

PERSIAN Charts: Ancient Civilization Analysis (Summer Assignment)

AP World History

Throughout this course you will be asked to break down cultures and civilizations to a basic level that will allow you recognize the most important characteristics and easily compare one civilization with another. This method breaks down a civilization/culture into seven components.

For the summer, go through the AP World History textbook, *Traditions and Encounters*, and analyze each of the five ancient civilizations. Use the provided questions as a guide. Not every question will be answered for each civilization. Include specific and general information.

PLEASE NOTE: *Only write 3-5 bullet points for each category. We are not expecting you to rewrite the textbook! We will review the most important elements of each chapter during the school year.*

Topics and Chapters

- Mesopotamia (Chapter 2, pages 33-46)
- Egypt (Chapter 3, pages 61-81)
- Indus Valley Civilization – Harappans/ Aryan Influences (Chapter 4, pages 89-105)
- Shang and Zhou China (Chapter 5, pages 112-131)
- Olmecs in Mesoamerica (Chapter 6, pages 135-147)
- Persians (Chapter 7, pages 165-185)

Each chapter in the textbook is divided in the same way. It begins with a discussion of the political and economic factors, and then moves on to religious, social, intellectual, and artistic characteristics.

Use the provided chart as a template. It does not have enough room to write in your responses. You may recreate the chart on your computer or write it on separate paper.

Specific definitions of each term is on the back.

PERSIAN Charts: Definitions and Guiding Questions

AP World History

It is highly recommended that you have this handout with you while reading the textbook.

- 1. Political:** Who is in charge? What is power based on? Who gives that person or group power? Is there a contract? What's the government structure? Are there significant wars, treaties, courts, or laws?
- 2. Economic:** How do people earn their food? Is it based on agriculture, commerce, small trades or professions, or industry, like manufacturing or technology? Where's the money? What are the valued and traded commodities? What technologies or industries define culture?
- 3. Religious:** What is the meaning of life? Where did the group come from? What happens when they die? How do they spend their lives? Who talks to god(s)? What are basic beliefs? Are there leaders or documents that define religion? Are there conversations? If so how?
- 4. Social:** How does the group relate to one another? How do people communicate? What do people do together? How is the group organized? What are the family and gender relations? Are there social classes? How they live? Are there inequalities?
- 5. Intellectual:** Who are the thinkers? What groups are given the chance to learn? How do people learn? Where does knowledge come from? Also look at philosophy, math, science, and education.
- 6. Artistic:** How do they express themselves? What commitment to self-expression do they have? What technology or resources are given to art? Also look at art, music, writing, literature.
- 7. Near?:** In what geographic region is this located? What geographic landscape makes up the region? How are the people/events effected by the geography? How do the people interact with their environment? How does the environment define the culture/civilization?

PERSIAN Chart
AP World History

Culture/Civilization:

Date:

<p><i>POLITICAL</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders, Elites • State Structure • War • Diplomacy, Treaties • Courts, Laws 	
<p><i>ECONOMIC</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type of System • Technology, Industry • Trade, Commerce • Capital/Money • Types of Businesses 	
<p><i>RELIGIOUS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Books • Beliefs, Teachings • Conversion • Sin/Salvation • Deities 	
<p><i>SOCIAL</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family • Gender Relations • Social Classes • Inequalities • Life Styles 	
<p><i>INTELLECTUAL , artS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art, Music • Writing, Literature • Philosophy • Math & Science • Education 	
<p><i>NEAR: GEOGRAPHY</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location • Physical • Movement • Human/Environment • Region 	

NOTES:

