

World History
First 9-Weeks
BENCHMARK REVIEW

1. What is the difference between Pre-history and History? ***The invention of writing.***
2. What do the first four civilizations (Egypt, Mesopotamia, India, China) all have in common?
Located by rivers

ANCIENT EGYPT

Polytheism: ***belief in many gods***

Hieroglyphics: ***Egyptian writing***

What did it look like? ***Pictures***

1. Explain why the pharaoh in ancient Egypt was more than just a ruler? ***He was also a god***
2. Explain what the “gift of the Nile “ was. ***Silt, fertile soil left behind when the river flooded.***
3. Why did the Egyptians use pyramids? ***Tombs for dead pharaohs***

ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

Monotheism: ***belief in one god***

Cuneiform: ***Sumerian writing***

What did it look like? ***Wedge-shaped***

1. The Fertile Crescent civilizations started by what two river valleys? ***Tigris/Euphrates***
2. What type of religion was practiced in Egypt and most Mesopotamian civilizations? ***Polytheism***
What group of people was different? What was their belief? ***Hebrews. They were monotheistic***
3. What is most important to remember about Hammurabi’s Code? ***1st written code of laws***
Where was it used? ***Babylon***
4. Why is the Phoenician alphabet so important? ***It is the basis for our alphabet today***
What else are the Phoenicians remembered for? ***Sea trade across Mediterranean, purple***
5. What is Zoroastrianism? ***Persian religion***
What choice did it force the people of Persia to make? ***People had to choose between good and evil.***

ANCIENT INDIA

Sanskrit: ***Indian writing***

Reincarnation: ***soul is reborn***

1. What river did Indian civilization begin near? **Indus**
2. What are the names of the two earliest civilizations in India? **Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro**
3. After the early cities disappeared, how did Indian civilization begin again? **Indo-Aryans settled and brought their civilization to the people of India.**
4. Name the three Indian empires. **Indo-Aryan, Mauryan, Gupta**
5. What empire did Asoka rule and why is he remembered? **Mauryan. He was a harsh warrior who turned Buddhist.**
6. Why was the time period of the Gupta Empire called the “Golden Age?” **Advancements in math, science, ect**
7. What are the two major religions from India? **Hinduism and Buddhism**
8. How did Hinduism begin? **Brahmins (priests) interpreted the Vedas (holy writings) for the people**

Explain how reincarnation and karma work. **Soul is reborn. The life you lead determines how you are reborn**

9. How did Buddhism begin? **Siddhartha Guatama became the “enlightened one” or Buddha**

What are basic Buddhist beliefs? **4 noble truths and the 8-fold path.**

Where did Buddhism spread to? **China and other parts of Asia**

List how Hindus and Buddhists are alike and different. **Buddhists believe reincarnation leads to nirvana or perfect peace, no caste system or karma like Hindus, Buddhists believe in no god, not polytheistic like Hindus. BOTH began in India but Buddhism moved to China.**

ANCIENT CHINA

Patriarchal: **rule by males**

Dynasty: **power is kept in the family and passed down from generation to generation**

1. Ancient Chinese civilization developed along what river? **Huang He or Yellow**
2. Explain how China’s geographic features made it isolated from the rest of the world? **Mountains, deserts, rivers**
3. What was the first major Chinese dynasty? **Shang. Silk and porcelain dishes known as “china”**
4. How did the Zhou dynasty come to power? **Conquered Shang**

What is the major accomplishment of the Zhou? **Longest dynasty**

Explain the Mandate of Heaven. **Zhou are God's chosen people to rule China**

5. How did the Qin dynasty come to power? **Conquered Zhou**

Who was Shi Huangdi and what did he do to make China better? **1st emperor of China, unified the country, money, laws, built Great Wall**

Why did he build the Great Wall of China? **To keep out Mongol invaders**

6. What did Confucius teach? **Respect for family, elders, and the past.**

What did his teaching lead to during the Han dynasty? **His teachings led to the civil service system.**

Where did Confucianism spread? **Korea and other parts of Asia**

ANCIENT GREECE

Polis: **Greek word for city-state**

Direct Democracy: **people participate directly in decision making.**

1. How did geography affect how the Greek city-states formed? **Lack of fertile soil, mountains, and islands forced city-states to form separate and independent.**

Why did the Greek polis form? **to protect farmers**

2. What Greek city-state was the most militaristic society ever known? **Sparta**

What Greek city-state was the birthplace of democracy? **Athens**

3. How could Athens have had a more complete democracy? **Women couldn't participate in government and they owned slaves.**

4. List some of the major accomplishments of Ancient Greece? **Olympics, architecture, philosophy, drama, history, painting**

5. List the 3 major Greek philosophers. **Socrates, Aristotle, Plato**

6. What type of religion did Ancient Greece have? **Polytheistic**

7. Alexander the Great:

a. who were his teachers? **His father Phillip II and Aristotle**

b. what did he conquer? **most of the known world**

c. what did he do after he conquered? **Spread Greek or Hellenistic culture**

8. How did Hellenistic culture spread? **Alexander the Great spread Greek culture wherever he conquered land.**

9. What were the major contributions of Hellenistic culture? **Calculation of pi, brain surgery, geometry**

ANCIENT ROME

Republic: **democracy where people elect representatives to make laws**

Senate: **most powerful governing body in Rome**

Twelve tables: **Roman laws**

Julius Caesar: **dictator of Rome, last ruler of the Roman Republic**

Augustus Caesar: **1st emperor of Roman Empire**

Pax Romana: **Roman Peace, time of peace and stability under Augustus Caesar**

1. Explain how the Roman Republic was formed? **the wealthy people overthrew the last Etruscan monarch or king and set up a democracy**

How did it work? **It was a republic**

How was it different from Greek democracy? **Greece had a direct democracy where everyone participated; Rome had a republic where people elected representatives to run the gov't for them**

2. What type of religion was Rome originally? **Polytheistic**

What new religion took its place? **Christianity**

3. How did Christianity become the official religion of Rome? **Constantine made it official because the Christians outnumbered the Pagans and fighting was going on between them, and the Council of Nicaea organized the beliefs of Christians.**

How did it spread throughout the world? **Once it became the official religion of Rome, it spread everywhere Rome conquered.**

4. List some of the major accomplishments of Rome? **Republican form of democracy, Christianity, Latin, laws, aqueducts, concrete.**

5. List the major reasons for the decline and fall of the Western Roman Empire. **Invasions, poor leaders, bad economy, natural disasters**