Name: _____ **Date:** _____

250 CE-900 CE Engineering an Empire: The Maya

Complete this worksheet after you watch the DVD "Engineering an Empire"

Important People

- Yikin Chan Kawiil c. 734-760 CE

-Temple of the Giant Jaguar

- Pacal c. 615-683 CE

-Temple of Inscriptions, psycho duct, corbeled vault

- Kan Bahlam c. 684-702 CE

-Temple of the Cross, subterranean aqueducts



Mayan Calendar

Movie Guide Questions

I. *Introduction*

1. Describe what the Maya world was like in 869 CE.

2. How was the Maya empire different than the Roman empire in terms of kingdoms/empires?

3. Why was building big temples important to Maya rulers like Yikin Chan Kawiil? What did big buildings represent in the Maya world?

4. The Mayan kings wanted to appease their gods and still remain autonomous (self-governing). How is this different than other civilizations?

II. *Pacal*

5. The word "Pacal" is the Mayan word for ___?

6. What was the problem with the original corbeled vaults? How did Mayan engineers fix it?

7.What was the function of the psycho duct?

III. *Kan Bahlam*

8. The Mayans were notorious mathematicians. Name two of their mathematical advances.

9. In the DVD, Peter Weller claims that the Maya had the same kind of water system (aqueduct) as that of New York City. Explain how the Maya aqueduct worked.

IV. Plunge into Darkness

10. What is the most believed cause of the fall of the Maya empire and resulted in the Mayans moving north?

11. The Maya observatory, El Caracol, enabled the Mayans to...
    1.
    2.

V. A More Potent Enemy

12. What are some similarities between the Maya calendar and the calendar we use today?