

Ancient and Medieval History

Content Outline

- I. Historian skills
 - A. Historical method
 - 1. Time
 - 2. Clocks as a measurement of time
 - 3. Calendars as a measurement of time
 - B. Social scientist skills
 - 1. Anthropologist
 - 2. Archeologist
 - 3. Historian
 - C. Components of civilization
 - 1. Religion
 - 2. Environment
 - 3. Culture
 - 4. Intellect
 - 5. Politics
 - 6. Economics
 - 7. Social

- II. Ancient civilization
 - A. Sumerians
 - 1. Flooding of the Tigris and Euphrates
 - 2. Ziggurats
 - 3. Cuneiform
 - 4. *Epic of Gilgamesh*
 - B. Egyptians
 - 1. Old, Middle and New Kingdoms
 - 2. Optimism of the religion
 - a. Mummification
 - b. Pyramids
 - c. Major gods
 - 3. Menes
 - 4. Hatshepsut
 - 5. Ramses II
 - 6. Akhenaton
 - 7. Hieroglyphics and papyrus
 - C. Kushites and Nubians
 - D. Fertile Crescent civilizations
 - 1. Akkadians
 - a. Sargon
 - b. Empire building
 - 2. Babylonians
 - 3. Hittites
 - 4. Chaldeans (Neo-Babylonians)

5. Assyrians
6. Phoenicians
7. Lydians
8. Hebrews
 - a. Monotheism
 - b. David
 - c. Solomon
 - d. Covenant
- E. Indians-Indus and Ganges River Valleys
 1. Monsoons
 2. Harrapa
 3. Mohenjo-Daro
 4. Mystery of the writing system
 5. Aryans
 - a. Religion
 - b. Social structure
 - c. Literature
 - d. Vedas
- F. Chinese-Yellow River Valley
 1. River of Sorrows
 2. Shang and Zhou
 3. Oracle bones
 4. Dynastic cycle
 5. Mandate of Heaven
- G. Carthaginians
 1. Phoenician trading center
 2. Hannibal
 3. Conflict over domination of the Mediterranean
- H. Persians
 1. Satrap
 2. Zoroaster
 3. Road and communication systems
 4. Darius and Cyrus

III. Golden Age civilizations

- A. Greeks
 1. Minoan civilization
 2. Trojan War
 3. City-states (polis)
 4. Foundations of government
 5. Religion
 6. Military tactics
 7. Athens
 8. Sparta
 9. Role of women
 10. Cultural contributions

- a. Architecture
- b. Drama
- c. Philosophy
- d. Science
- e. Sculpture
- 11. Persian Wars
- 12. Peloponnesian War
- 13. Alexander and Hellenism
- B. Romans
 - 1. Etruscans
 - 2. Roman Republic
 - 3. Government
 - 4. Social Structure
 - 5. Role of women
 - 6. Punic Wars
 - 7. Caesar
 - 8. Roman Empire (*Pax Romana*)
 - 9. Cultural contributions
 - a. Architecture
 - b. Law
 - c. Literature
 - d. Religion
 - e. Science
 - f. Sculpture and painting
 - 10. The Rise of Christianity
 - 11. The military
 - 12. Roman law
 - 13. Memorable emperors
 - a. Augustus
 - b. Caligula
 - c. Nero
 - d. Hadrian
 - e. Diocletian
 - f. Constantine
 - 14. Constantinople
 - 15. Division of the empire
 - 16. Invasions and collapse of the Western empire
- C. Development of Islam and the Islamic Empire
 - 1. Muhammad
 - 2. Bedouins
 - 3. Mecca and Medina
 - 4. Five Pillars
 - 5. Quran
 - 6. Role of women
 - 7. Caliph and Caliphate
 - 8. The spread of the religion

9. Shiite, Sunni, Sufi
10. Arts and Literature
11. Achievements in science, mathematics and medicine
12. Turks
 - a. Sultan
 - b. Tamerlane
 - c. Cultural blending of Islam and Heaven

D. Indian

1. Hinduism
2. Siddhartha Gautama
3. Buddhism
4. Maurya Empire
5. Gupta Empire

E. Chinese

1. Religion and philosophy
2. Confucius
3. Laozi
4. Chin (Qin) dynasty
 - a. Qin Shi Huangdi (first emperor)
 - b. Terra cotta soldiers
 - c. The Great Wall
5. Han dynasty
 - a. Expansion
 - b. Government / civil service
 - c. Cultural contributions
 - d. Silk Road
6. Tang dynasty
 - a. Influence of Chinese culture into Korea and Japan
 - b. Technology
7. Sung dynasty
 - a. Technology
 - b. Cultural contribution

F. Japanese

1. Chinese influence
2. Geographical influence
3. Government
 - a. Clans
 - b. Feudalism
4. Introduction of Buddhism
5. Cultural contributions

G. African Trading Empires

1. Axum (Aksum)
 - a. Christianity
 - b. King Ezana
 - c. Trade

2. Ghana
 - a. Gold/salt trade
 - b. Influence of Islam
 - c. Trade
3. Mali
 - a. Mansa Musa
 - b. Role of women
 - c. Timbuktu

IV. Eastern and Western Christendom through 1350

A. Development of Middle Ages in Western Europe

1. Early

- a. Feudalism
- b. Manorialism
- c. Franks/Charlemagne
- d. Role of the Church
- e. Monasteries

2. Middle

- a. Technology
- b. Rise of dynastic monasteries
- c. Rise of towns
- d. Guilds
- e. The Crusades
- f. Chivalry
- g. Inquisition and religious tensions
- h. Vernacular and literature

B. Development of Eastern Orthodoxy

1. Survival of Eastern Roman Empire
2. Development of the Eastern Orthodox church
3. Preservation of Greco-Roman culture
4. Adaptation from Persian culture
5. Collapse of the Byzantine Empire