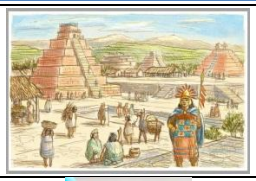
Monumental Mayans

Vocabulary Guide

	Word	Definition
	ancestor	A person who you descended from and lived several generations ago.
	artefact	An object that was previously made and used by human beings.
	cacao	The seed of this tree is used in making chocolate and cocoa.
	calendar	A chart of the days, weeks, and months of one or more years.
	chocolate	A sweet food made from roasted cacao seeds usually eaten as a treat.
	experiment	A carefully planned test used to discover something unknown.
	fair trade	Trade between companies in developed countries and producers in developing countries in which fair prices are paid to the producers.
	hieroglyphic	Writing that uses pictures and symbols to show words or sounds.
	Maya	A civilisation of Mexico and Central America that was discovered by Europeans in the 1500s.

	Mayans	People that lived in the civilisation that was located in Mexico and Central America.
	melted	When a solid is heated and becomes a liquid.
	merchant	Merchants played an important role in Mayan society. They had to trade goods from one Mayan city to another.
	mould	A container that can control the shape of a liquid so when it cools the material becomes hard and takes the shape of the mould.
	nobles	A Mayan group that were very important and worked with royalty and the priests.
	priests	Mayan priests had a wide range of responsibilities that came with a lot of power. They were in charge of religious ceremonies. They also had to develop a lot of science.
	pyramid	A huge stone structure that is shaped like a pyramid.
	slave	Mayans would become slaves to be punished for certain crimes. They had to work the ruler's lands.
	temple	The place of worship for the Ancient Mayans. Temples were often dedicated to one particular god.

	traditions	The handing down of a culture's beliefs and customs from parents to children over many years.
	warriors	Mayan warriors were trained really well. They had to fight with enemies of the city and capture them.