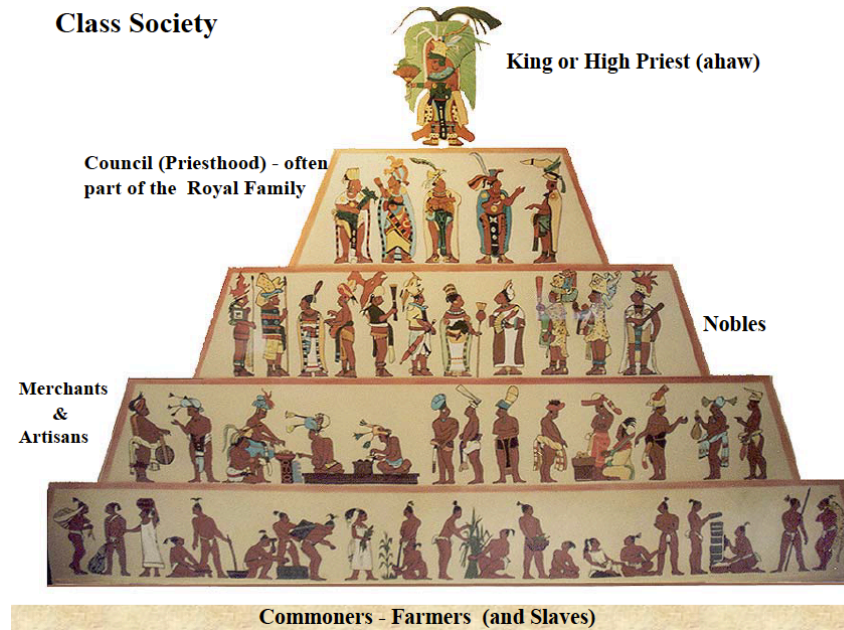


**Vocabulary**

1	xocolatl (chocolate)	'Bitter water' – food of the gods
2	trade	Exchange of goods for other goods.
3	civilisation	The society, culture and way of life of a particular area.
4	states	A defined territory.
5	archaeologist	A person who studies human history through excavation.
6	codex (codices)	An ancient manuscript.
7	stelae	An upright stone slab.
8	sacrifice	Slaughtering an animal or person for a deity.
9	hieroglyphics	Writing up of symbols.
10	deforestation	The removal of forests.
11	erosion	The gradual wearing away of something.
12	drought	A long period of low rainfall.

**Class Society**



**Points of note**

Mayan sport	Pitz was a popular ball game; winners received a feast and losers were put to death.
Astronomy	Mayans were keen astronomers and built their temples to line up with Sun or stars.
Religion	Mayan religion was polytheistic (believing in more than one god). When you died, the Maya believed you went to the underworld. The Maya practised human and animal sacrifice in honour of their Gods.
Numbers	Number were organised in groups of 20 because it is based on the number of fingers and toes.

**Timeline**

2,000 BC	Mayan civilisations starts in Mesoamerica.
500 BC	Maya develops own hieroglyphics.
250 BC	Maths and astronomy adopted, a writing system was created.
100 BC	Stone buildings were developed.
400 CE	Divided into states.
600 CE	Population reach 5 million. Deforestation & erosion ensued.
840 - 909 CE	Long term droughts; the downfall of civilisation begins. 909CE: the final date.