

The Late Classic Maya Notes
Miller Chapter 7

Key Images

Rosalila, Copán, Late Classic.
Palenque Palace, Petén, Late Classic.
Temple of the Inscriptions, Palenque, Seventh-century AD.
Lord Pakal's Sarcophagus Lid, Palenque, Seventh-century AD.
Temple I, Tikal, Late Classic.
Structure 22, Copán.
Hieroglyphic Stairway, Copán, Eighth-century AD.
Lintel 25, Yaxchilan.
Altar Q, Copán.
Bonampak Wall Painting, Bonampak, Eighth-century.

Key Terms

Mansard roof
Nunnery
Anthropomorphic
Zoomorph
Eccentrics
Wayob

Questions to Consider

- What important developments after WWII and in the last 20 years have made many Mayan cities accessible to modern viewers? Consider the positive and negative aspects of this accessibility.
- Who was king Pakal? What major achievements did he and his sons achieve during their reigns?
- How is the architecture of Palenque characterized?
- White kinds of images adorn the talud of the East Court of the Palenque Palace?
- What was the function of the Palenque Palace?
- How is the Temple of the Inscriptions unique? What was its function?
- How many levels does the Temple of the Inscriptions have? How many corbels connect the tomb to the upper galleries? Why are these numbers significant?
- What kind of symbol is found on the platforms of the Twin Pyramid Complexes at Tikal?
- What are monster-mouth facades usually associated with?
- What are the pioneering techniques of Puuc architecture?
- What was the function of the House of the Governor?
- What are the characteristics of the "Rio Bec" style of architecture?
- What two gods is king Pakal portrayed as on his sarcophagus lid?
- What is the subject, or narrative, of Stela 11?
- What element is paid special attention in the sculpture of Piedras Negras?
- For what purpose was Stela 16 at Tikal erected?
- What did early archaeologists believe was represented on Altar Q? What is the current interpretation of the monument?
- What kind of scenes and themes are painted on Late Classic Maya pottery?
- What kinds of scenes are depicted on the wall paintings of Bonampak?
- What does your text describe as the "mortar of dynastic life" for the ancient Maya? How did this apparently change at the end of the Classic period?