

# AZTEC EMPIRE

## CUBE CODE

the Aztec Empire

the Aztec Empire

America

pe

was the Aztec god of

ky?

Quetzalcoatl

Viracocha

Pariacaca

Tlaloc

What number ruler was Montezuma I?

A. 2nd  
B. 3rd  
C. 4th  
D. 5th

the Aztec Empire

Europeans?

A. Malaria  
B. Influenza  
C. Smallpox  
D. All of the above

What gifts were given to welcome Cortes?

A. Silver and maize  
B. Gold and chocolate  
C. Bronze and cacao  
D. Rubies and diamonds

Who was the first ruler of Aztecs from 1376 to 1396?

A. Montezuma I  
B. Acamapichtli  
C. Huitzilopochtli  
D. Hernan

the number of bad omens seen during the time of Montezuma II MINUS 2.

The FIRST number of the lock is the number of years between each Xiuhmolpilli festival MINUS 50.

The THIRD number of the lock is the year the capital city of Tenochtitlan was found MINUS 1322.

**STATION 2:**

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an EVEN numbered paragraph, leaving only ODD numbers as your final code (in the order of questions). Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all.

government

serpent

bird

Great

Grand

religion

war

fire

water

The Aztecs worshipped many different gods that represented a natural world. Aztec \_\_\_\_ was drawn a god of beauty. The Aztecs were known as \_\_\_\_ the god of the sun.

**STATION 3:**

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds to the question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. After you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values. A code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

**4 DIGIT CODE**

A 75  
B 25  
C 50  
D 100

A. The Constitution is organized into seven different parts called Articles.  
B. The Constitutional Convention was held in Boston, Massachusetts.  
C. The 3 branches include the Legislative, Executive and Parliament Branch.  
D. The first ten amendments came in 1791 and are called the Bill of Rights.  
E. Before the Constitution, a strong federal government held the states together.  
F. The opening part of the Constitution is called the Preamble.  
G. George Washington was known as the "Father of the Constitution."  
H. The U.S. Constitution is the oldest government document still in use today.

ELIMINATE

**AZTEC EMPIRE**

The Aztecs were known as the Mexica. They were an elite militaristic empire in central Mexico when Spanish conquistadors arrived in America. The Aztec civilization was a powerful society from 1428 to 1521. Aztecs used the Nahuatl language, some is still spoken in parts of Mexico today.

Aztec refers to the people of Tenochtitlan. Tenochtitlan was an island-city located in Lake Texcoco. The capital city of Tenochtitlan was found in 1325. The location of the capital was picked by priests because they saw an eagle holding a snake while standing on a cactus. They viewed this as a sign to settle. The first ruler of the Aztecs was Acamapichtli from 1376 to 1396. The Aztecs called their ruler the Tlatoani which means "speaker." Aztecs believed their rulers were appointed by the gods and held the title of Mexica.

**A** The common people, or middle class, of the Aztec society were called the macehuatl.

**B** In 1428, the Aztec Empire formed a triple alliance between the Aztecs, Texcocans and Tacubans

**C** A large A or new fi

**D** The Az from 14

**E** He sur could

**F** The mec

**A** 75  
**B** 25  
**C** 50  
**E** 100  
**F** 75  
**G** 50

A. At first, Montezuma II welcomed Cortes, believing he was possibly a god in human form.  
B. Cortes arrived on the celebration of Quetzalcoatl's birthday.  
C. Tlaloc was the goddess of beauty, arts and crafts.  
D. The first ruler of the Aztecs was Acamapichtli from 1376 to 1396.  
E. The Nahuatl language is still spoken in parts of Mexico today.

common people, or middle class, of Aztec society were called the Mexica in America.

Aztec culture believed in polytheism.

**THINK TANK**

### STATION 1:

Use your reading passage or deductive reasoning skills to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. Each missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph.

### STATION 2:

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an ODD numbered paragraph, leaving only EVEN numbers as your final code (in the order of questions). Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all.

### STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds with that question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values. One digit of the code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 would go in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

### STATION 4:

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order.

### STATION 5:

Answer each multiple choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal your 4 digit code. Answer options may be used more than once or not at all. If a letter option is not used, simply put a zero in the box.

### STATION 6:

Reread the passage and write the main idea in your own words. Then, add TWO supporting details that back up your main idea or topic sentence.

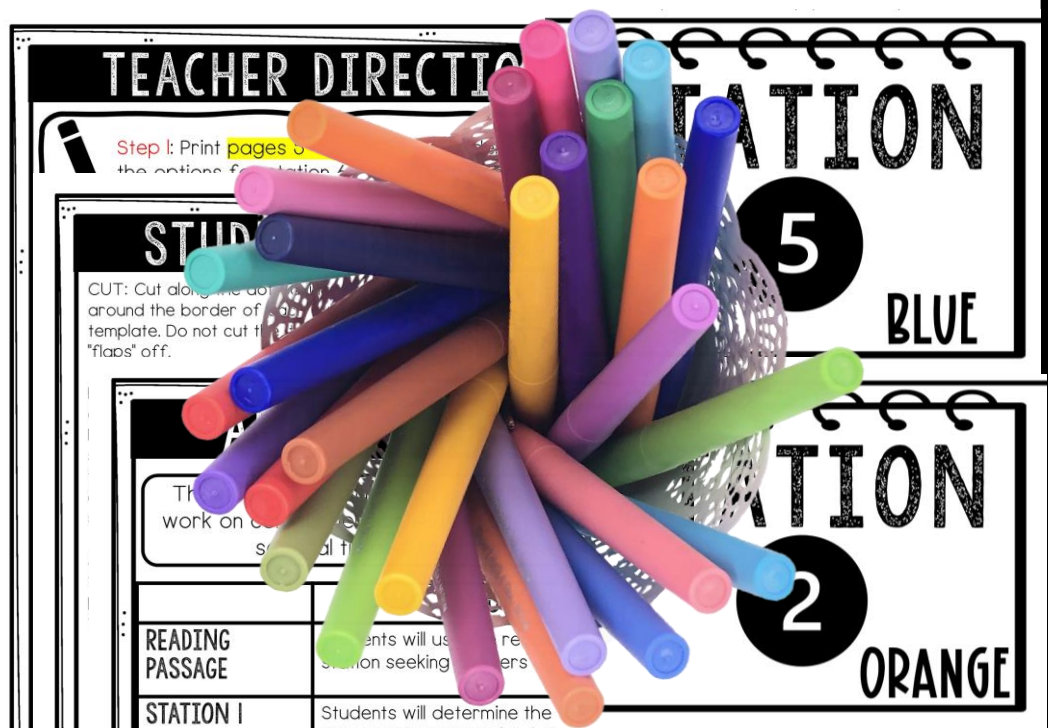
# STATION

# 1

# RED

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- READING PASSAGE
- 6 STATIONS
- TEACHER GUIDE
- STATION CARDS
- ANSWER KEY
- STUDENT DIRECTIONS
- TEXT MARKING OPTION
- ALTERNATE STATION
- ASSEMBLY TIPS





# 6 STATIONS

## STATION 1:

Use your reading passage or deductive reasoning to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. The missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph.

1	government	4	Great	7	war
2	serpent	5	Grand	8	fire
3	bird	6	religion	9	water

The Aztecs worshipped many different gods that represented the natural world. The Aztec \_\_\_\_\_ were centered around the sun. One of the most famous gods was "People of the Sun," who was known as the god of the sun and \_\_\_\_\_ in the sky. Quetzalcoatl was usually drawn as a feathered serpent. Tlaloc was the god of rain and lightning. The goddess Coatlicue was the goddess of beauty, fertility, and death. The Precious Feathered Serpent.

The Aztecs believed the gods sacrificed themselves to create the universe. In order to repay the gods, they

STATION

1

RED

## STATION 6:

Reread the passage and write the main idea in your own words. Then, add TWO supporting details that back up your main idea or topic sentence.

MAIN IDEA

STATION

6



SUPPORTING DETAIL #2

## STATION 4:

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order.

The LAST number of the lock is the year Hernan Cortes arrived in Mexico MINUS 1510.

The SECOND number of the lock is the number of the year that the Aztecs were founded.

STATION

4

GREEN

4 DIGIT CODE

## STATION 5:

Answer each multiple choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal your 4 digit code. Answer options may be used more than once or not at all. If a letter option is not used, put a zero in the box.

Where was the Aztec Empire located?

- A. South America
- B. Mexico
- C. Asia
- D. Europe

What disease was brought to the Aztec Empire by Europeans?

- A. Malaria
- B. Influenza

Who was the first Aztec ruler?

