**Maya 1-minute challenge – Card 1**

1. **When did the Maya civilisation begin? Somewhere between 2000BC-1800BC**
2. **What did the Maya add to their hot chocolate?**

**Chilli powder and other spices**

1. **True or false? The Maya used animals to help them with farming. False, they did it all themselves!**
2. **What type of tree linked the upper, middle and under worlds? The ceiba (**see-ba**) tree**
3. **True or False? According to the Tzolk’in (Sacred) calendar a year has 365 days.** **False, it has 260 days**
4. **How many people lived in Tikal at its peak? Around 90,000**
5. **True or False? The Maya used wheels. False**
6. **What did the Maya use to make tools?**  **Flint or obsidian**

**Maya 1-minute challenge – Card 2**

1. **What continent did the Maya live in? North America**
2. **Who is the Maya rain god? Chac**
3. **What was the Maya people’s main source of food? Maize (corn)**
4. **Who does Kinich Ahau (the Sun God) transform into at night? The Night Jaguar**
5. **True or False? According to the Haab (Solar) calendar a year has 365 days.** **True**
6. **What is the name of the famous Maya city in Mexico? Chichen Itza**
7. **In what year did the Maya abandon their rainforest cities? AD 900**
8. **Which country invaded and looted Maya territory in around AD 1500?** **Spain**

**Maya 1-minute challenge – Card 3**

1. **What is the name of the famous Maya ball-game? Pok-ta-pok**
2. **When did the Maya civilisation finally decline? Around AD 1500**
3. **What is the name of the bread made from maize flour? Tortilla**
4. **Who was the Maya God of Maize? Hun-hunahpu**
5. **What was the name given to the caves that the Maya believed led to the underworld? Cenotes (*see-no-tays*)**
6. **How many people lived in Chichen Itza at its peak?** **Around 40,000**
7. **Which precious stone did the Maya make jewellery with? Jade**
8. **True or False? The Maya had iron. False**

**Maya 1-minute challenge – Card 4**

1. **Which god is known as the ‘supreme creator’? Itzamna**
2. **According to the Maya creation story, what are humans made of? Maize (corn) dough**
3. **What did the Maya use as currency? Cacao beans**
4. **True or false? Human sacrifice was common during the Maya period. False**
5. **What is the name of the famous Maya city in Guatemala? Tikal**
6. **True or False?** **According to the Haab (Solar) calendar a year has 19 months of equal length**. **False, they are not equal**
7. **When was the ‘Classic Period’?** **AD 250 – AD 900**
8. **What type of shell did the Maya use to make music?** **A couch shell**

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**[](http://www.history-rocks.com)How to use**

The 1-Minute Challenges are designed to be fun and engaging whilst focusing on knowledge retrieval. These are an ideal way of starting your lessons working in pairs or small groups. Questions can be changed and tailored to suit the content of your OWN topic.

1. Print out the Challenge Cards, laminate them and tie them together with either a split pin or a treasury tag so that the children can easily access all four different cards. You could have these printed separately or back to back.
2. In pairs, children have a set of cards each and choose a card to test their partner. Children need to try and answer all eight questions in 1-minute or as many as they can within that time.
3. Using speed chess as inspiration (or the Beat The Chasers TV show), have a stopwatch for each child, a countdown timer on an iPad (<https://www.online-stopwatch.com/chess-clock/> - tap on each clock to change the timer to 60 seconds for each side) or use an actual chess clock if you have plenty.
4. Children take it in turns to ask questions. If they get a question correct, they stop their timer and ask their partner a question. If they do not know the answer or are incorrect, they continue answering questions.
5. The winner is the one who either answers all of their questions in the quickest time or the one who answers the most questions correctly.
6. Children could then choose a different question card to ask their partner or they could move to someone else. You could have winners play each other to narrow down to a grand final or simply have the children just find another partner.