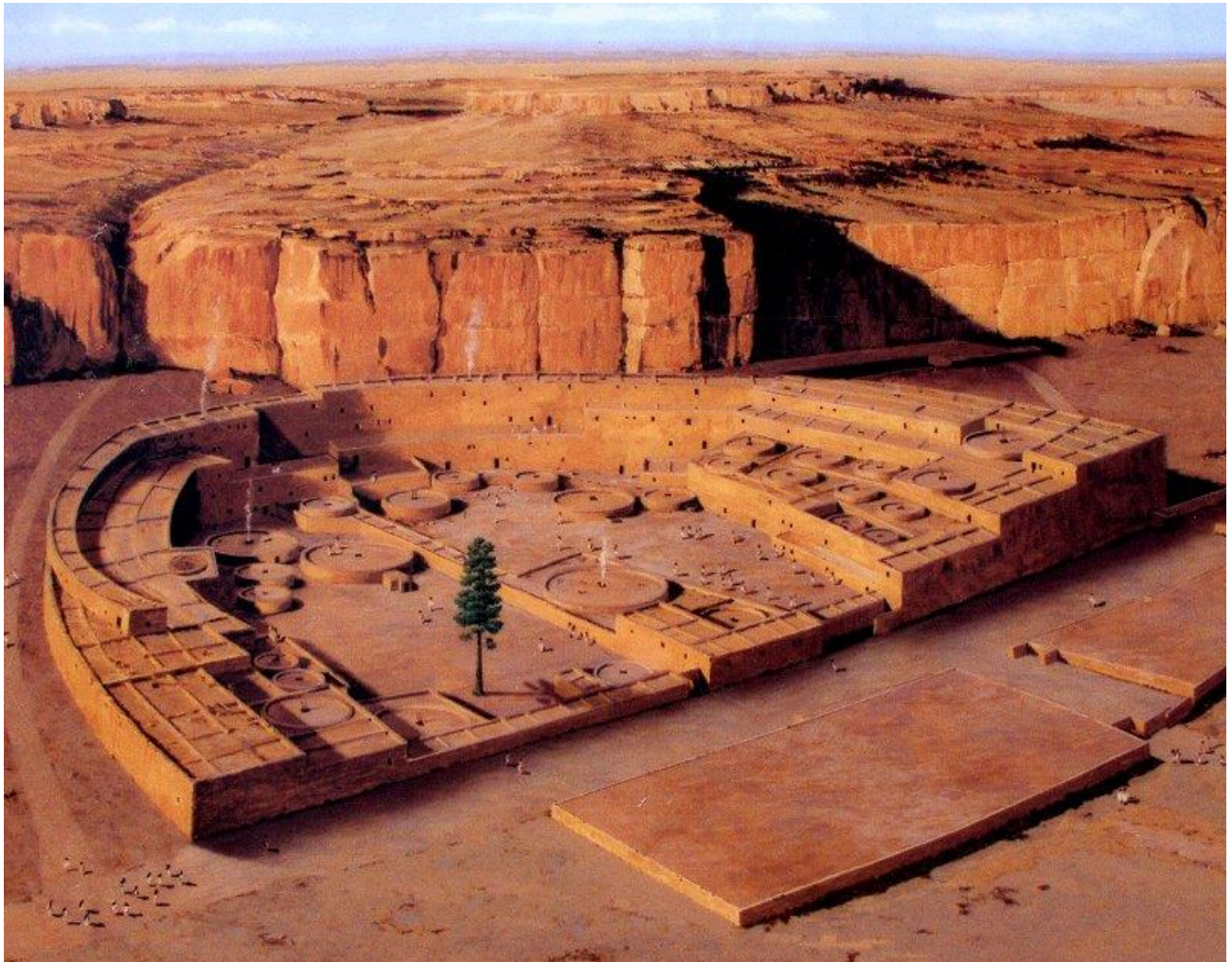


MYSTERIOUS PUEBLO BONITO

(5 points)

Archaeoastronomy is the field of research which tries to understand how ancient cultures interpreted the sky and used astronomy for practical purposes. Below is a reconstruction of Pueblo Bonito, located in Chaco Culture National Historical Park near Nageezi, New Mexico. Its 800 rooms were built in five stages between 850 AD and 1130 AD. Pueblo Bonito was the largest Great House and the center place of the Chacoan Phenomenon. The following features of Pueblo Bonito might be related to astronomy in what way? (1) its D-shaped structure, (2) the wall that is perpendicular to the front wall—**hint: It's due north/south** (3) Bonito's front wall, (4) the round kivas which dot Pueblo Bonito's structure, and (5) the large Ponderosa pine tree which can be seen in the main plaza. Create a jot list on the back of this paper, but be complete in your thoughts.

Archaeoastronomers: Consider this also an exercise in getting into the minds of archaeoastronomers, those individuals who have to interpret and extrapolate astronomical relationships from what they have seen, measured, and learned about an ancient site. Sometime their ideas can be unorthodox (pretty wild), so let your mind stretch when considering the possibilities of astronomical connections with respect to Pueblo Bonito as seen below.



Name _____ Date _____ Moravian University

Name _____ Name _____

1. D-shaped structure of Pueblo Bonito:

2. The wall perpendicular to the front wall:

3. Bonito's front wall:

4. The round kivas which dot Bonito's plaza:

5. The large Ponderosa pine tree in the plaza:

6. Other interesting aspects of Pueblo Bonito which may be related to astronomy: