Directions: Use the guided questions below to work your way through BOTH the yes and no response to the augmentative prompt provided above. After answering the questions provided be sure to write out your stance (yes or no) and be able to explain WHY you feel this way.

“The Lost Chronicles of the Maya Kings” By: David Drew
1. Discuss why historians developed the term “Terminal Classic Period” to understand the abrupt end to the ancient Mayan Society?

2. What were some of the earlier hypotheses to explain the Mayan disappearance? Why have researchers now steered away from these possibilities?

3. Explain the agricultural argument (supported by Drew in his essay) that seems to have recently surfaced in contemporary studies of the Maya.

4. What evidence does Drew suggest to support his environmental claim, faulting no one but the Maya peoples for their downfall?

5. What element does natural disaster play in Drew’s environmental claim?

6. How does population increase play into Drew’s environmental claim?

7. What artistic clues did the Maya leave in order to share their plight with future generations? How do these artifacts provide clues to contemporary researchers?

8. How does Drew refute the invasion theory about the disappearance of the Maya?

“Warfare in Ancient Mesoamerica: A Summary” By: Payson Sheets
1. Why does Sheets maintain a discussion on warfare instead of conflict? What does he indicate are the differences between the two terms?
2. What were the purposes of warfare in ancient Mesoamerican societies?

3. What does Sheets say about the “misleading” use of western categorization in studying Mesoamerica? How does this prove to be a research challenge?

4. Discuss the scholarly contributions of J. Eric S. Thompson. What did he indicate in his research concerning Maya society? How does this idea differ from Sheets?

5. What evidence does Sheets’ provide concerning his Maya warfare claim?

6. What role did sacrifice play in Maya society? How does this tie into the warfare claim?

7. What archaeological evidence does Sheets share are available for future scholars to investigate? Name a few as well as how these artifacts provide clues to contemporary researchers?

Use the box below to write out your stance (YES / NO) in support of the prompt using COMPLETE SENTENCES. Be sure to provide a detailed explanation for your assertion.