



HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **10th Grade** | Unit 10

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 1010

Ancient Times to the Present

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Ancient Times To The Present

Introduction

In the previous nine LIFEPAcs you have studied the history of the world from very ancient civilizations to modern times. You will now review what you have learned. You will look once more at those ancient civilizations. You will reacquaint yourself with the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. You will see how each of these periods contributed to the modern world in which you live.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAc®. When you have finished this LIFEPAc, you should be able to:

1. List the most important ancient civilizations.
2. Explain how ancient societies governed themselves.
3. Identify the leaders of the ancient civilizations and their accomplishments.
4. Describe the cultures of the various societies.
5. Explain feudalism.
6. Show the importance of the church in the Middle Ages.
7. Point out the differences between the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.
8. Describe the politics in the major European countries during the Renaissance.
9. List the highlights of Renaissance arts and sciences.
10. Explain the Reformation.
11. Show how religious conflicts led to wars.
12. Define *absolutism*.
13. Show the development of the strongest nations in Europe.
14. Define mercantilism.
15. Trace the travels of European explorers and their claims in the New World.
16. Describe the great revolutions that helped to produce the modern world.
17. Describe the political and military career of Napoleon I.
18. List the important early inventions of the Industrial Revolution.
19. Describe the events leading to and during World War I.
20. Describe the events leading to and during World War II.
21. Outline the structure of the United Nations.
22. Discuss the important political areas in the modern world.
23. List the major international organizations today.

1. ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS AND MEDIEVAL TIMES

The first section of the review will deal with the world prior to 1500. It will recall the ancient civilizations, remind you of their ending, and discuss their contributions to the world. By 1500 the nations of Western Europe were stable enough to begin searching for places to

establish colonies. Spain led the way but did not handle her colonies wisely. England and France followed, and England gained the most. Out of these activities, the modern world finally began to develop.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. List the most important ancient civilizations.
2. Explain how ancient societies governed themselves.
3. Identify the leaders of the ancient civilizations and their accomplishments.
4. Describe the cultures of the various societies.
5. Explain feudalism.
6. Show the importance of the church in the Middle Ages.

Vocabulary

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

assimilation
scriptorium

diocese
see

Ides of March
triumvirate

Nicene Creed
vernacular

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are not sure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

HEBREWS

The Old Testament of the Bible, the gift of God through the Hebrews to the people of the world, records the most ancient of ancient times. In the opening lines, it states (Genesis 1:1) "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." No time existed before the beginning.

The Hebrews were the descendants of Abraham, who settled in Canaan. From Canaan, Abraham's grandson Jacob moved his family to Egypt to be reunited with his son Joseph and to provide his family with sustenance during a famine. Generations later, Moses led them back to Canaan, the Promised Land. The area that was Canaan was approximately that of Israel today.

During this time many Hebrews did not remain true to God. They fought among themselves and were attacked by outsiders. They finally saw their Holy City, Jerusalem, destroyed by the Babylonians and many of their people carried off as captives to Babylon.

In Babylon they had to choose whether to spend their time in mourning or to make captivity meaningful. They chose the latter and spent much of the next seventy years creating the framework of the Old Testament and solidifying their beliefs.

Many Jews never returned to Jerusalem. The Diaspora, which is the name given to the scattering of the Hebrews all over the world, took place. When Jesus Christ the Savior was born in Bethlehem as promised, most Jews refused to accept Him. Their descendants are still waiting for a Messiah.

Christian belief accepts the Trinity and acknowledges Christ as (I John 2:1 and 2) "...an advocate with the Father...the propitiation for our sins..." With this knowledge of God and his acceptance of the Trinity, the Christian is prepared to carry on his struggle with Satan which is his heritage from Adam and Eve. Since he believes in this manner, he must accept God's presence in the making of history.



Complete the following sentences.

- 1.1 The gift of God through the Hebrews to the whole world was the _____.
- 1.2 Canaan was called the _____.
- 1.3 The Hebrews solidified their beliefs while in _____.
- 1.4 The Hebrews were the descendants of _____.
- 1.5 The scattering of the Hebrew people all over the world was called the _____.

