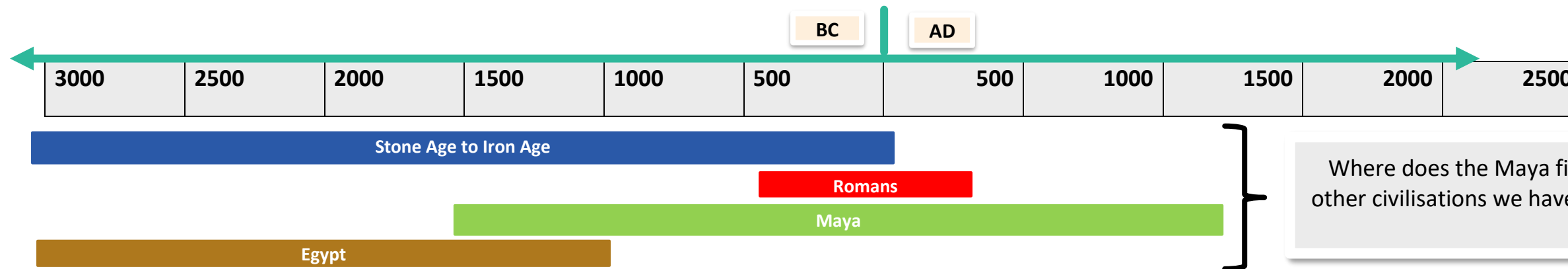


# History Knowledge Organiser

## The Maya civilisation: Why should we remember the Maya people?



Where does the Maya fit in with other civilisations we have studied?

### ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY

<b>City-state</b>	an independent self-governing state formed of a city and its surrounding area
<b>Sacrifice</b>	to make an offering to a god
<b>Technology</b>	developing knowledge and tools to make people's lives easier
<b>Theory</b>	an idea about why something happened
<b>Trade</b>	the buying and selling of things like food
<b>Agriculture</b>	farming; growing crops or rearing animals.
<b>Astronomy</b>	the study of space, planets and stars.
<b>Code</b>	a book written by the Maya using one long sheet of paper.
<b>Glyph</b>	a symbol used in writing.
<b>Hierarchy</b>	a system that ranks things, often in order of power or importance.
<b>Maize</b>	a crop, known as corn.
<b>Settlement</b>	a place where people live and build homes.
<b>Temple</b>	a building devoted to the worship of a god or gods.

The Maya people lived in an area covered by rainforest.



The Maya people built pyramids. Here is one at Tikal in Guatemala.

- ### Key takeaways
1. Maya people lived in Meso-America (Central America) in the area called Mexico and Guatemala.
  2. The Maya civilisation was a Stone Age culture as they didn't have metal.
  3. The Maya civilisation formed a society of **city-states**.
  4. Maya people made many **technological** advances and established a huge **trading** empire.
  5. The Maya people developed a writing system based on symbols called 'hieroglyphs'.
  6. The Maya people built pyramids to worship their gods and offer **sacrifices**.
  7. Maya people worshipped up to 300 gods, each one doing a different job.
  8. There are many **theories** why the population of Maya cities disappeared around 900AD.
  9. We know about the Maya civilisation from archaeological remains and the people living in the area today.
  10. We use the term 'Maya' not 'Mayan'. 'Mayan' is used only to describe the language.