - a. Quipus
 - b. Chaski
 - c. Marathoners
 - d. Relayers
4. The language of the Inca is named ...
 - a. Nahuatl
 - b. Spanish
 - c. Kurdish
 - d. Quechua
5. What is the name of the huge figures etched into the desert of southern Peru?
6. What city was the Incan capital?

TRUE OR FALSE?

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| _____ 1. The Incan empire existed for little more than a century. | _____ 4. The Inca did not build magnificent tombs. |
| _____ 2. The Inca believed that the Sapa Inca was the physical representation of the gods. | _____ 5. The Inca had a calendar based upon the sun. |
| _____ 3. All Incan trade used paper money. | _____ 6. The main road for the Inca was a highway that ran east and west. |

ANSWERS

- 1. b. Panaca.** According to section “Nobles” on page 16, we know that “The panaca (*pah NAH kah*) formed the highest-ranking group of nobles.” So, the correct answer is B.
- 2. c. Coricancha.** According to section “Temples” on page 34, we know that “The most magnificent of all Inca buildings was Cusco’s Coricancha, a temple complex.” So, the correct answer is C.
- 3. b. Chaski.** According to section “Keeping Records and Sending Messages” on page 45, we know that “Quipus were carried by the chaski (*CHAHS kee*), the royal messengers who carried news and information along the roads.” So, the correct answer is B.
- 4. d. Quechua.** According to section “The Inca Legacy” on page 58, we know that “Quechua, the language of the Inca, is also an official language of Peru. Nearly one-third of the people of neighboring Bolivia speak Quechua, which is an official language of that country as well.” So, the correct answer is D.
- According to page 9, the Nazca lines are the “huge figures etched into the desert of southern Peru.”
- According to page 4, Cusco (or Cuzco) was the Incan capital.

TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. True.** According to section “What Were the Major Achievements of the Inca?” on page 6, we know that “The Incan empire existed for little more than a century. Yet, in that brief time, the Inca overcame many obstacles to become the most powerful group in South America.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 2. True.** According to section “Sapa Incas” on page 14, we know that “The Inca believed that the Sapa Inca was more than an earthly ruler. He was also the physical representation of the gods, particularly Inti, the sun god and the most important god in the Inca religion.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 3. False.** According to section “Commoners” on page 21, we know that “Because the Inca did not have money, all trade was based on barter—the direct exchange of one set of goods for another.” So, the correct answer is False.
- 4. True.** According to section “Palaces and Fortresses” on page 36, we know that “Although they were master builders, the Inca did not have magnificent tombs. Such tombs were not needed because they did not bury their royal dead.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 5. False.** According to section “Astronomy and Calendars” on page 41, we know that “The Inca had a lunar calendar—that is, a calendar based upon phases of the moon” So, the correct answer is False.
- 6. False.** According to section “Transportation” on page 52, we know that “The main road for the Inca was a highway that ran north and south.” So, the correct answer is False.