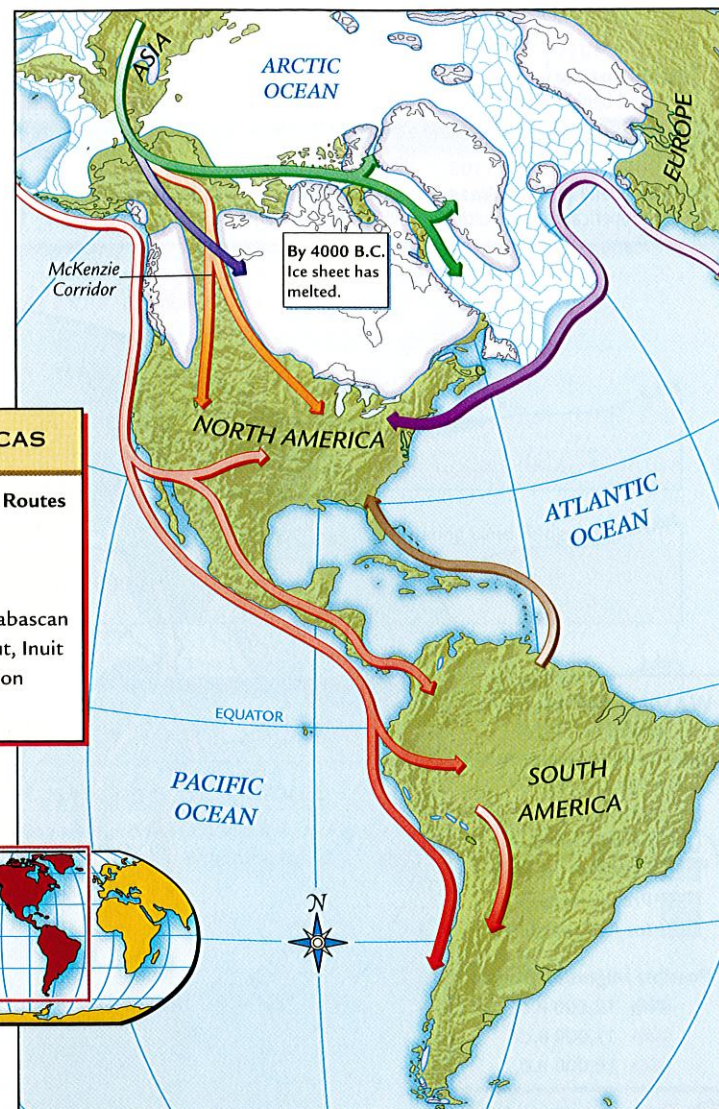
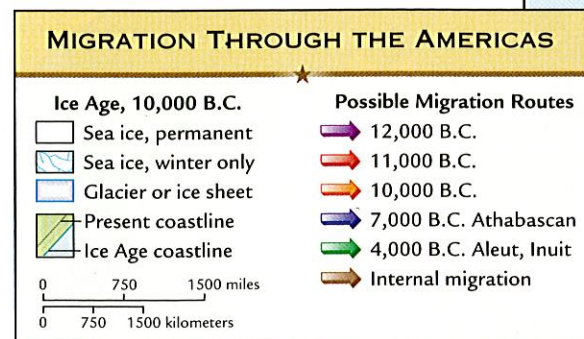


The World of the First Americans

Thousands of years after *migration* ended, most people in the Americas lived in small hunting or farming villages. But complex *empires* emerged too.

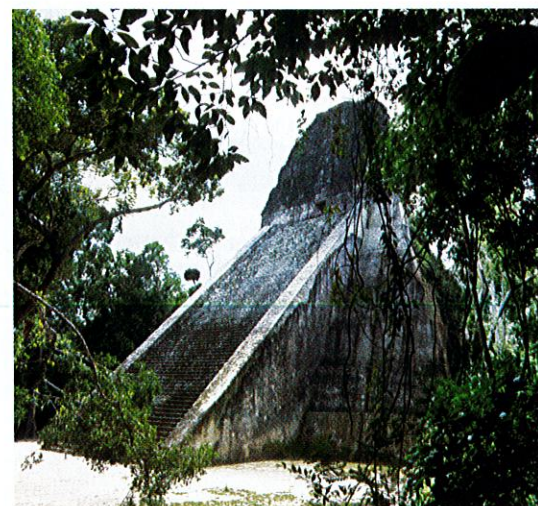
- ★ The Maya flourished from 250 to about 900. They built pyramids and developed an accurate calendar.
- ★ The Aztecs ruled their region from the early 1400s to 1521. They built canals, aqueducts, and large cities.
- ★ The Incas expanded along the Andes Mountains from 1438 to 1532. They devised bookkeeping, a road network, even brain surgery.



A After reaching land free of ice, early migrants to North America spread out by land and by sea. The far north was settled last.



B North of the Maya, Aztecs, and Incas were the Anasazi and Mississippian civilizations and the *irrigated* lands of the Hohokam.



C Mayan temples and cities can still be found in southern Mexico, Belize, and Guatemala.

The World of West Africa

Three Worlds Meet
BEGINNINGS TO 1620

ERA
1

Trade with Mediterranean ports linked West Africa to Europe and Asia 1700 years ago.

- ★ Empires and smaller kingdoms developed along the southern edge of the Sahara, connected to the north by trade routes.
- ★ The most powerful empires controlled the north bend of the Niger River, gateway to the shortest routes to the Mediterranean Sea.
- ★ Mali, and then Songhai, dominated this key region along with the richest gold mines.
- ★ Timbuktu, Mali's main trade center, and Gao, capital of Songhai, were important centers of learning.



A Arab traders carried goods by camel caravan between Mediterranean ports and West African empires. They traded luxury goods from Europe and salt from the Sahara for gold, leather, and *slaves* from West Africa.



B Songhai, like Mali before it, became powerful by controlling trade between the Mediterranean and the gold mines upstream along the Niger River.

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