

Name:

Date:

First test Ancient Western civilization: from Origins to Greece

Instructor: Eric Snow

Section A: Fill-in the blank questions (2 points each, 50 points possible).

1. This book was the greatest of the dialogs by the Greek philosopher in Q#20. It \_\_\_\_\_ includes the "Allegory of the Cave" and discusses the ideal government.
2. Three of these enormous ancient Egyptian tombs for their kings are at Giza. \_\_\_\_\_ These engineering marvels are the only one of the Seven Wonders still intact.
3. This Greek god ruled the sea and also caused earthquakes. He was the father \_\_\_\_\_ of the one-eyed cyclops that Odysseus blinded. He was a big enemy of Odysseus.
4. This was the wedged-shaped writing formed by using a stylus to impress clay \_\_\_\_\_ tablets. Mesopotamian civilizations used this script for centuries.
5. This Greek philosopher (384-322 b.c.) discovered the laws of logic and helped \_\_\_\_\_ helped lay the foundations of modern science. He emphasized the "golden mean."
6. This pagan mystery religion of ancient Greece differed from the public/civic \_\_\_\_\_ Olympian religion. Its devotees would sacrifice a bull and eat its raw flesh.
7. This dualistic religion of Persia originally had no priesthood or temples \_\_\_\_\_ Emphasizing ethical behavior, it asked mankind to choose the right way in the conflict between the (good) Creator, Ahura Mahzda and the Evil One, Ahirman.
8. These were the people who in Mesopotamia created the world's first \_\_\_\_\_ civilization around 3000 b.c. They were polytheists who worshiped many gods.
9. This ancient Greek god was the king of the gods. He symbolized power and \_\_\_\_\_ used thunderbolts. He had many affairs, which made his goddess wife very upset.
10. This Greek poet (lived in the ninth century b.c.) wrote the Illiad and the \_\_\_\_\_ Odyssey. These poems described the Greek war against Troy and its aftermath.
11. This ancient civilization was centered on a large island in the Aegean \_\_\_\_\_ Sea. A huge volcanic eruption badly damaged it. It valued peaceful trade.
12. This Egyptian king (reigned 1379-1362 b.c.) attacked Egypt's old religion \_\_\_\_\_ and started a new one that's been called monotheistic. He began a new art style.
13. Give the beginning and ending dates for the Peloponnesian War. This war was \_\_\_\_\_ won by Sparta and its allies against the empire ran by the city-state in Q#25.
14. This ancient Greek civilization (ca. 1600-1110 b.c.) upheld masculine,

\_\_\_\_\_warlike values. It formed the background for what the poet in Q#10 wrote about.

15. This Greek playwright (448-380 b.c.) wrote comedies. He wrote Lysistrata, a satirical anti-war play about Greek women going on a sex strike to end a war.

16. This area of the Middle East was where the first civilization began. It includes modern Iraq, Syria, and Israel. Its geographical shape suggests its name.

17. At this land battle in 490 b.c., the leading Greek city-state inflicted a stunning upset victory against Persia's first invasion of Greece. One messenger ran 22+ miles after it in order to announce the victory.

18. This was the title for the kings of ancient Egypt from the New Kingdom period on. It meant "great house" originally. They were worshiped as god-kings.

19. This narrative was the first story in the world's literature to have a hero/protagonist with both a name and a personality. (Re)written by several Mesopotamian civilizations, this legend/myth gives an account of the Flood.

20. This very influential Greek philosopher (c. 427-347 b.c.) wrote dialogs to explain his philosophy. He wrote brilliantly, and asked the right questions.

21. This term means "new stone age." It refers to a state of mankind's which featured village life, agriculture, and the use of basic stone tools.

22. These were the temples made mostly of sun-dried bricks in what is now Iraq. The high tower built that's described in Genesis could have been one of these buildings.

23. This warlike kingdom (1076-612 b.c.) in what is now Iraq had Nineveh on the Tigris river as its capital. Sometimes it skinned people alive who revolted.

24. This Greek philosopher (ca. 470-399 b.c.) was executed by the city of Q#25. He liked to argue about the definition of words. He defended himself in a dialog.

25. This was by far the most important Greek city state culturally and politically. It built a large navy. Its patron and namesake goddess is in Q#36.

Section B: Short answer questions (5 points each, 10 points possible excluding extra credit). No more than two or three sentences are necessary to answer them fully.

26. What was one key similarity between ancient Egypt and the ancient civilizations in Mesopotamia? What was one major difference? Think about their geography, religion, and governmental stability before answering.

27. Suppose somebody asked you: "Why should business majors take a humanities/history class?" Write out in full one of the two statements, one which is by George Santayana, the other by the philosopher found in question #24, which would help answer this kind of question. (If both statements are written out correctly, 2 1/2 points of extra credit will be given).

Section C: Extra credit fill-in questions (1 point each, 31 points possible).

28. This reformer of Q#25's city-state published a harsh law code. His name \_\_\_\_\_ has become an adjective. He helped average people by telling what the law was.

29. This Greek playwright (484-406 b.c.) wrote tragedies about average and oppressed people, such as the women who lost their husbands in The Trojan War.

30. This was the Greek god of wine, theater, and ecstatic pleasure (uncontrolled emotions). Belief in him was the basis for the mystery religion of Q#6.