EGYPTIANS

The land along the Nile River had the requirements for settlement: warm climate, water supply, protective mountains, and a long coastline.

Egypt, the oldest of the early civilizations, developed a calendar, a system of irrigation, written communication, and local government before it was classified as a civilization.

The first central government was formed by the uniting of Egypt's upper and lower kingdoms under King Menes in 3400 B.C. From his capital at Memphis, he ruled with a strong hand and was able to keep the two kingdoms together and start a dynasty. Later the Pharaohs, as they came to be known, were considered divine, and their words were never questioned.

Once cities were established and the government became stable, Egypt began to trade among cities up and down the Nile. Finally, it started to trade with other countries around the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea.

The government was not always strong enough to keep out invaders. Over the centuries, Egypt was conquered several times. One group of invaders, the Hyksos in the sixteenth century B.C., brought horses and chariots with them. The horses and chariots proved very valuable to the Egyptians, who used them to attack and conquer others.

Egypt built an empire and proceeded to set up trade routes with other countries. Surplus wheat and other grains were traded for products in the Mediterranean area. Egypt was able to buy the lumber and tin it needed as well as many other products. The Phoenicians brought tin all the way from England to Egypt, and Egyptian artisans mixed copper and tin to make bronze for decoration and weapons. Scribes kept records of trade transactions as Egyptians learned the importance of records for government and trade.



Answer true or false.

- 1.6 _____ Egypt was settled on land along the Nile River.
- 1.7 _____ King Menes ruled Egypt from his capital at Hyksos.
- 1.8 _____ The Egyptians imported tin that came from England.
- 1.9 _____ Business records were kept by scribes.
- 1.10 _____ Egypt was such a powerful nation it was never invaded.

Complete the following sentences.

- 1.11 Bronze is made by mixing a. _____ and b. _____.
- 1.12 The Hyksos brought the a. _____ and b. _____ to Egypt.
- 1.13 Four developments of the Egyptian civilization were these:
 a. _____, b. _____,
 c. _____, and d. _____.
- 1.14 Egyptian leaders considered divine were called _____.



| Babylon

BABYLONIANS

Between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers at the eastern end of the Fertile Crescent is located the land whose name, *Mesopotamia*, means *the land between two rivers*. Here on the plains of Shinar several groups settled. They never became true civilizations, although some of them did build empires, because they never developed beyond a city-state organization.

One of these groups was the Babylonians. Their capital city of Babylon was beautiful, and it lasted nearly two thousand years. It was in

Babylon that one of the emperors, Hammurabi codified the laws of Babylonia. Hammurabi was able to unite the Babylonians, but after his death his empire disintegrated.

Most of the Babylonians remained agricultural, but they did trade with the existing civilizations. A few craftsmen made articles to sell, but most of their sales were of food grains. Babylonians used clay for building, since stone was not available. Brick remains have been located by archaeologists.



Answer true or false.

- 1.15 _____ No remains of the Babylonians have ever been found.
- 1.16 _____ Hammurabi, emperor of Babylonia, codified the laws of his country.

CHINESE

The earliest civilization in the Far East was that of China. The Yellow and Yangtze rivers provided water. The Yellow River often flooded causing disaster for the people. Crops could not be planted, and starvation followed. Mass migrations of Chinese took place because of this condition. Northern China was settled before southern China, but the people in the south began cultivation of the Chinese staple, rice.

China had a difficult time uniting. Its feudal stage was a period of war and invasion, as it would be much later in Europe. Finally, China became one nation in the fourth century before Christ.

China is protected by mountains and the sea, but to the north are plains from which invaders came. The Huns, a fierce and warlike tribe, inhabited the area. To protect themselves from the Huns, the Chinese built the Great Wall of China about five hundred B.C. Over the years the wall began to crumble, and in the thirteenth

century Genghis Khan, who had united several of the nomadic tribes north of the wall, attacked and conquered the northern Chinese. These Mongols, as they were called, swept across Asia into Russia. Genghis Khan left his empire to his grandson, Kublai Khan, who was successful in reuniting northern and southern China. It was during this time that Marco Polo came from Italy to visit China.

