



# THE FLIPSIDE



**ASSIGNMENT:** Write an acrostic for *Mayan Civilization*.

**M**athematics was based on the system of 20.  
**A**stronomical tables gave observations of the skies.  
**Y**un Kaax is the god of maize and agriculture.  
**A**ristocrats were the highest member of the noble family.  
**N**umber symbols were shells, dots and bars.

**C**opan was important for Mayan Art.  
**I**tzamna was the head god, lord of heavens, night and day.  
**V**ictims got taken to the altar and their hearts cut out.  
**I**x Chel is the moon, rainbow, weaving, and childbirth goddess.  
**L**esser aristocrats were the lower ranking priests.  
**I**n the Mayan mathematics, a dot was either a 1 or a 20.  
**Z**eros looked like a shell for mathematics.  
**A**lcoholic beverages were made out of corn.  
**T**he word "cenotes" means wells.  
**I**n Copan, the Great Staircase is 30 feet wide and has 63 steps.  
**O**ne calendar was called the Sacred Calendar.  
**N**uts were some of the things the Mayas traded.

**PLEASANT PALMER**  
*Fourth Grade*

**M**ade offerings to the gods in order for help  
**A**dvanced in mathematics and astronomy  
**Y**et they had human sacrifices.  
**"A**ristocrat" was one of five ranks.  
**N**ever before was a tribe so into religion.

**C**opan, Chichen Itza, and Tikal were three important cities.  
**I**nventive minds got them far.  
**V**ery vicious in sacrificing.  
**I**nto a well a victim went.  
**L**ived in Central America, around Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico, Belize, Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.  
**I**n Chichen Itza were two cenotes.  
**Z**ero was one of their inventions.  
**A**griculture helped them survive.  
**T**rade was very important to them.  
**I**n the Classic Era, they were strongest.  
**O**n the ruler's death, the son took over; if no son, brother took over; if no brother, they had a council.  
**N**ow they were living in the 5<sup>th</sup> world, they believed.

**CHRISTOPHER GRISHAM**  
*Fourth Grade*

**M**aya is a tribe.  
**A**rchaeologists find their items today.  
**Y**et nobody knows what happened.  
**A**nd they were able to predict solar events.  
**N**o Mayan ever had the technology we have now.

**C**aring about nature  
**I**deas came to their heads whenever they needed them.  
**V**iews of their cities were amazing.  
**I**nside pyramids were buried kings.  
**L**and and water they traveled on.  
**I**tzamna is the head god.  
**Z**ero was created by the Mayas.  
**A**nd the big cities were Tikal and Copan.  
**T**he main city is Chichen Itza.  
**I**n Chichen Itza is the well of sacrifice.  
**O**nly the Mayans know what happened, but since they're gone,  
**N**obody else will ever know what happened.

**JONAH BRODY**  
*Fourth Grade*

**M**ayans had five different classes.  
**A**ristocrats were the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest class.  
**Y**ou had to do at least one job.  
**A**mazement of the abandonment of their cities  
**N**ow we know over 800 of their glyphs.

**C**ommon people were the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest class.  
**I**t's a very famous tribe.  
**V**enus they knew much about.  
**I**tza; the name of the tribe. Chi=mouth; Chen=well  
**L**ife was kind of hard for the Mayans.  
**I**t is still a mystery what happened to the Mayans.  
**Z**oo-like habitat they called home  
**A** few codices were saved.  
**T**ikal was the biggest city.  
**I**x Chel is the moon goddess.  
**O**h, my god! So many gods!  
**N**icaragua was one of the countries where they were located.

**MORGAN LOPEZ**  
*Fourth Grade*

**ASSIGNMENT:** Excerpted from the third grade class anthology submitted to the Walt Whitman poetry contest.

## The Orchestra of the Pond at Night

The frogs begin to sing...do you hear?  
They start without ceasing...do you hear? And croak throughout the night.  
The crickets' chirps come through the woods and persuade the frogs to sing.  
Whispers from the mangroves are pleased by the song around them and the wind blowing through their leaves.  
The marshy pond at night...  
An orchestra.

**DECLAN HUDDLESTON**  
*Third Grade*