

# 4.3

## **The Peoples of North America**

## **As a Young Historian, I will be able to...**

- Understand how groups of people adapted to the desert environment of the Southwest.
- Analyze the evidence from which we have learned about the emergence of culture in eastern North America.
- Examine the cultures that developed in three very different geographic regions.

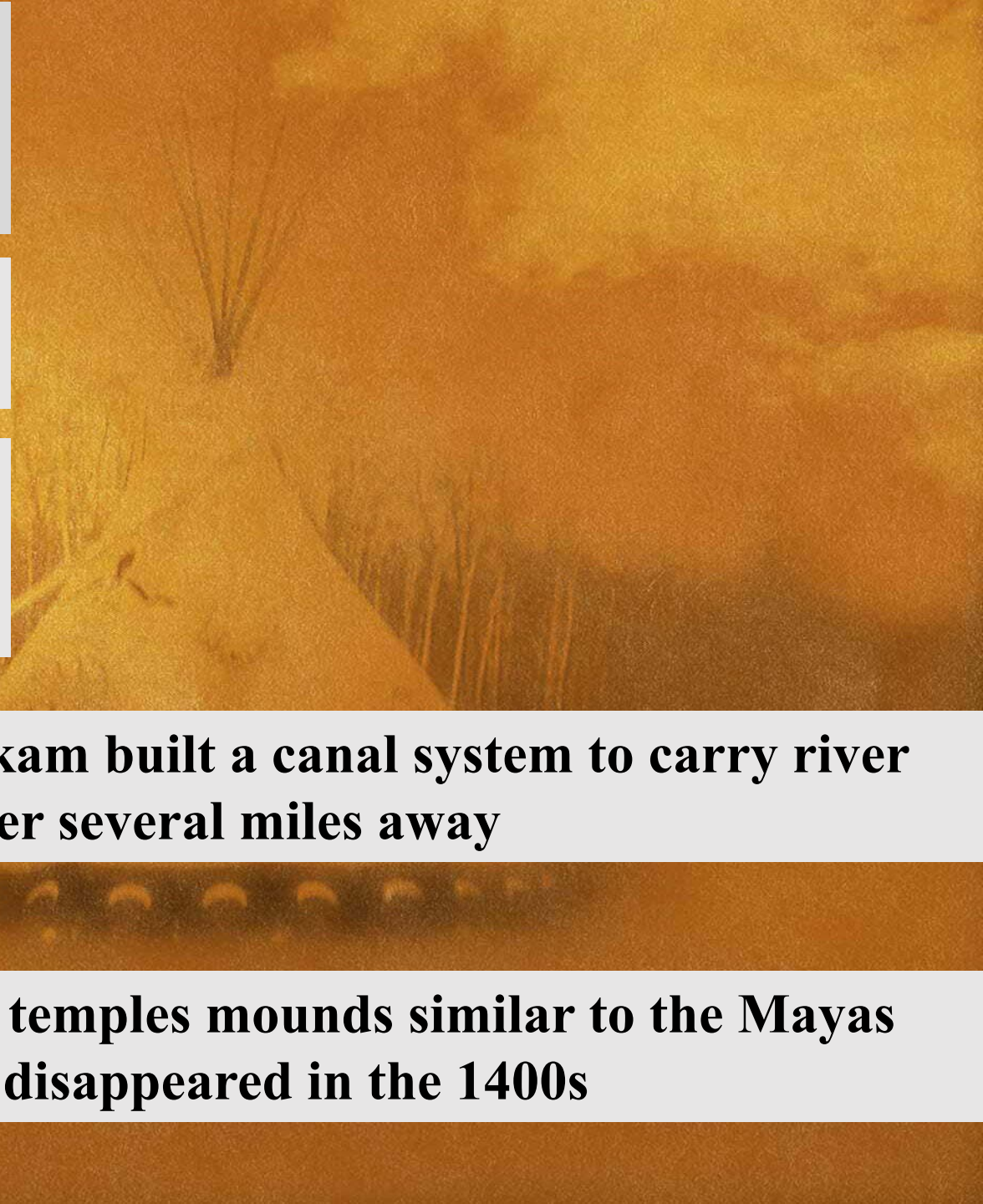
# **Cultures Develop in the Desert Southwest**