Under the Sung rule China reached new heights of production and trade. After the crusades, demand from Europe for Chinese products became very great. At the same time, trade routes overland became costly and dangerous. Europeans began to look for a way to reach the Far East by sailing west.

Over its history, China was divided into two classes of people, the very rich and the very poor. The poor for the most part were peasants who lived off the land. They paid high taxes to support their rulers.



Answer true or false.

- 1.17 _____ The Great Wall of China was built after the birth of Christ.
- 1.18 _____ Mesopotamia means “land between two rivers.”
- 1.19 _____ Flooding on the Yangtze River caused great hardship for the early Chinese.
- 1.20 _____ Genghis Khan was the leader of the northern Chinese.
- 1.21 _____ After the crusades, Chinese demand for European products became very great.

Complete the following writing assignment.

- 1.22 Research Marco Polo’s visit to China and prepare a paper of approximately one hundred words telling about what he saw. Have your teacher check your paper.

TEACHER CHECK

_____ initials

_____ date

GREEKS

Much of Greek civilization had its origins in the culture of Crete. The Cretans had developed a high degree of civilization before they were forced to leave their island because a fire destroyed all that they had built. The Cretans resettled in Mycenae and began trading with the Aegean city-states and Egypt. Later they attacked and destroyed the ancient city of Troy in Asia Minor. Homer, the blind Greek poet, wrote about this war and its aftermath in the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. The Mycenaeans were attacked and conquered in the twelfth century before Christ and with their conquerors were the forerunners of the Greek people.

Because of poor soil, early Greek city-states had to buy food from outside their borders. In exchange they sold bronze weapons and other items. This trade led to the founding of Greek colonies around the shores of the Mediterranean. Athens, almost from its beginning, was chief among the Greek city-states. The first democratic practices in government appeared in Athens. A council of 500 was made up of representatives of the people. Debates were held openly before any law was enacted.

Before its democracy was thoroughly established, Athens was attacked by Persia, which

was attempting to build a Mediterranean empire. Athens sought the aid of another city-state, and together they drove the Persians from Greek territory permanently. The Athenian civilization reached its peak under Pericles after the Persians were routed. Athenian culture flourished. Trade was good, and Athens became wealthy. Democracy developed further but was never complete because only male, native born citizens could participate.

After the Age of Pericles, Greece declined. Athens and Sparta engaged in the Peloponnesian War in which Athens was defeated. Unable to defend themselves, the Greeks fell victim to Philip of Macedonia whose kingdom was to the north. His son, Alexander the Great, spread the Greek Empire and culture over the Middle East. As Greek culture mingled with the cultures of the conquered peoples, the so-called Hellenistic culture developed.

Alexander swept as far east as India. He attempted to unite the area, but was not successful. Probably his worst mistake was his failure to provide for a successor to rule after his death. The empire went into a period of decline, and the Greeks began to give way to the next civilization, Rome.



Answer the following questions.

1.23 Why were the ancient Greek city-states forced to trade outside their borders? _____

1.24 Who was Homer? _____

1.25 Where did much of Greek civilization have its origins? _____

1.26 What was one of Alexander the Great's most serious mistakes? _____

1.27 Who fought in the Peloponnesian War? a. _____

and b. _____ .

ROMANS

The story of Rome began with the defeat of the Etruscans for control of the city-states that had grown up around the mouth of the Tiber River. Rome was not located on the seacoast since no natural harbor indented the Italian coastline there.

During the early years, Rome followed the practice of the Etruscans and ruled with a king who took advice from a senate made up of the people from the upper classes. When dissatisfaction arose among the lower classes, the plebeians, Rome became a republic and allowed tribunes or representatives of the people to be elected and to advise. Rome was on its way to becoming a democracy. Rome took possession of the Italian peninsula either by driving out the people who already lived there or by taking them over. This takeover included the Greeks. As it established supremacy over the peninsula, Rome made the conquered people feel as if they were part of Rome by granting them Roman citizenship. At the same time, Rome assured itself of a large army when it was needed.

