

UNIT 4 - STUDY GUIDE

World History & Geography 1 Rev.1/20/2011 ©studentsfriend.com Ancient Greece & Rome: Civilization spreads west

Overview: The world's first civilizations arose in Mesopotamia and Egypt; from there we followed the spread of civilization east to river valleys of India and China. In this unit we will follow the movement of civilization west toward Europe. The first European civilization appeared on the Greek island of Crete. Classical Greek civilization of the fifth century BC is considered the birthplace of Western Civilization because it first developed many features of modern Western culture including literature, philosophy, art, organized sports, and democracy. As Greek civilization declined, Roman power grew. The Romans adopted much from Greek culture and made their own important contributions to Western Civilization.

Essential Question: What is human nature?

Should a society strive for excellence? What if it doesn't?
Are people and countries ruled more by reason or by emotion?

Essential Question: What makes a good society?

Is democracy fragile like an egg or strong like a rock? Did ancient Athens have a true democracy? Was Julius Caesar right or wrong to end the Roman Republic?
Why did Plato distrust democracy?

Historical Force: How does technology make history?

How did the Phoenician alphabet change communication? What were the effects of the arch?

Historical Force: How does geography make history?

How did geography influence the lives of the ancient Greeks?
How did geography influence the development of the Roman Empire?

1. Read for understanding pages 13-16 of the *Student's Friend*. Demonstrate your understanding by answering the STUDY QUESTIONS for pages 13 and 14 and by summarizing KEY POINTS for the 8 main topics on pages 15 and 16 with answers to the questions: What is it? Why is it important?
2. Correctly spell the 16 main topics on pages 13-16.
3. On a map of the Eastern Hemisphere, locate Greece, Crete, Black Sea, Athens, Persian Empire (Iran), Alexandria, Italy, Rome, Roman Empire, Carthage, Alps, Constantinople (Istanbul).
4. Be familiar with major events of the historical timeline from the Big Bang through the Fall of Rome.
5. Is there any similarity between Yin Yang and the humanistic concept of the Golden Mean?
6. Which is more powerful, physical strength or brain power?
7. How were Roman law and Hammurabi's Code used in similar ways?
8. Compare ancient Greece with ancient Rome. How were they similar; how were they different?
9. Why did a group of senators want Julius Caesar dead?
10. What is the difference between representative democracy and direct democracy? Which would you most likely find in Athens under Pericles, in the Roman Republic, in the United States today?