- A. Quetzalcoatl
- B. Viracochan
- C. Pariacuti
- D. Tlaloc

What number of years did Montezuma I rule?

- A. 2nd
- B. 3rd
- C. 4th
- D. 5th

- A. Montezuma I
- B. Acamapichtli
- C. Huizilopochtli
- D. Hernan

STATION

5

BLUE

A  B  C  D

## STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds to the statement. If the statement is false, do not color or shade the coin. One coin has been colored to show you how to do it. The first box is for the first coin.

STATION

3

YELLOW

A 75

B 25

C 50

D 100

- C. Tlaloc was the god of rain and crops.
- D. The first ruler of the Aztecs was Acamapichtli from 1378 to 1396.
- E. The Nahuatl language is still spoken in parts of Mexico today.
- F. The common people, or middle class, of the Aztec society were called the *tlachtli*.
- G. The Aztec were the elite aristocratic empire in South America.
- H. The Aztec culture believed in practicing human sacrifice.

4 DIGIT CODE

## STATION 2:

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an EVEN numbered paragraph, leaving only ODD numbers as your final answer. Paragraph numbers may be used more than once.

STATION

2

ORANGE

A

B

C

D

E

- A. The Aztec Empire was founded in 1325.
- In 1486, the Aztec ruler, Ahuizotl, was killed by his brother, Tlacotl.
- A large Aztec festival was called Xiuhtimolpilli, or New Fire.
- The Aztec civilization was a powerful society from 1428 to 1519.
- The Aztec ruler, Montezuma II, was killed by the Spanish conquistador Hernan Cortes. Cortes sunk his own fleet of ships so his soldiers could not leave him.
- The Aztecs called their ruler the Tlatoani which means "speaker."

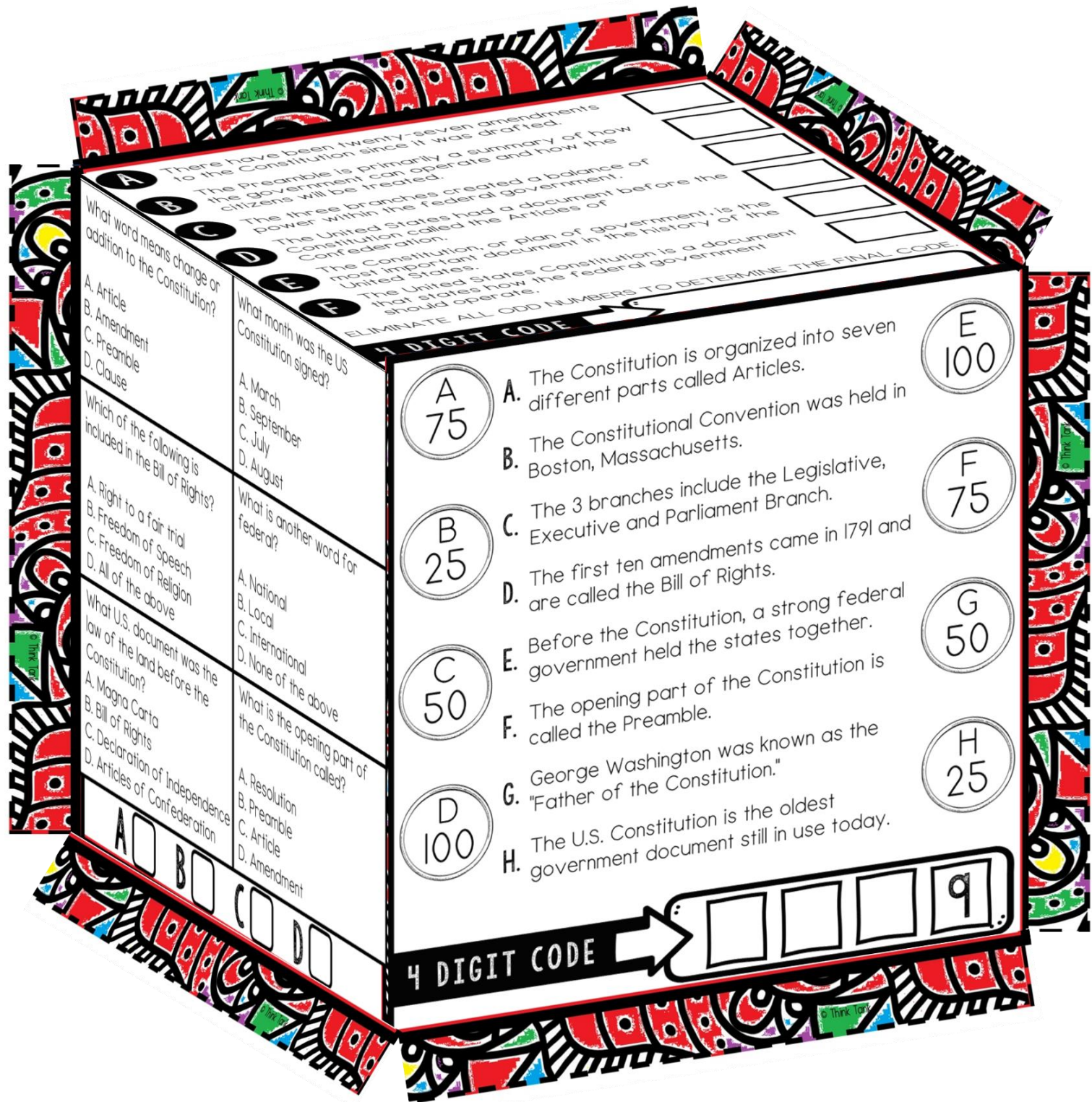
ELIMINATE ALL EVEN NUMBERS TO DETERMINE THE FINAL CODE.

