

What were the major milestones in early human evolution?

What are some of the reasons we have so few fossil records of the earliest humans?

Where did humans originate? How do they come to live all over the world?

What are the various themes that define the rise of “civilization”?

What geographical factor do ancient civilizations in Egypt, Mesopotamia, China, and India have in common?

What is the Neolithic Revolution?

How is living/farming on the banks of a regularly flooding river related to the development of organized governments?

How is agriculture related to the growth of social classes?

Why do we believe the first writing systems developed? What was the function and purpose of the world’s first written records?

Why do we know less about the Indus River Valley civilization than other ancient civilizations?

What important contribution did the Phoenicians make to world culture?

How were ideas about government and leadership similar in ancient Egyptian, Judaic, Mesopotamian, and Chinese civilizations?

What physical qualities did we see emphasized and appreciated in the pieces of Greek Art that we looked at in class?

Which are the features or characteristics of ancient Greek theater that still influence modern comedy?

What are the parts of the Aristotelian ideal model for stories in Greek Tragic theater?

What were some common aspects of “Greco-Roman” culture?

*Understand the 6 democratic/republican ideals that you encountered in your matching activity/chart (term limits, social contract, etc).

What qualities were good Athenian citizens expected to have? Good Spartan citizens?

What do historians think the purposes and intents behind the development of the world's first writing systems were?

What are the 2 most common historical drivers of cultural diffusion? (Why does cultural diffusion happen)?

How, according to Pericles, did one best build a strong system of national defense? What did Pericles think was so great about Athenian society? In what ways was he critical of Spartan society?

What does Aristotle describe as the ideal form of government? What purpose are governments supposed to serve?

What religion did the Mauryan leader Ashoka convert to? How did his conversion impact Ashoka's behavior and the administration of the Mauryan Empire?

What sort of cultural diffusion happened as a result of Ashoka's conversion?

What was the purpose of the earliest form of writing to develop in Chinese civilization?

What are the main principles of Confucianism? What are the key relationships in Confucianism?

What is "filial piety"?

How did Confucius believe citizens should behave? How should leaders behave?

What Confucian value is most directly connected to the rise of the imperial examination system for government bureaucrats?

What are the main principles of Taoism?

What are the main principles of Chinese legalism?

What is the historical context for all three of the Chinese classical philosophies? What did all three have in common, in terms of their goals?

How do the Vedic scriptures help to reinforce and institutionalize castes in Indian society?

What aspects of Hindu spirituality are most emphasized in the Bhagavad Gita? (We read Arjuna the warrior's conversation with the Hindu god Krishna).

What are the main beliefs of Buddhism?

What are the main beliefs of early Judaism, as reflected in the Old Testament?

How were early law codes like Hammurabi's an improvement on previous governmental/societal structures? In what ways does Hammurabi's law code fall short of modern democratic ideals about the law? What are the most common themes in Hammurabi's law code?

*Also be sure to review subjects that we did not develop much in class, but that you were responsible for in your homework, like...

The Mauryan and Gupta Empires

The Persian Empire

How did the Romance language family develop and spread?

What groups of people were most positively and negatively affected by the spread of the Roman Empire?

In what ways was Christianity threatening to the Roman Empire?

What are the main reasons why Rome ultimately falls?

What factors lead to the dissolution of the Roman Empire?