Rome became involved in the Punic Wars with Phoenicia over the city of Carthage in North Africa. Carthage was a Phoenician colony, and Phoenicia interfered with Roman trade in the Mediterranean. Three wars were fought over a period of more than a hundred years until Rome devastated Carthage and sold its people into slavery. Shortly afterward, the city of Corinth in Greece met almost the same fate.

Rome began to hire mercenaries to fight battles of expansion, but ensuing chaos destroyed

the political gains the plebeians had made. Two men came to their support, the Gracchi brothers who were members of the senate and of the upper class. They failed to help the poor, and the result was civil war. The senators fled for their lives; and Caesar, Pompey, and Crassus tried to form a **triumvirate** to rule Rome. Crassus and Pompey, for different reasons, left the triumvirate and Caesar was left to rule alone. Fearing that he would start a line of dictators, the senators decided to get rid of Caesar, and accordingly on the **Ides of March**, 44 B.C., they stabbed him to death in the senate chambers. No one wanted to succeed Caesar although Octavian, Caesar's nephew, was his heir. Trouble over who should rule ended when Mark Antony and Octavian decided to rule together. This arrangement lasted for about ten years when Octavian was told that Antony together with Cleopatra, queen of Egypt, would try to seize control. A battle followed at Actium where Antony and Cleopatra were defeated in 31 B.C. Antony and Cleopatra committed suicide, and Egypt became a Roman province. Octavian was granted the title Augustus by the senate and went on to rule alone.

During his short term in office, Caesar had begun reforms. Octavian, later called Augustus, continued these reforms. He gave food to the poor and provided entertainment for them. Caesar had decided that all conquered people should be given Roman citizenship with all the privileges that went with it. He also made reforms in the tax system, which Augustus continued.



| The Roman Empire

Augustus was now ruler over a large empire, and his reign began with what would later be called the Roman Peace or as the Romans called it, *Pax Romano*. Peace allowed time and money for other activities. New trade was established with the provinces, and the empire became almost self-sufficient. North Africa furnished grain for most of the empire's bread. Roads, bridges, public buildings, and aqueducts were built. Travel became easier within the empire, and roads were filled with carts and people. Christ was born during the reign of Augustus in the town of Bethlehem in one of the Roman provinces.

After the death of Augustus peace continued: but inferior rulers outnumbered good ones. Rome went into decline. No longer able to keep invaders out, Rome found its borders under constant attack by Germanic tribes. The army

was increased in size, but the cost was high. As more soldiers were needed, the cost to the people impoverished them; and inflation eroded the value of the money. Government was not only inefficient but corrupt. Civil disorder was almost constant. Emperors Diocletian and Constantine tried to solve these problems. Diocletian thought the empire was too large for one man to rule; therefore, he divided it into the Eastern and Western empires. Constantine reunited them and moved the capital to Constantinople, but even this plan to strengthen the empire failed. It was divided again after Constantine died, and from that point on the Western half declined. It was overrun by the Ostrogoths in A.D. 476, and a Germanic emperor named Odoacer took the throne. The Eastern half lived on for a thousand years and finally succumbed to the Ottoman Turks when they came into power in southwest Asia.



Complete the following sentences.

- 1.28** The plebeians were the _____ classes of Rome.
- 1.29** After defeating Antony and Cleopatra, Octavian was granted the title of _____ by the Roman senate.
- 1.30** To make conquered peoples feel like Romans, Rome gave them Roman _____.
- 1.31** The Roman leader stabbed to death on the Ides of March, 44 B.C., was _____.
- 1.32** The Roman Empire was divided into Eastern and Western empires by the emperor _____.
- 1.33** *Pax Romano* means _____.
- 1.34** When Christ was born during the reign of Augustus, Bethlehem was a town in one of the Roman _____.
- 1.35** The story of Rome began with the defeat of the _____.

Answer this question.

- 1.36** Why did the Roman Empire in the west go into decline? _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

SELF TEST 1

Match the following items (each answer, 2 points).