4 DIGIT CODE





# SAMPLE CUBE






# STATIONS

STATION 1	Students will determine the missing words in the paragraph to reveal a 4 digit code.
STATION 2	Students will number the paragraphs and browse the passage to determine where the answers can be found (paragraph number). After eliminating EVEN numbers, a 4 digit code will be revealed.
STATION 3	Students will read each statement and determine if it is true or false. They will then ADD all TRUE values to find the 4 digit code.
STATION 4	Students will do some basic math here, read the passage to find the answers and then determine the 4 digit code.
STATION 5	Students will answer 6 multiple choice questions which lead them to a 4 digit code based on the number of times they used each "answer".
STATION 6	Option 1: Main idea writing activity Option 2: Color and add topic
TEXT MARKING	OPTIONAL: A color code chart is included in case you want students to mark the text citing evidence of where they found their answers.

**STUDENTS WILL  
USE THE SAME  
READING  
PASSAGE AT  
EACH STATION  
SEEKING  
ANSWERS AND  
TEXT EVIDENCE.**



# HOW IT WORKS



## ENGAGING READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE!

1

Students work individually (or in pairs) and visit 6 stations, grabbing one side of their cube at each station.

2

Students will answer the questions (found directly in the passage) on their cube sheet before assembly. Students will revisit their reading passage at EACH station!

3

Students will reveal 4-digit codes to move on to the next station. When they finish all stations, they can color and assemble their cube.

**STATION**

Read each statement below and determine if the statement is true, color or shade the corresponding question. If the statement is false, cross it out. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE statements. A 4-digit code has been provided for you. If the code is 75, the 7 in the first box, the 5 in the second box and so on.

**A** 75

A. At first, Montezuma II welcomed Cortes, believing he was possibly a god.

**B** 25

B. Cortes arrived on the celebration of Quetzalcoatl's birthday.

**C** 50

C. Tlaloc was the goddess of beauty and crafts.

**D** 100

D. The first ruler of the Aztecs was Acamapichtli from 1376 to 1396.

E. The Nahuatl language is still spoken in parts of Mexico today.

F. The common people, or middle class, of the Aztec society were called the *pillay*.

G. The Aztecs were an elite militaristic society in South America.

H. The Aztec culture believed in practicing human sacrifice.

**4 DIGIT CODE** →



# COMBINATION



**Each Cube Code is a winning combination of:**

- stations and movement
- close reading
- comprehension skills
- coloring and stress relief
- secret codes
- cut and paste
- citing evidence
- critical thinking

**Everything a teacher dreams of wrapped up into one FUN and engaging activity!**



# BENEFITS



THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!

-  ANTICIPATORY SETS
-  UNIT REVIEW
-  EARLY FINISHERS
-  STATIONS
-  SUB PLANS
-  PARTNER WORK
-  ENRICHMENT

-  HANDS-ON
-  CROSS-CURRICULAR
-  HIGHLY ENGAGING

