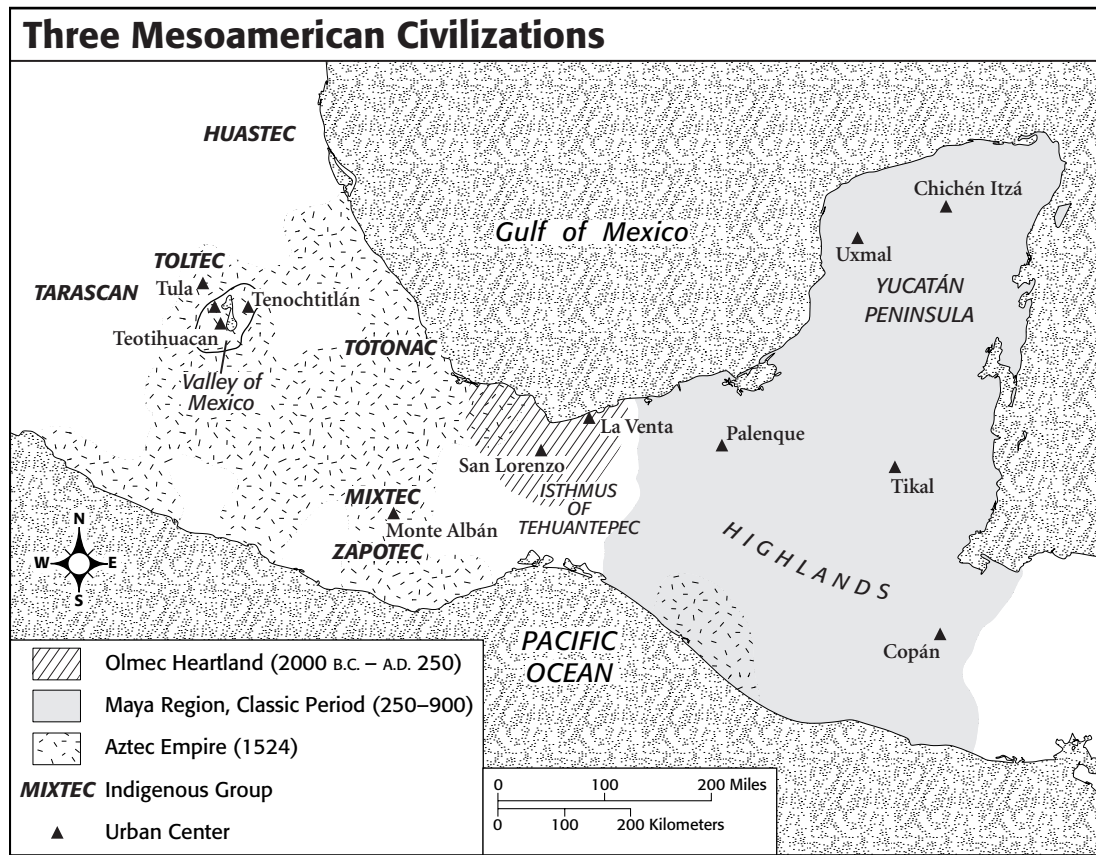


CHAPTER 10

Map Activity

Early Mexican Civilizations

Long before the Spanish conquest, Mexico was home to a number of advanced civilizations. These civilizations occupied a region now known as Mesoamerica, which stretched from central Mexico to northern Central America. The map below shows three key civilizations of Mesoamerica. Study the map, then answer the questions on the following page.



Chapter 10, Map Activity, continued

1. Which of the civilizations on the map came first? Where was it located?

2. When was the Classic period of Mayan civilization? What major landforms did the Maya occupy?

3. Where was the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlán located? What other urban center was located in that same region?

4. What urban center lay about 250 miles to the southeast of the Aztec capital? What indigenous groups lived in that area?

5. **Critical Thinking: Location** How might the rise of one civilization in Mesoamerica have influenced the development of others?

ACTIVITY Mesoamerican civilizations are notable for many achievements, including the creation of magnificent urban centers. Find out more about a noted city, such as Teotihuacán, Monte Albán, Palenque, or Tikal. Create a poster, with illustrations and text, that describes that center.