**Native American groups lived by hunting,  
fishing, & gathering wild plants**

**As farming moved North from Mesoamerica,  
farming communities settled in the  
Southwest**

**The Hohokam built a canal system to carry river  
water several miles away**

**They built temples mounds similar to the Mayas  
but disappeared in the 1400s**





# Ancestral Puebloans

**The Puebloans lived in the “four corners” region & built villages in & around cave systems**

**Known as the Anasazi people, they began to build cliff residences using hand cut stones**

**Mesa Verde- Cliff dwellings build in present-day Colorado where people climbed ladders to reach**

**They built free standing villages the Spanish would call pueblos, multi floor houses connected by ladders & doorways**





# Ancestral Puebloans



**Pueblo Bonito-** Largest Pueblo that still stands in New Mexico

Builders built a large crescent shaped compound to study the stars & moon cycle

**Kiva-** Large underground chamber used for religious ceremonies & political meetings

Eventually they abandoned their dwellings & became the pueblo people of today



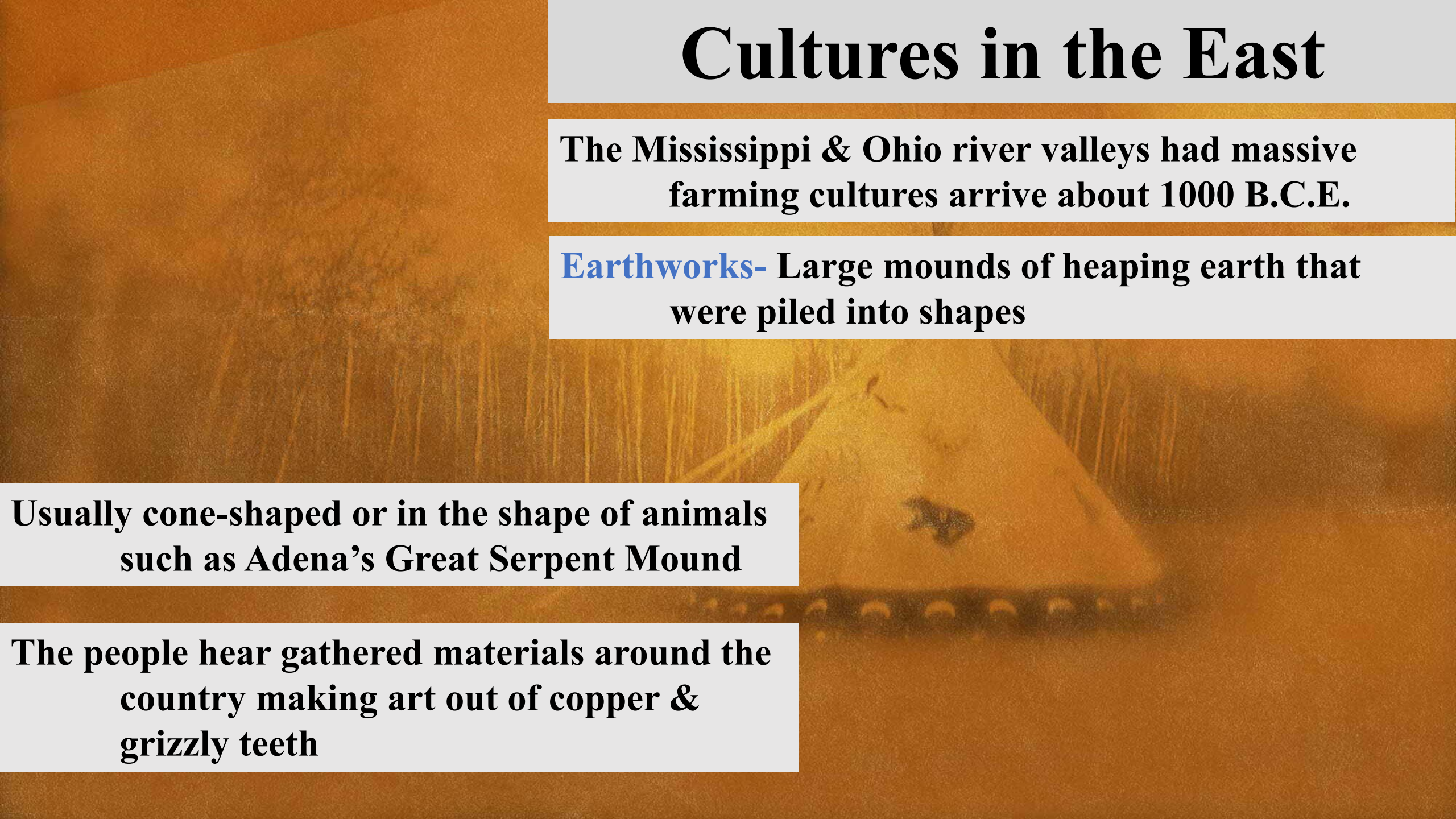
# Cultures in the East

**The Mississippi & Ohio river valleys had massive farming cultures arrive about 1000 B.C.E.**

**Earthworks-** Large mounds of heaping earth that were piled into shapes

**Usually cone-shaped or in the shape of animals such as Adena's Great Serpent Mound**

**The people here gathered materials around the country making art out of copper & grizzly teeth**





# The Mississippians



**The people here built large towns & ceremonial centers out of giant earthen mounds**

**Cahokia-** Located in present day Illinois serving as the largest city in North America

**City had over 120 mounds where rulers & nobles lived**

**Largest was Monk's Mound, believe to hold a temple to the sun**

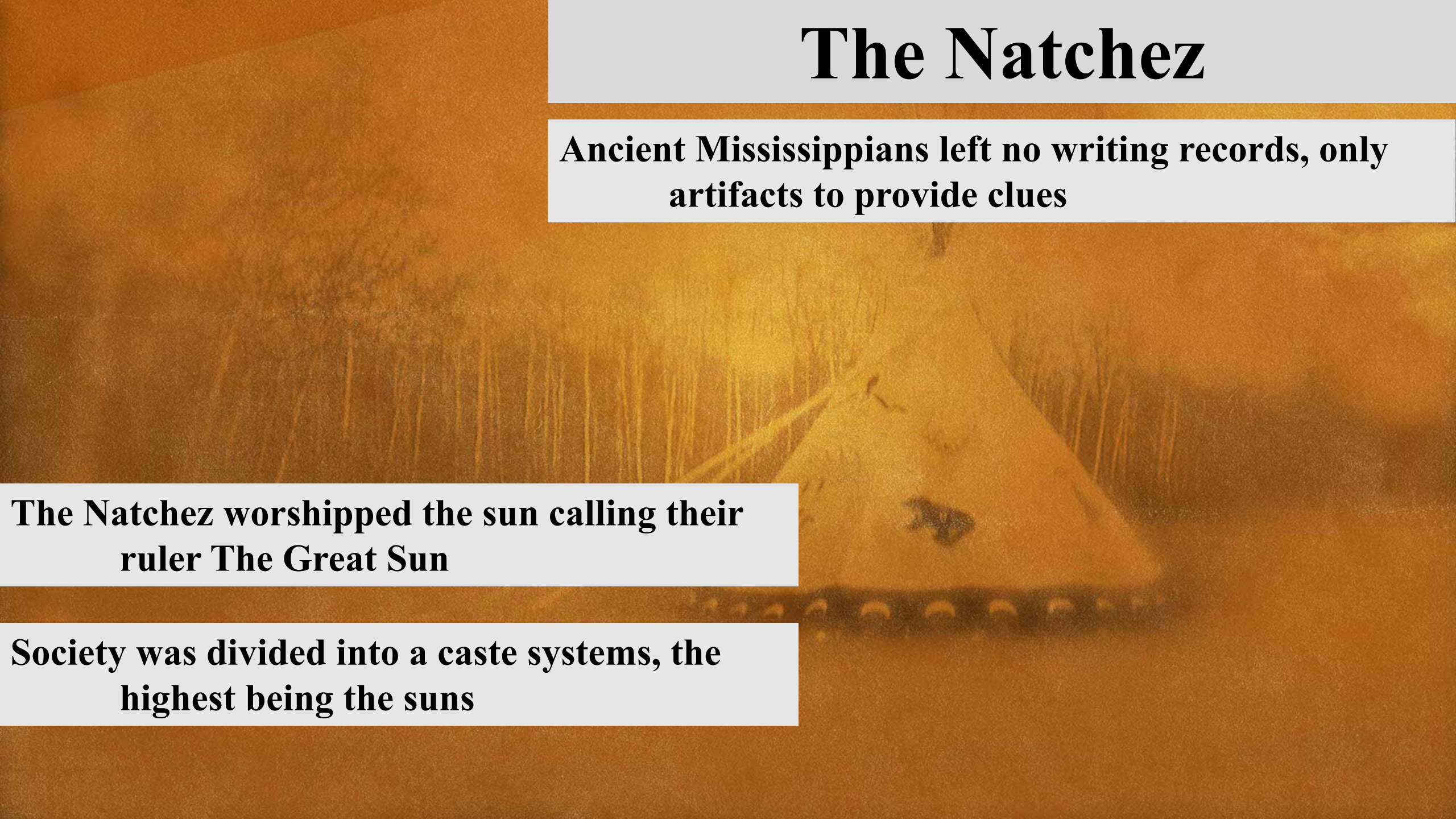


# The Natchez

**Ancient Mississippians left no writing records, only artifacts to provide clues**

**The Natchez worshipped the sun calling their ruler The Great Sun**

**Society was divided into a caste systems, the highest being the suns**





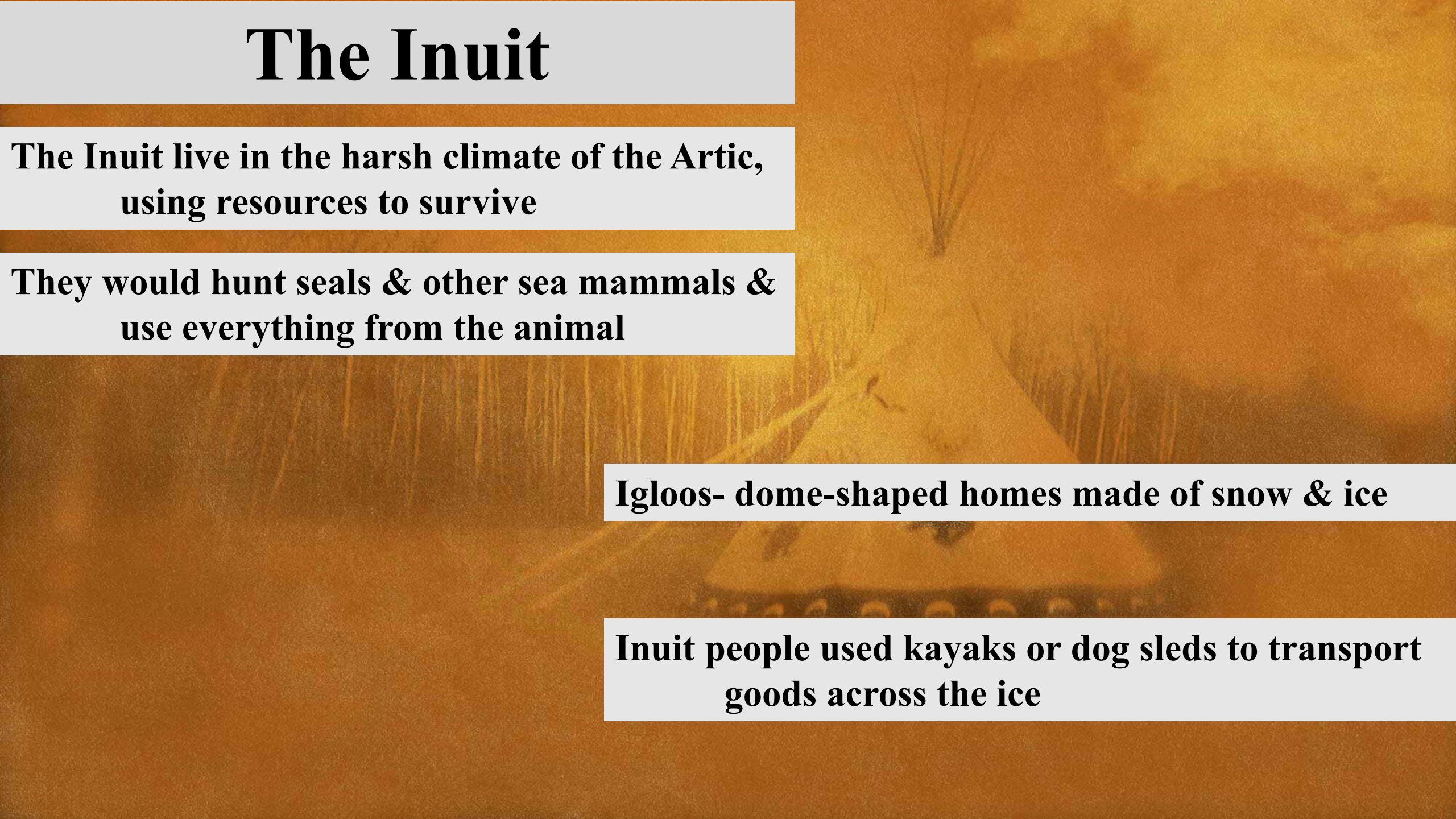
# **The Inuit**

**The Inuit live in the harsh climate of the Arctic,  
using resources to survive**

**They would hunt seals & other sea mammals &  
use everything from the animal**

**Igloos- dome-shaped homes made of snow & ice**

**Inuit people used kayaks or dog sleds to transport  
goods across the ice**





# Northwest Coastal People

People here lived off salmon & fishing, hunting in the forest, & used woodlands to built permanent villages

**Potlatch-** Trading surplus goods & sharing wealth in a ceremony

If you accepted the gift you acknowledged the hosts high status



# **The Iroquois**

**The tribes in the Northeast spoke the Iroquois language & shared traditions**

**Often built villages in the forests, men hunted, women farmed**

**Dekanawidah urged the end of the wars & founded the Iroquois League- Alliance of the five Iroquois groups**

**This was the first democratic government in the U.S. & helped inspire the U.S. government in the future**