

The Maya didn't have horses or other pack animals, and also lacked wheeled vehicles so these roads were only used by pedestrians.



This is Tikal in Guatemala and the main plaza. The plaza is the area in between the pyramids.



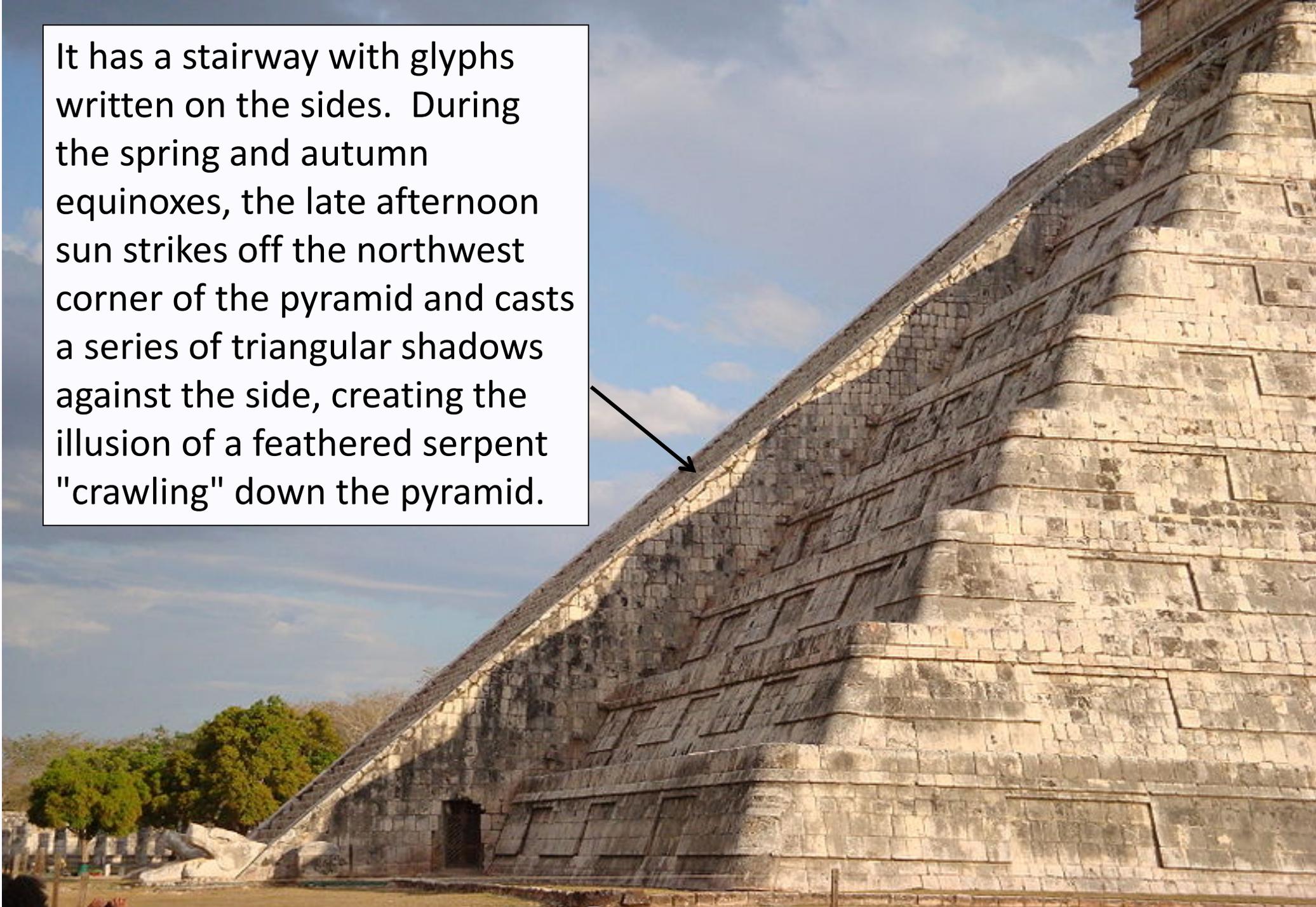
Can you see the area the plaza? It is a large space.  
What do you think it was used for?

## Maya pyramids and temples

El Castillo at Chichen Itza is a temple to the god Kukulcan, a plumed serpent.



It has a stairway with glyphs written on the sides. During the spring and autumn equinoxes, the late afternoon sun strikes off the northwest corner of the pyramid and casts a series of triangular shadows against the side, creating the illusion of a feathered serpent "crawling" down the pyramid.





Maya palaces were large, multi-storied buildings where the king and royal family lived. They had courtyards, patios, towers and walled gardens to give the family some privacy.