- | | | | |
|-------|------------------------------|----|--|
| 1.01 | _____ Hammurabi | a. | settled in Canaan |
| 1.02 | _____ pharaohs | b. | Greek poet, author of the <i>Iliad</i> |
| 1.03 | _____ Genghis Khan | c. | drove the Moors from Spain |
| 1.04 | _____ Mesopotamia | d. | put down a Hebrew rebellion |
| 1.05 | _____ Ferdinand and Isabella | e. | Egyptian rulers who were considered divine |
| 1.06 | _____ Homer | f. | “land between two rivers” |
| 1.07 | _____ Alexander the Great | g. | codified the laws of Babylon |
| 1.08 | _____ Peloponnesian War | h. | conflict between Athens and Sparta |
| 1.09 | _____ Crete | i. | origin of Greek civilization |
| 1.010 | _____ Abraham | j. | Mongol warrior who invaded China |
| | | k. | spread Greek culture through the Middle East |

Complete the following sentences (each answer, 3 points).

- 1.011 England was attacked many times in the early Middle Ages by warriors from Scandinavia called _____.
- 1.012 Charlemagne was emperor of a land that was roughly the same as the modern country of _____.
- 1.013 The king who united Southern England was named _____.
- 1.014 The French ruler who invaded and ruled over England after 1066 was _____.
- 1.015 Under the feudal system someone who received land in return for his support was called a _____.
- 1.016 A parcel of land given by a noble to a lesser noble in exchange for loyalty and money in the Middle Ages was called a _____.
- 1.017 Most people in the Middle Ages worked hard in the fields and were called _____.

- 1.018** Minstrels and troubadours were known in the Middle Ages for their _____ .
- 1.019** The two most important literary men of the Middle Ages were
a. _____ and b. _____ .
- 1.020** Late medieval architecture was called _____ .

Answer true or false (each answer, 1 point).

- 1.021** _____ Marco Polo was the first Chinese to visit Europe during the Middle Ages.
- 1.022** _____ Bronze is a mixture of iron and zinc.
- 1.023** _____ The empire of Alexander the Great began to crumble in part because Alexander did not pick a leader to follow him after he died.
- 1.024** _____ Plebeians were the common people of Rome.
- 1.025** _____ Antony and Cleopatra were defeated at the Battle of Actium in 31 B.C.
- 1.026** _____ Pax Romano was a Roman emperor who followed Diocletian to the throne.
- 1.027** _____ Jesus was born in Bethlehem during the reign of the emperor Augustus.
- 1.028** _____ The ancient Chinese had a highly developed system of government, which required formal education.
- 1.029** _____ Latin was the language of Egypt.
- 1.030** _____ The religion of most ancient civilizations was polytheistic.

Write the letter of the correct answer on each line (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.031** The feudal system dealt primarily with people at the _____ of the medieval social structure.
a. top b. middle c. bottom d. outside
- 1.032** Under the feudal system all of the land was owned by the _____ .
a. manor b. nobles c. church d. king
- 1.033** The *Canterbury Tales* were written by _____ .
a. Dante b. Chaucer c. minstrels d. Trivium
- 1.034** The papacy was moved from Rome to France during the _____ .
a. Hundred Years War b. Avignon Captivity
c. Quadrivium d. Holy Roman Empire

- 1.035** Campaigns to recapture the Holy Land during the Middle Ages were called _____.
a. Crusades b. Inquisitions c. Parliaments d. Restorations
- 1.036** A nation which did not become unified until the nineteenth century was _____.
a. Turkey b. Germany c. Ireland d. France
- 1.037** Cycles were groups of medieval _____.
a. songs b. poems c. plays d. dances
- 1.038** Most medieval music was composed for _____.
a. monasteries b. dramas c. churches d. wagon plays
- 1.039** The Old Testament of the Bible was God's gift through the _____.
a. Babylonians b. Nicenes c. popes d. Hebrews
- 1.040** The Hebrews were the descendants of _____.
a. Canaan b. Abraham c. Jacob d. Diaspora

66

83

SCORE _____

TEACHER _____

initials

date



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