



Lab: Maya Hieroglyphic Writing

This assignment requires you to listen to the presentation on Maya writing and the Long Count (Initial Series) Calendar, and then write your name and birthday in hieroglyphs on the template. First you will gather the necessary information, both online and from the information provided here, and then **draw** your name and the numbers of your birthday. [You are not required to divulge your actual birthday, and may choose instead an alternative date.] Fill out and turn in this worksheet.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

What is your birthday (or alternative day)? _____

Click on the [Smithsonian Institution Maya Calendar Converter](#)

What are the five Long Count coefficients for your birthday? _____. _____. _____. _____. _____
(it should start with 12 in the first [baktun] position)

Copy the bar and dot (or zero) numbers in the correct blocks on the template, following the example provided on the website. Note that they are usually arranged vertically.

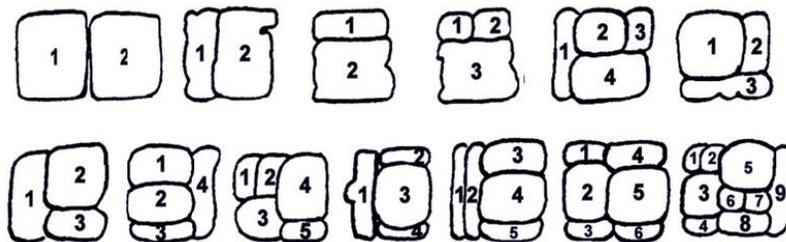
Now write out your first name phonetically, divided into syllables (consonant + vowel):

(for example, Thomas is ta + ma + sa)

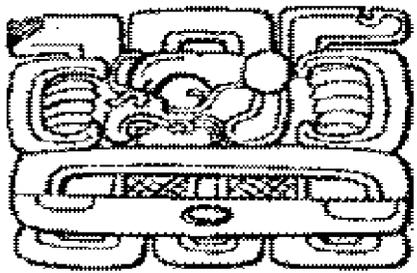
You must find substitute sounds for D, F, G, R, and V; e.g., L or W for R

Look at the separate syllabary by David Stuart, and find the symbols for those syllables. It is arranged with 5 vowel sounds as rows and consonants as columns. The vowels are **a** (ah), **e** (ā as in pay), **i** (ē as in see), **o** (ō as in hot), and **u** (ū as in cool). Sometimes there are alternative symbols for the same sound, so you may choose among them.

After the “birth” glyph, draw the syllables that spell out your name into the open block(s). You may arrange them in various ways as long as the reading order is top to bottom, left to right, as here:



Name: _____

 <p>[Initial Series Glyph]</p>	
	 <p>[birth]</p>



Female names are preceded by the profile head of the moon goddess. It can be drawn as a main sign (takes up the entire glyph block) or as a prefix attached to the parts of the name.