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|  | **The Maya** | **The Aztec** | **The Inca** |
| **Time Period** | 300-900 | 1200s-1500s | 1100s-1500s |
| **Location** | Yucatan to Central America | Mexico | Ecuador to Chile |
| **Government** | -Each city with own ruling chief  -Bureaucracy of nobles | -Emperor chosen by nobles, priests, and military leaders to lead in war | -Rule by God-king with absolute power  -Efficient government with specially trained officials |
| **Religion** | -Polytheistic  -Powerful priests  -Elaborate ceremonies | -Polytheistic  -Priests very powerful  -Human sacrifices | -Polytheistic  -Monthly festivals  -Offerings to gods  -Powerful priests |
| **Farming methods** | -Burned and cleared forests  -Raised fields along banks of rivers | -Floating gardens called chinampas | -Step terraces |
| **Achievements** | -Hieroglyphics  -Number system  -Concept of zero  -Solar calendar | -Herbs and medicines, able to set broken bones and treat dental cavities  -Steam baths  -Accurate calendar | -Skilled metalworkers  -Mastered art of weaving  -Surgery and antiseptics  -Extensive system of roads |
| **Cause of Decline** | -Theories include: warfare, overpopulation, peasant revolts | -Spanish invaders | -Spanish invaders |

Choose one American tribe and provide two examples ***explaining*** the tribe as a civilization.