<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Timeline</strong></th>
<th><strong>What was the Mayan culture like?</strong></th>
<th><strong>Vocabulary</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000BC</td>
<td>The first Maya people emerge</td>
<td>Archaeologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750BC</td>
<td>The first Maya cities are built</td>
<td>someone who studies the past by exploring old remains.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250BC</td>
<td>First Maya hieroglyphics are used.</td>
<td>Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250AD</td>
<td>The Mayan had many established cities. They had many monuments, pyramids and devised their own systems for writing and maths.</td>
<td>Astronomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800-850AD</td>
<td>The huge stepped pyramid, El Castilla, is built in Chichen Itza.</td>
<td>Civilisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>870AD</td>
<td>Many city states (e.g. Copan and Tikal) are deserted.</td>
<td>Codex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>909AD</td>
<td>The last recorded evidence of Maya Civilisation.</td>
<td>Culture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important places**

- **Chichen Itza**
  - A large city built by the Maya people. It contained a large number of temples, monuments and pyramids. It is most famous for the large stepped pyramid at its centre, El Castillo, which is about 1 km in diameter.

- **Palenque**
  - A Maya state in what is now Southern Mexico. It contains some of the finest architecture and sculpture.

- **Tikal**
  - A Maya city that was built an area of rainforest in what is now Guatemala. Tikal was one of the most powerful kingdoms in Maya and reached its peak in population between 200 and 900AD. It has some of the best-preserved ruins and tombs, giving historians some of the best clues about how the Maya people lived.

**Facts about the Mayans**

- The Mayan empire was organised into city states; each city state was ruled by a different noble family.
- Mayan people lived in settlements with a central temple/pyramid as a focal point.
- Mayan city states traded with each other - sometimes using cacao beans as money.
- Chichen Itza (what remains of it) is a popular tourist attraction.
- The Maya used hieroglyphs to inscribe in stone slabs (called stelae) and in books (called codices).
- The Maya created a logical and advanced number system.
- There are lots of different theories about what happened to the Maya.

**Important people**

- **Pakal the Great 603-683AD**
  - A famous Maya monarch. He was king of the city-state of Palenque for 60 years which was longer than any other Maya king of queen.

- **Yax K’uk Mo**
  - Founder and first king of the Maya city of Copan (modern day Honduras). He reigned for 11 years and records shown he was a greatly repected leader and brought stability to the region.

**Important places**

- **Chichen Itza**
  - A large city built by the Maya people. It contained a large number of temples, monuments and pyramids. It is most famous for the large stepped pyramid at its centre, El Castillo, which is about 1 km in diameter.

- **Palenque**
  - A Maya state in what is now Southern Mexico. It contains some of the finest architecture and sculpture.

- **Tikal**
  - A Maya city that was built an area of rainforest in what is now Guatemala. Tikal was one of the most powerful kingdoms in Maya and reached its peak in population between 200 and 900AD. It has some of the best-preserved ruins and tombs, giving historians some of the best clues about how the Maya people lived.