



Name _____

Hour _____



2019 Civilizations & Empires Project

Background and Purpose: Approximately 12,000 years ago groups of hunters and gatherers discovered the connection between seeds and permanent crops. The result was that each group adapted to their respective environment and settled to create the first civilizations. It took thousands of years for these civilizations to develop. By 4,000 BCE several unique cultures began to emerge. Due to the variety of their environments, each civilization evolved in its own special way.

A civilization is a complex society in a common area. This society usually shares common characteristics including: writing, social structure, technology, stable food supply, government, culture, and religion. Through this study of Era 2 Ancient Civilizations, you will learn about the people in different periods of history. You will eventually understand why each civilization was so important and the impact it had on the world.

Eras 3 and 4 explore the development and emergence of empires from 1000 BCE to 300 CE. Governments and civilizations extended their control and power over other peoples. People developed new networks of trade to connect their cities to surrounding areas and to other societies. Along with systems of control, communication and exchange, these societies developed a set of shared belief systems. Through this study, you will begin to understand why many large civilizations in Afro Eurasia rose to become major empires that developed governments and militaries around core cities.

Project Description: This is a group project. Students will research in groups of 3 or 4 on a civilization or empire from the list provided below. You will be responsible for a specific portion of the research for your team's civilization and you will be graded on **your** portion of the Google doc slide and presentation.

- **Step 1:** As a group, you will be given one of the following civilizations:



- Sumerians (5,000-2,000 BCE)
- Babylonians (2,000-1,155 BCE)
- Egypt-Old Kingdom(2700-2200 BCE)
- Egypt-Middle Kingdom(2100-1800)
- Mycenaean Greeks (1650-1100
- Phoenicians (2750-146 BCE)



- Indus Valley (2,500 BCE–500 CE)
- Ancient Hebrews (2000-683 BCE)
- Celts (750 BCE-500 CE)
- Shang Chinese (2100-1726 BCE)

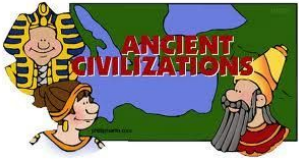
- Persians (551-330 BCE)
- Mayans (300 BCE-900 CE)
- Han Chinese (206 BCE-220 CE)
- Tang Chinese (618-907 CE)
- Greeks (500-350 BCE)
- Romans (510 BCE-500 CE)
- Japanese (1400-1600 CE)
- Aztecs (1100-1345 CE)
- Incas (1476-1560 CE)
- Vikings (793-1066 CE)



BCE)
BCE)



- **Step 2:** Each person will research two of the topics listed on back of this page. Each topic is half of one slide. Our class will have computer time as well as access to a book cart full of civilization/empire resources. Each student will plan and create a Google doc slide. This slide will have two purposes: **mini timeline poster** and **oral presentation visual**. Each slide must contain **8 or more pictures** that highlight the two areas that you will research. Each slide will have **captions and/or labels**, but NOT paragraphs of written information. Finally, you may use your **research planning sheet** to take notes and then use **note cards** that will guide you through your oral presentation. You must use **note cards** to help guide your presentation!



Name _____

Hour _____



Time Period & Geography Title Slide ~ Include the following in a title slide: The name of the civilization or empire. Where was the civilization or empire located? (map) When did they exist? Names of the teammates working on the project

- **Beliefs, Religion & Culture** ~ What type of religion or worship did they practice? Were they polytheistic or monotheistic? Tell about their deities and/or holy book. Did they believe in an afterlife? What were some of their other religious beliefs? Was their religion combined with government?
 - **Specialized Workers, Daily Life & Society** ~ How was society structured? Explain the social classes. What social characteristics were unique to this society? Was there slavery? Was the social system fair or unfair? How were women treated? What was their system of education like? Who was educated? What foods did they enjoy? What did they do for entertainment or recreation?
 - **Advanced Technology & Inventions** ~ What were the major contributions or inventions of this civilization to the world at their time? What were their contributions in education, math or science? What about a calendar, irrigation system, roads, etc.? Are any of them still around today? What products were they known for? Did they trade with other civilizations? Any lasting legacies?
 - **Art & Architecture** ~ What role did art play in this civilization? What were their main forms of art. visual, literature, performing arts? What can we learn from their art? What was their architecture like (homes, temples, arenas, etc.)? Which forms of art or architecture do we recognize today?
 - **Government/Laws/Economy/Great Rulers** ~ Who was one of their greatest leaders? What role did trade and commerce have? What were their major products for trade? Who did they trade with and how? Are they known for their courts/laws? Who were important leaders and how were they chosen? Why did your civilization or empire decline/fall/disappear?
- **Step 3:** Your group will give a **5-6 minute oral presentation** (about 1-2 minutes per person). Everyone must speak and present the group project. Everyone must have **note cards** to guide them, but you will not be reading word-for-word from your slide or cards. Presentation must be saved on a **Google Presentation** document that all team members can access. When finished, you will share your slides with Mr. Weinberg so that he will be able to project your team's slides while your team gives your oral presentation. Each member of the group will be given a grade based on their research, content of their slide, and participation. The class will be required to take notes on each group report, so it is essential that each person clearly and accurately shares the most important elements of their civilization.
 - **Step 4:** Finally, your group will combine paper copies (printed in color at home, if possible) of your mini-posters onto a larger piece of black construction paper to create a composite poster that contains all aspects of the civilization. A large (civilization/empire) **title** and **your names must be clearly visible**. Think about color, neatness, accuracy, and use of space as your team creatively produces this poster. This will be displayed in the hallway as part of an immense Ancient Civilizations & Empires timeline. Don't procrastinate and don't let your team down.
 - This group project is due on _____. **Good luck!**