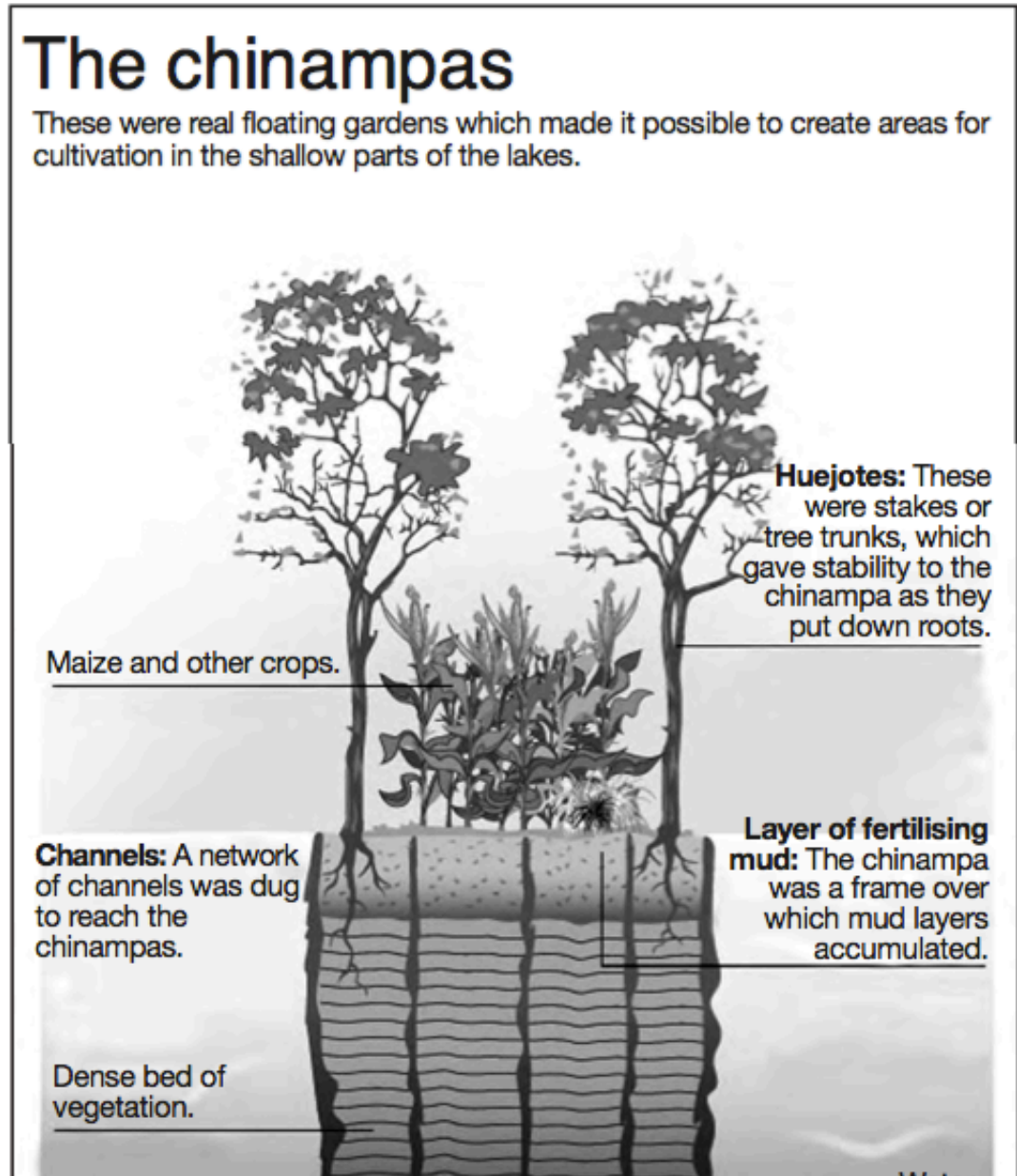


DBQ: CHINAMPAS

Directions: Examine the documents below and answer the questions based on those documents.

Document 4

Aztec Farming Method



4 Based on the information provided by this diagram, why did the Aztecs build chinampas? [1]

Score

Document 5

... Chinampas added both living and agricultural space to the island. Houses could be built on chinampas after they were firmly in place, and the plots were used to grow a great variety of products, from maize and beans to tomatoes and flowers. The Mexica [Aztec] built chinampas all around Tenochtitlan, like their neighbors in the freshwater lakes to the south. They were, however, constantly faced with the danger of flooding, which brought salty water across the chinampas and ruined the land and crops. Lake Texcoco accumulated minerals from the river water running into it, which caused the water to be brackish [mix of fresh and salt water]. In the mid-15th century, this problem was solved; a dike was built, separating the western section of the lake where Tenochtitlan was located and protecting the city from salty water and some flooding...

Source: Frances F. Berdan, *The Aztecs*, Chelsea House Publishers

5a According to Frances F. Berdan, what was **one** way the chinampas benefited the Aztecs? [1]

Score

b According to Frances F. Berdan, what was **one** problem that farmers on the chinampas faced? [1]

Score

Document 6

... The capital city, which may have had a population as high as 200,000 to 300,000 in the early sixteenth century, was a superb example of planned growth. By building out into the lake, the Aztecs consolidated and enlarged the original two islands which in turn were linked to the mainland by three large causeways. Fresh water was brought to the city from the mainland by aqueduct...

Source: Jeremy A. Sabloff, *The Cities of Ancient Mexico: Reconstructing a Lost World*, Thames and Hudson

6 According to Jeremy A. Sabloff, what was **one** way building out into the lake benefited the Aztec Empire and its capital city of Tenochtitlán? [1]

Score