

500 Nations

The Ancestors: Early Cultures of North America

Anasazi

1. Where did most Indians stay in their stories of creation compared to the Christian story of creation?
2. What do most people call the ancestors of the Hopi?
3. What were the spiritual pit houses called?
4. Where did the Anasazi build a mecca for pilgrimage and a focal point of trade?
5. What was the largest complex the Anasazi built?
6. What was the most important item for trade to the Anasazi?
7. What led to the down fall of Chaco Canyon?
8. Where did many Anasazi flee after Chaco Canyon faltered?

Cahokia

9. What does “Cahokia” mean?
10. What linked Cahokia to a third of the continent for trade?
11. Which mound has the most religious sentiment?

Wrap Up

How can we characterize the ancient cultures of the Anasazi and the Mississippi Valley Mound Builders (were the simple societies or were they complex - explain)?