

Timeline Practice With The Ancient Americas

Perfect for students learning to
work with BC/AD dates!
Includes a BCE/CE Version!

Teach
Like Midgley



Teacher Tips

Most often, using timelines with BC & AD dates can be tricky for students.

I always start the year with a brief introduction, where we lay out a basic number line and take a few notes.

We discuss what each set of abbreviations stand for:

BC – Before Christ

AD – Anno Domini (Latin) which translates to: “In the year of the Lord”

BCE – Before Common Era

CE – Common Era

I always address both sets, because they will see both sets in our various resources throughout the year.

It also helps to put various dates on index cards, and have students stand with the cards in chronological order.

I always relate timelines to negative/positive number lines, only clarify that we are using letters instead of +/- signs.

I also point out that if they want to know the number of years between two dates, to use this idea to help remember the math:

Same labels = Subtraction $500BC - 300BC = 200$ years between

Different labels = addition $500BC + 300AD = 800$ years between

For your lower students, this trick also helps if you color code the two sides for them.

I also address that everyone knows what year it is, and that often a timeline will not show the current year, but we can place the current year on the timeline by using the marker already present. So at the start of the year I always practice labeling the current year on the timeline with them, before they begin practicing.

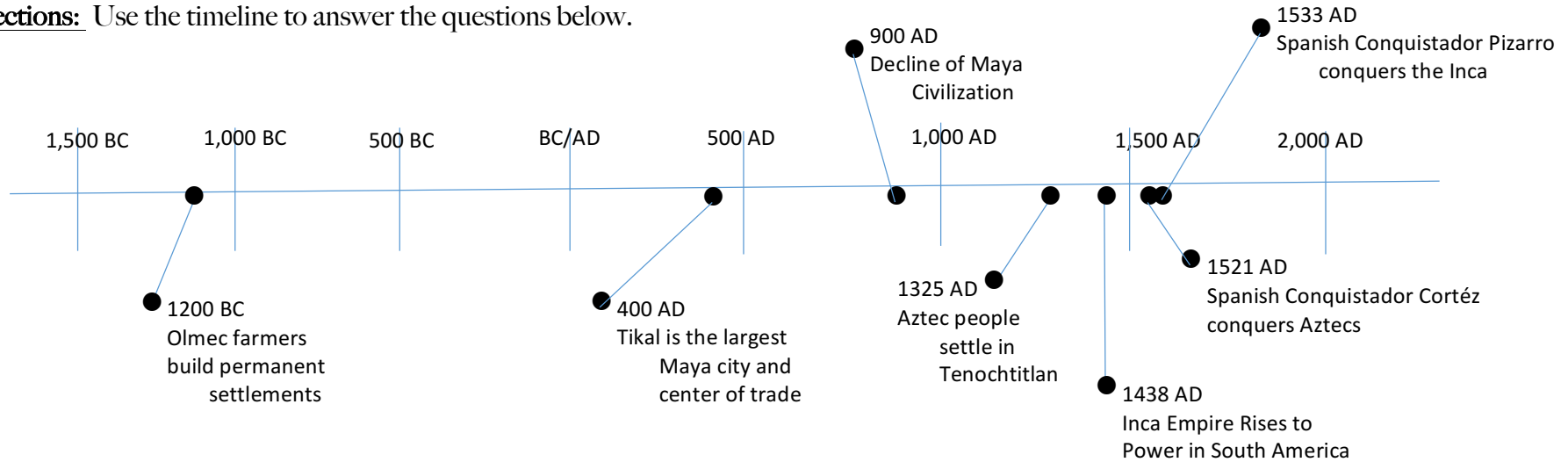
* Answers may vary depending on the current year*



Ancient Americas Timeline

Name: _____

Directions: Use the timeline to answer the questions below.



1) What year did the Maya civilization end? _____

2) Which event occurred first: Tikal is the largest trade center or Inca rise to power? _____

How do you know? _____

3) What is the earliest event listed on the timeline and when did it occur? _____

How do you know? _____

4) What is the most recent event listed on the timeline and when did it occur? _____

How do you know? _____

5) What event occurred after the decline of the Maya and before the Inca rise to power? _____

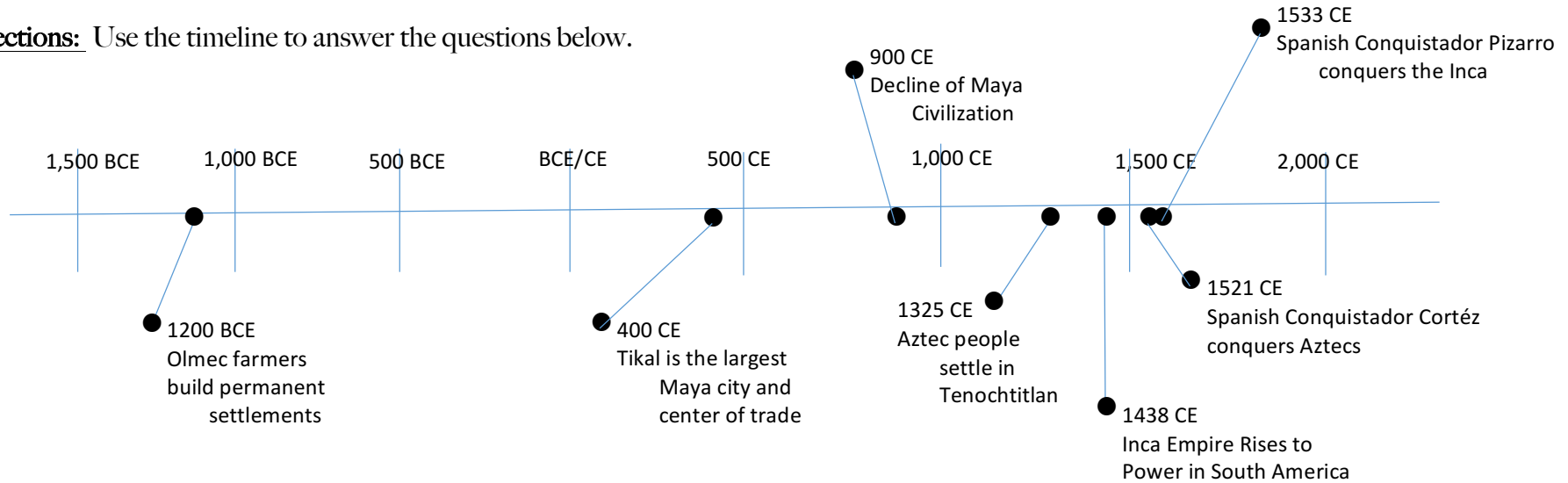
6) How many years after the Aztec settle in Tenochtitlan, were the Aztecs conquered? _____

7) On the timeline, put a start about where the year 2100 AD would be. Put an X at about 200 BC.

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6) How many years after the Aztec settle in Tenochtitlan, were the Aztecs conquered? _____

7) On the timeline, put a start about where the year 2100 CE would be. Put an X at about 200 BCE.

ANSWER KEY:

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- 1) 900 AD/CE
- 2) Tikal is the largest trade center
- 3) 1200 BC Olmec farmers build permanent settlements
- 4) 1533 AD Spanish Conquistador Pizarro conquers the Inca
- 5) Aztec people settle in Tenochtitlan
- 6) 196 years
- 7) X and star marked appropriately on timeline

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