**5th Grade** [**Complex Societies Inquiry**](http://www.c3teachers.org/inquiries/complex-societies/)

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| What Makes A Complex Society Complex? | |
| **Staging the Question: Discuss examples of complexity in our society today, noting things that have changed recently in society and how those things are connected, for example, cell phones and the Internet.** | |
| **Social Studies Practices** | Gathering, Using, and Interpreting Evidence Comparison and Contextualization Geographic Reasoning |

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| **Supporting Question 1** | **Supporting Question 2** | **Supporting Question 3** |
| How did the Maya use writing to represent activities in their culture? | What did the Aztecs do to master their watery environment? | Why were roads important to the Inca Empire? |
| **Formative Performance Task** | **Formative Performance Task** | **Formative Performance Task** |
| Write a paragraph describing how the Maya used writing and how others have worked to understand it. | Make a chart of the benefits of swamp agriculture and the use of *chinampas*. | Make a diagram illustrating how the Inca road system functioned and how Inca runners used that system. |
| ***Integration of Inquiry Process and Skills*** | | |
| Supporting Question 1 | Supporting Question 2 | Supporting Question 3 |
| Connect: States what is known about the characteristics of a complex societey and makes connections to prior knowledge about a recent innovation or change in society. | Connect: Uses sources to acquire background information and brainstorm ideas for further inquiry about what the Aztecs did to master their watery environment.  Graphic Organizer: [Connect#11](http://inquiryk12.ischool.syr.edu/esifc-assessments/connect/#connect11) | Connect: Generates a list of key words for a research-based project about why roads were important to the Inca Empire, including how the road system functioned and how Inca runners used that system.  Graphic Organizer: [Connect#10](http://inquiryk12.ischool.syr.edu/esifc-assessments/connect/#connect10) |
| Wonder: Predicts answers to inquiry question about how the Maya used writing to represent activities in their culture based on background knowledge and beginning observation.  Graphic Organizer: [Wonder#7](http://inquiryk12.ischool.syr.edu/esifc-assessments/wonder/#wonder7) | **Wonder: Predicts answers to inquiry question** about what the Aztecs did to master their watery environment based on background knowledge and beginning observation.  **Graphic Organizer:** [**Wonder#7**](http://inquiryk12.ischool.syr.edu/esifc-assessments/wonder/#wonder7) | Wonder: Forms tentative thesis about why roads were important to the Inca Empire with guidance. |
| **Investigate: Interprets information taken from visuals** about how the Maya used writing to represent activities in their cultureby examining examples of Mayan writing. | **Investigate:** **Finds facts and briefly summarizes them** to answer research questions about what the Aztecs did to master their watery environment while examining descriptions, illustrations and photographs of *chinampas*.  **Graphic Organizer:** [**Investigate#7**](http://inquiryk12.ischool.syr.edu/esifc-assessments/investigate/#investigate7) | Investigate: Use navigation tools of a website to find information about how the Inca road system functioned and how Inca runners used that system.  Graphic Organizer: [Investigate#44](http://inquiryk12.ischool.syr.edu/esifc-assessments/investigate/#investigate44)  [C3 Resources](http://www.c3teachers.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/NewYork_5_Complex_Societies.pdf) |
| Construct: Writes a paragraph describing how the Maya used writing and how others have worked to understand it. | Construct: Draws a conclusion about the benefits of swamp agriculture and the use of *chinampas* with guidance.  Graphic Organizer: [Construct#2](http://inquiryk12.ischool.syr.edu/esifc-assessments/construct/#construct2) | Construct: Identifies facts and details that support the importance of roads to the Inca Empire.  Graphic Organizer: [Construct#11](http://inquiryk12.ischool.syr.edu/esifc-assessments/construct/#construct11) |
| **Express:** | **Express:** Makes a chart of the benefits of swamp agriculture and the use of *chinampas*. | Express: Makes a diagram illustrating how the Inca road system functioned and how Inca runners used that system. |
| **Reflect:** | **Reflect:** | **Reflect:** **Identifies own strengths and sets goals for improvement.**  **Graphic Organizer:** **[Reflect#14](http://inquiryk12.ischool.syr.edu/esifc-assessments/reflect/" \l "reflect14)** |
| **Summative Performance Task:** ***Argument:*** **What makes a complex society complex? Construct an argument (e.g., detailed outline, poster, or essay) that explains what makes societies complex using specific claims and relevant evidence from historical sources. *Extension:* Prepare a diagram or a chart that illustrates the complexity of one or more of the societies featured in this inquiry.** | | |