

Ancient Civilizations: Rise, Geography, and Society

Time: 20 min. 6 questions.

Instructions

Answer each question using what you have learned about ancient civilizations. Read every question carefully. For multiple choice questions, circle the best answer. For short answer questions, write in complete sentences. Take your time and do your best.

Questions

1. Which of the following is an internal or external factor that can help a civilization rise to power?

- A) A weak, disorganized leader
- B) Strong leadership and military power
- C) A shrinking population with no trade
- D) A total lack of innovation

[\(Details\)](#)

2. Explain why many ancient civilizations settled along river valleys or coastlines. Use at least one geographical feature in your answer. [\(Outcome\)](#)

3. True or false: Taxation first developed in ancient civilizations as a way for governments to collect money to protect communities and provide services. [\(Details\)](#)

4. Ancient civilizations existed from about 3000 BCE to 500 CE. How many years does this time span cover? [\(Details\)](#)

5. In an egalitarian social system, how is power decided?

- A) Power is based on gender
- B) Power is based only on wealth
- C) Power is not based on gender
- D) Power is passed down only through the father's family

[\(Details\)](#)

6. Name one way that social scientists, such as historians or archaeologists, learn about ancient civilizations. [\(Details\)](#)

Curriculum coverage

Question	Outcome alias
1	Details
2	Outcome
3	Details
4	Details
5	Details
6	Details

Answer key

1. B) Strong leadership and military power. Organized structures, strong leadership, military power, innovations, wealth, and opportunity are internal and external factors that help civilizations rise ([Details](#)).
2. Answers should mention that river valleys and coastlines offered features such as abundant water, fertile soil, and moderate climate, which supported agriculture, settlement, and trade ([Outcome](#)).
3. True. Taxation first developed in ancient civilizations as a way to support growing urban settlements and government services ([Details](#)).
4. 3500 years. Adding 3000 years before the common era to 500 years after it gives a total span of 3500 years ([Details](#)).
5. C) Power is not based on gender. This is what makes a social system egalitarian, unlike patriarchal or matriarchal systems where power is tied to gender ([Details](#)).
6. Any reasonable answer such as studying artifacts, ruins, writing, or other evidence, or comparing primary and secondary sources, is acceptable, since social scientists such as historians, archaeologists, anthropologists, and geographers study evidence to learn about the past ([Details](#)).