Indigenous Cultures: The Survival of the Maya of Mesoamerica

How do indigenous peoples preserve their traditional culture while adapting to modern life?

Look carefully at the photograph your teacher is projecting. Talk about the questions below with your partner, and record your answers.

1. Find four interesting or important details in the photograph. Quickly sketch them below.

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2. This family is preserving its traditional culture. What do you see in the photograph that shows this?

3. This family has also adapted to modern life. What do you see in the photograph that shows this?

4. Do you think this family is more traditional or more modern? Support your answer with at least three details from the photograph.
Read the Introduction and Section 1. Then, create an illustrated dictionary of the Geoterm terms by completing these tasks:

- Create a symbol or an illustration to represent each term.
- Write a definition of each term in your own words.
- Write a sentence that includes the term and the phrase *highland Maya*.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geoterm and Symbol</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Sentence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>adaptation</td>
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Follow these steps to complete the notebook for Sections 2 to 6:
1. Read the section about the topic you have been assigned. Complete the notes for that section.
2. Before each presentation, read and complete the notes for that section.
3. After each presentation, add any new details to your notes.

In what ways have the highland Maya preserved their traditional culture?

In what ways have the highland Maya adapted to modern life?
Section 3 - The Traditional Home and Family

In what ways have the highland Maya preserved their traditional culture?

In what ways have the highland Maya adapted to modern life?

Section 4 - Changing Ways of Work

In what ways have the highland Maya preserved their traditional culture?

In what ways have the highland Maya adapted to modern life?

Section 5 - Making the Most of Market Day

In what ways have the highland Maya preserved their traditional culture?

In what ways have the highland Maya adapted to modern life?

Section 6 - Keeping Maya Traditions Alive

In what ways have the highland Maya preserved their traditional culture?

In what ways have the highland Maya adapted to modern life?
Complete this illustration to show what you have learned about the Maya in the highlands of Guatemala and southern Mexico.

- Color or draw details that show how this Maya family is preserving its traditional culture. Color or draw at least four details.
- Color or draw details that show how this family is adapting to modern life. Color or draw at least four details.
- Include at least one detail from each aspect of highland Maya life you studied: “community,” “home and family,” “work,” “market day,” and “traditions.”
- Label each detail you color or draw. Write a short explanation of how each item represents ways this family is preserving its traditional culture or adapting to modern life. An example is given for you.

![Image of Maya family and television](image_url)

Traditional Maya homes have simple wooden chairs like these.