**Chapter 6 Reading Guide: Early Societies in the Americas and Oceania.** Directions: As you read pages 110-127, answer the following questions thoroughly.

**Terms:**

Olmec:

Maya:

Tikal:

Chichen Itza:

Teotihuacan:

Chavin Cult:

Mochica:

Austronesians:

Polynesians:

Lapita:

**Reading Guide:**

Describe important characteristics of Olmec society, government and economics.

Using Map 6.1, describe the different geographic settings of the early Mesoamerican societies represented.

What is the role of ceremonial centers to the Olmecs?

To where did Olmecs trade? What goods were traded?

What caused the decline of the Olmecs?

Describe the political structure of the Maya.

What caused the decline of the Maya?

What scientific and technological advancements are credited to the Maya?

Describe the religion of the Maya.

What is the Popul Vuh?

What roles did mathematics, astronomy, calendar making, religious beliefs, and bloodletting rituals play in Maya agricultural society?

Describe the city of Teotihuacan.

Why did Mesoamerican and Andean societies develop independently?

Using Map 6.2, why did these societies form where they did?

How did Andean society become complex during the era of the Chavin Cult?

Why did no Andean societies create empires in this early period?

Explain the difference between the ancient peoples of Australia and New Guinea.

Trace the Austronesian migrations.

-Who were the people?

-Where did they go?

-What technology allowed them to migrate?

How did Austronesian and Lapita peoples organize themselves?

**Big Picture Questions (Answer in 3-4 sentences for each question)**

1. How did civilizations develop in the Americas and Oceania and grow more complex before 600 BCE?
2. What were the effects of this increasing complexity?
3. Where did the earliest civilizations develop in the Americas and Oceania, and why did they develop in those locations?
4. What was the role of migration in populating Oceania?
5. Who ruled the early states in the Americas and Oceania, and which segments of society usually supported the ruler?
6. Why were some early states in the Americas and Oceania able to expand and conquering neighboring states?
7. What methods did rulers in the Americas and Oceania use to unify their populations?
8. What architectural forms did early civilizations in the Americas and Oceania produce?
9. What forms of writing developed in ancient civilizations in the Americas and Oceania?
10. What was the relationship between literature and culture in the Americas and Oceania?
11. How “big” were the pre-600 BCE trading regions in the Americas and Oceania?
12. How did social and gender identities develop pre-600 BCE in the Americas and Oceania?