

Ancient Maya

Key Vocabulary

artefact	An object from the past .
astronomy	Looking at understanding the stars.
Chichen Itza	A Mayan city.
civilisation	A society who has an advanced social, religious and financial structure .
El Castillo	The main Pyramid temple in Chichen Itza.
empire	The countries or areas controlled by a civilization.
Maya	A civilisation based in Mexico from 1800BC to 100AD .
Mayans	The people who lived in the area of Mexico from 1800BC .
Meso-America	The area between North and South America, including Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Nicaragua and Honduras and Columbia
ruins	Ancient buildings that are no longer used and may have crumbled.
rune	A picture that is used to convey a word. The Maya used runes for writing.
sacrifice	Killing a person or animal, or offering some plants or something else special, to make the gods happy.
underworld	The place where the unfriendly gods lived in Mayan folklore .

Meso-America

The Maya lived in the area inside the red square.



Mayan Gods

The gods were in charge of different areas of life as well as nature.



The city of Chichen Itza and the pyramid El Castillo

Runes

Each rune means one word. Sometimes a rune has more than one meaning.



balam
(jaguar)



soz'
(bat)

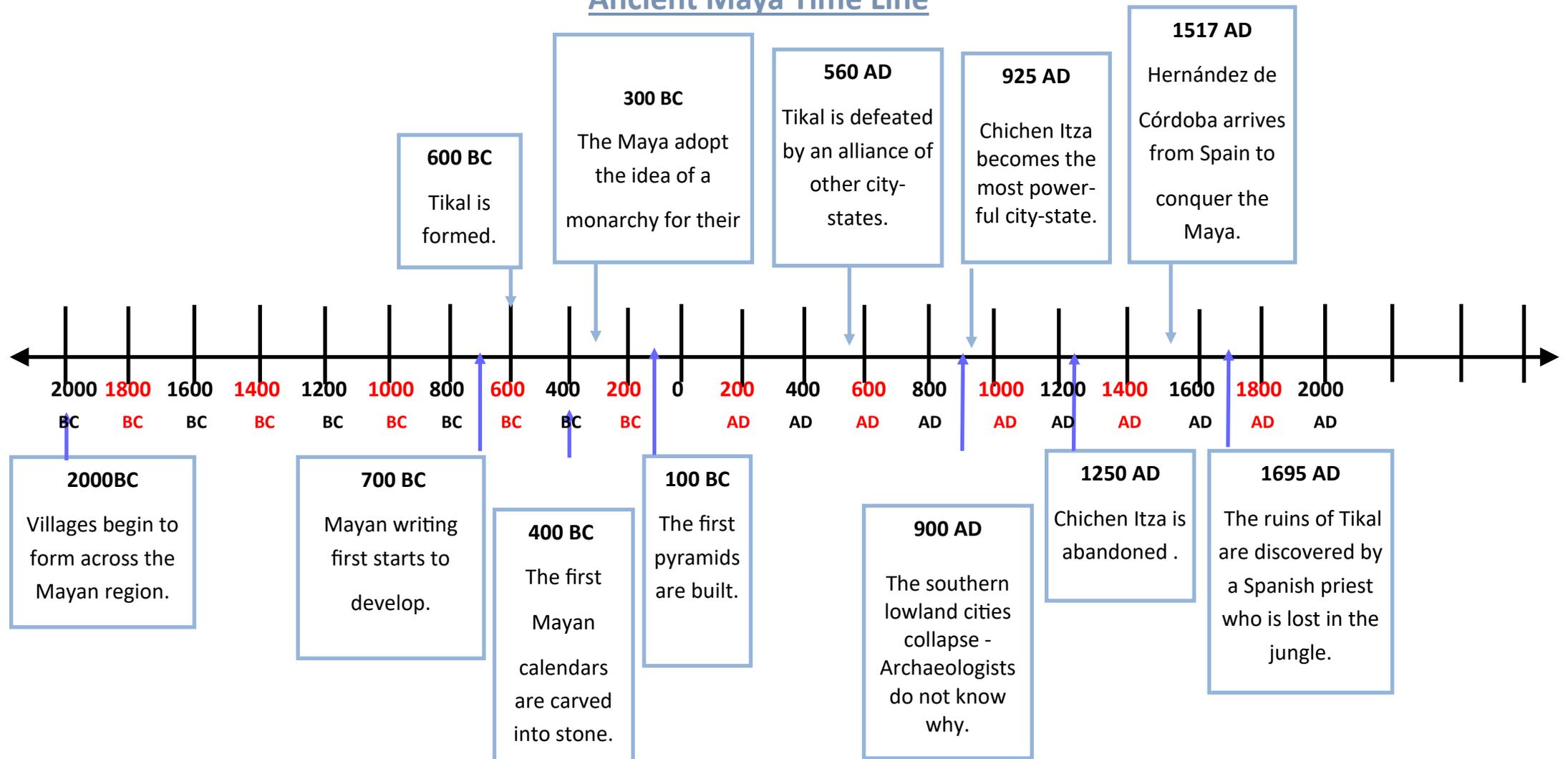


pakal
(shield)



k'al
(twenty)

Ancient Maya Time Line



Tier 2 Vocabulary

establish	When something is set up or organised.
source	Something that comes from the past or can be used to explain about the past.
culture	The ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a group of people.
sequence	To put things in the correct order
tradition	A set of beliefs passed from generation to generation
evidence	An object, writing, photo, picture , film or sound recording that you can use to find out about a period of history.
ignorance	when someone does not understand something.