

pok-a-tok ^[1]

Type of Speech:

noun ^[2]

Definition:

A ritual ball game of the Maya, versions of which are found throughout Mesoamerica. Played with a solid rubber ball, and heavy pads, the object of the game was to knock the ball with any part of the body except the hands through a stone scoring ring. It is thought that some versions may have employed a wooden bat used by the team captain. In certain contexts, the losing team would be sacrificed. The ball game figures prominently in the Maya creation myth, the Popol Vuh.

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