

Maya Film & Response

2. What were some of the technological innovations of this society? How did they help to define the people & their culture?

Myans were dedicated to studying the heavens and the meaning of time. They recorded celestial events over a billion years into the past. They worshiped time and built pyramids of giant stone calendars and sundials. 365 steps and platforms were used to mark the days of the year, from this the spring equinox was determined. On the Myan calendar, the gears were used to illustrate the concept of time. The larger wheel demonstrated 365 days of the solar year. The smaller gears demonstrated 260 days on the priest sacred calendar. This was very useful to determine the time and place of solar eclipses. These technologies defined Myan culture because their techniques and practices are used by some and are still accurate to this day. The cycle of the moon was mapped out precisely that today the calculations are only off by 33 seconds. The Myan culture has one of the most sophisticated architecture, calendar and astronomical systems that many have witnessed.