A. P. World History CHAPTER 4: CLASSICAL CIVILIZATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND MIDDLE EAST Worksheet & Study Guide

SUMMARY

The Persian Tradition

The development of Mediterranean civilization includes the rise of city-states in Greece. This was followed by the Hellenistic expansion. Rome emerged as a separate republic but strongly influenced by Greece. Roman expansion led to a decline of republican forms and the rise of a great empire. Juxtaposed against the three were three Persian empires. Tolerant of local customs, the Persians developed iron technology, organized an effective government and military, developed a new religion and supported a great artistic tradition.

B. Greek and Roman Political Institutions

Greece and Rome featured an important variety of political forms. Both tended to emphasize aristocratic rule. But there were significant democratic elements in some cases, as well as examples of autocracy. Later Rome added emphasis on law and the institutions necessary to run a great yet decentralized empire.

C. Religion and Culture; Economy and Society in the Mediterranean

Greek and Roman culture did not directly generate a major religion, though Christianity arose in the classical Mediterranean context. An emphasis on rationality especially in philosophy, science, and a strong artistic tradition describe the classical Mediterranean culture.

Greek and Roman societies mirrored many standard social features of an agricultural economy, including a large peasantry but also a land-owning aristocracy, and dependence on trade and commerce combined with suspicions of it. Patriarchal family structures predominated. Distinctive features included slavery and a slightly greater ambivalence about women than was true in Classical China.

Conclusion: A Complex Legacy

Hellenistic civilization established certain cultural characteristics for western civilization. Greek political ideas were more enduring than the actual political constitutions of the city-states. Slavery was an important component of the classical West. Perhaps the most significant contributions were in art and philosophy. Like India, cultural cohesion in the classical Mediterranean rested more in the realm of ideas than in political structures. Greek civilization has often been considered an integral foundation for American culture. For a truly world perspective, it is necessary to see Greek civilization in the context of other world cultures.

VOCABULARY - Define these terms:

- 1. Zoroastrianism
- 2. Hellenic; Hellenistic
- 3. Polis
- 4. Direct democracy
- 5. Aristocracy
- 6. Rationality
- 7. Tyranny
- 8. Republic
- 9. Patrician; plebeian
- 10. "Balanced and divided government"
- 11. Clientage
- 12. Natural law

Comprehension Questions: Answer these items in 4 or 5 sentences.

- 1. How did geography influence the Greek and Roman civilizations?
- 2. What political institutions were common in the classical Mediterranean?
- 3. How did warfare and conquest shape classical Mediterranean cultures?
- 4. What principals motivated Greco-Roman society and culture?
- 5. Explain the religious and philosophical ideas of classical Greece and Rome.
- 6. Identify and describe Greek and Roman intellectual accomplishments.
- 7. Describe the agricultural life and mercantile institutions of the classical Mediterranean.
- 8. Describe social divisions, gender relationships, and inequalities in the Greco-Roman world.
- 9. In what ways was Rome the heir to the classical Greek civilization?
- 10. How did Rome unify its vast empire and diverse peoples?

MAP EXERCISES - Answer these items in 4 or 5 sentences.

Map : Greece and Greek Colonies

- 1. What aspects of Greek geography would have divided Greeks?
- 2. What aspects of Greek geography would have united Greeks?
- 3. Name any influences that the seas had upon Greek life.
- 4. Sparta and the Peloponnesian League were land-based Greek states, while Athens and her allies were sea-based. How would this affect warfare and economic perspectives?

Map : Alexander's Empire, c. 323 B.C.E.

When Alexander died, his empire fragmented. Look at the physical map of the same area of page 35.

- 5. Where do you think Hellenistic successor states arose? With what boundaries?
- 6. Predict how these Greek empires would affect politics, economics, and culture in the area.

Map: The Roman Empire

- 7. What advantages did Rome's geographic location give it?
- 8. In order to create an empire and defend its borders, what would the Roman Empire need?
- 9. How did Rome use geography to define and to defend its borders? (Use the physical map at the front of the book.)
- **10.** What continents and modern nations did the Roman Empire encompass? (Use the political map at the end of the book.)

<u>PHOTO</u> Paragraph : Write a paragraph one of the following items.

Greco-Roman Artistic Values

A. In what ways did Hellenistic art glorify: Human achievement and striving? Human form? Realism? Everyday life?

- **B.** In what ways does Greco-Roman architecture emphasize: Realism? Symmetry and balance? Order?
- C. Discuss these statements:

Hellenic and Hellenistic art and architecture were designed to be functional and public, while glorifying the state and the gods.

D. As with the Roman cultural value of *gravitas* or seriousness, Roman art had to reflect not only seriousness, but also *veritas* or realism. How would Roman sculpture look and what might they depict?

<u>MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS</u>: Use a pencil and underline the correct response:

1. While the types of government in the early Greek poleis (city-states) varied, they were <u>least</u> likely to have been

aristocracies. monarchies oligarchies. theocracies. democracies.

2. Athenian democracy

was limited to males whose parents had both been citizens. allowed married couples including women to vote permitted all residents who swore an oath to vote. distrusted elitism and special interest groups. created elected representatives to speak and vote for constituents.

3. The result of Greek colonization between 750 and 550 B.C.E. was that it gave Greek city-states control of Mesopotamia. brought the Greeks into contact with northern Europe. established Greek culture throughout the Mediterranean and adjacent seas. put an end to barbarian and Persian invasions. led to the conquest of Egypt.

4. The major impact of Alexander the Great's conquests was the elimination of foreign influences from Greek culture. establishment of a unified government for the eastern Mediterranean. birth of mystery religions and the forced migration of the Jews. spread of Greek culture throughout the eastern Mediterranean. destruction of regional trade and commerce.

- 5. In comparison to the Hindus, Persians and Chinese, religiously the Greeks most resembled Hinduism's polytheism with its caste system. never developed a major religion. developed a compassionate system similar to Buddhism. sought universal harmony in a manner similar to Daoism. avoided portraying gods with human characteristics.
- 6. Greco-Roman philosophers attempted to understand human nature through emotion, especially the desire for love and brotherhood. its rigid adherence to societal norms with rewards and punishments. human sin, salvation, and redemption. human relationships to the state and society at large. rational observation and deduction.
- 7. Greco-Roman art and culture emphasized all of these qualities EXCEPT: human achievement and striving. public utility and usefulness. order, symmetry, and balance. realism. atheism.
- 8. While Mediterranean society and economics arose out of a agricultural warrior cultures, it...

tolerated trade and merchants but remained suspicious of them. adopted mercantile cultural values. relied solely on small independent farmers and few aristocratic estates. switched to pastoral nomadic ways of life to resolve overpopulation. encouraged and rewarded trade.

- 9. Mediterranean agriculture under the Greeks and Romans was extremely efficient and self-sufficient, supplying large surpluses for trade. not as dependent on irrigation as were other classical civilizations. relied heavily on imported grain stuffs and the export of cash crops. yielded insufficient surpluses to support high urban populations. favored the small farmers instead of the large, landed estates.
- 10. In the classical Mediterranean world, gender norms

encouraged equality but only for aristocratic women.
allowed women vital economic roles, but left males in control of the family.
allowed women from agricultural and artisan families influence, but limited the ...rights of aristocratic women.
allowed women greater economic roles than other classical societies.
gave women no rights.

11. Roman classic culture

owed a great deal of its diversity to trade with China. developed in relative isolation. borrowed heavily, especially from the Greek and Hellenistic states. influenced heavily the cultures of Africa and southwest Asia. was highly innovative in the arts and science. 12. Unlike most Greek city-states, Republican Rome

developed a balanced government that experienced fewer domestic tensions. had no aristocratic class. preferred a monarchical form of government. granted women and foreigners the right to vote and citizenship. never allowed the plebeians to participate in government.

13. Rome successfully expanded for all of these reasons EXCEPT: it possessed a disciplined, trained military. it had a rich agricultural economy, which supported a large population. Roman government proved flexible and tolerant. Roman leaders made citizens out of conquered elites. it had no organized and powerful rivals to oppose expansion in the area.

14. Unlike Qin legalist philosophy, Roman imperial law harshly punished mistakes and rewarded success. was intolerant of innovation. insisted on centralization of government and absolutist rule. rested heavily on toleration and local autonomy. distrusted the military and military rule.

15. What sentence best describes both Roman and Chinese gender relations? Roman and Chinese women had numerous political rights. while subordinate to men, Roman women were considerably freer and less oppressed then were their Chinese counterparts.

Both cultures were matrilocal – husbands resided with their wives' families. over the centuries, women's lives improved and their rights increased.

Rome and China were patriarchal societies where elite women had considerable influence.

- 16. Far more than classical Greece, India, or China, slavery in Rome was hereditary. granted no rights or protections to slaves. was lenient and refused to enslave the young or the elderly. dominated the labor markets: Rome became dependent on slavery. encouraged Romans to develop their technology in agriculture and industry.
- 17. With regard to merchants, classical civilizations in Rome, Greece, China, and India accorded them high social status. saw little use for their talents in otherwise largely agricultural societies. were ambivalent towards merchants despite their vital roles in commerce. rewarded merchant success through upward social mobility. made them state bureaucrats.

ESSAY QUESTIONS (You will write on one of these, see me.)

Compare and contrast Greek philosophy and its Hellenic worldview with Chinese Confucianism or the Aryan religion.

Compare and contrast Mesopotamian and Greek culture, society, and intellectual achievements.

Compare and contrast Hellenic or Roman and Chinese political heritages and governmental institutions.

Compare and contrast the effect of geography on the classical Mediterranean and any one of these civilizations: (1) Mesopotamia; (2) China; or (3) Egypt.

Compare and contrast classical Mediterranean economical (agricultural and mercantile) practices with other civilizations' institutions.

Compare and contrast gender relations and social systems including societal inequalities with the Hindu social system.

How did Mediterranean political institutions change from the Hellenic Greeks to Imperial Rome?

Compare and contrast classical Mediterranean attitudes towards the invention, artisans, and the sciences with their classical Chinese counterparts.

Compare and contrast peasant lifestyles in the classical Mediterranean and Chinese cultures.

Compare and contrast Hellenistic and Han political, social, and economic institutions.

Compare and contrast gender relations and social inequalities in Rome and China.