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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.