31. In this dialog, Q#24's philosopher defended himself as the "Gadfly" of his city. His wisdom consisted of admitting what he didn't know. He lost his case.

32. This young king of Macedon (356-323 b.c.) led the Greek conquest of the Persian Empire. He was a military genius, and helped spread Greek culture in the Middle East.

33. These foreign conquerors ("rulers of foreign lands") of Egypt were Syro-Palestinians. Their rule marked the second intermediate period (1780-1555 b.c.).

34. This Greek philosopher (ca. 535-475 b.c.) was a skeptic who said you can't step in the same river twice. He believed fire was the essence of all being.

35. This Greek playwright (496-406 b.c.) wrote tragedies, such as Oedipus Rex. In it, the king discovers that he killed his father and married his mother.

36. This ancient Greek goddess of wisdom, arts, and crafts was very powerful. She was born from the forehead of Q#9's god. She sided with Odysseus.

37. This Greek general (ca. 460-400 b.c.) wrote the History of the Peloponnesian War. In what may be the first real history book, he tried to be objective/neutral.

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38. This ancient Greek philosopher (ca. 535-475 b.c.) believed that reality could be described by numbers, including musical harmonies. He founded a religious group.

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39. At this land battle during the second Persian invasion of Greece (480 b.c.), the Spartans lost after defending a narrow pass, but inflicted heavy casualties.

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40. This reformer of the leading Greek city-state effectively made it a full democracy. He created 10 "demes," or city wards. He created the Council of Five Hundred, which had its members chosen by lot after a nomination process.

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41. Q#5's philosopher devised this means of analyzing an argument's form (or structure) with 2 premises and a conclusion. "If A is B, and B is C, then A is C."

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42. This ancient ruler (ca. 1792-1750 b.c.) of a Mesopotamian empire devised a law code named after him. It had many laws about contracts and business. It was often harsh.

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43. This is the world's longest river, and is the basis of Egypt's agricultural wealth. Emptying into the Mediterranean Sea, this river fertilized the soil also.

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44. This man was only a minor ancient Egyptian king. He ruled only for nine years. But because his tomb was discovered with most of its original treasures, he's undoubtedly the most famous Egyptian king to the general public. (full name).

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45. This is the state of culture in which writing and city life exist. It only began about 3100/3000 b.c. in Egypt and Mesopotamia. Agriculture made it possible.

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46. This man was elected and reelected general-in-chief of the leading Greek city-state for some 30 years. He ruled during its golden age, and gave the Memorial Oration. He was the architect of this city's aggressive foreign policy.

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47. This term is used to describe Q#5's philosopher's concept that all beings have a purpose or end they seek to fulfill based on their essence (what they are).

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48. This carved monument in Egypt has the body of a lion, but the face of king Khafre (lived about 2869 b.c.) Being carved from a hill, it isn't a statue really.

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49. This term refers to the belief that knowledge is gained mostly or entirely by the senses, like seeing and hearing. Often leads to skepticism (uncertainty).

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50. These were the "sacred carvings" (writing) of Egypt. It was hard to write quickly. It was both alphabetical (symbols represented sounds) and pictographic.

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51. This is the philosophical belief that knowledge is gained mainly or exclusively by thinking, reasoning, and logic. Q#20's philosopher believed this.

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52. This Greek word described a state of overweening pride in which one took on

\_\_\_\_\_ the prerogatives of the gods. One having this feeling was inevitably punished.

53. At this naval battle (480 b.c.) during the second Persian invasion of Greece, the leading Greek city-state and its allies won an upset victory against Xerxes' larger fleet. Their victory helped launch ancient Greece's "golden age."  
\_\_\_\_\_

54. Known for their skeptical tendencies, these ancient Greek teachers taught students such arts as rhetoric for a fee. The philosopher in Q#20 portrayed his  
\_\_\_\_\_ "teacher" as frequently arguing with them, such as Protagoras, in his dialogs.

55. These real abstractions were Q#5's philosopher's solution to the problem of universals. These archetypes in a spiritual dimension were various words/concepts that only the mind  
\_\_\_\_\_ knew by thinking and reasoning, not by the sense of seeing, feeling, or touching.

56. This Greek playwright (525-456 b.c.) wrote the only trilogy of tragedies to survive, the Oresteia, including Agammemnon, Libation Bearers, and Eumenides.  
\_\_\_\_\_

57. This Greek poet (lived eighth century b.c.) wrote Works and Days, which described life as a series of thankless tasks. His Theogony discussed different versions of the myths.  
\_\_\_\_\_

58. This very large and ancient city was the capital of the empire over which the lawgiver of Q#42 ruled. It was the capital of the much later Neo-Chaldean Empire that Nebuchadnezzar ruled over. The Euphrates River flowed through it. Genesis says a high tower was built in it.  
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Section D: Essay question (#59). Choose one of the following two questions to answer. A proper answer will have full essay form, including an introduction, a thesis statement, two or more body paragraphs that explain/defend the thesis, and a conclusion in the last paragraph that restates the thesis. Put the letter of the question you're answering at the beginning of what you write.

(40 possible points)

A. How and why was ancient Greek civilization different from other ancient civilizations, such as those of Egypt, India, or Mesopotamia? Think about specific values, practices, and philosophical beliefs of the Greeks as compared to other civilizations when answering the "how" part. Think about such factors as geography, etc. for the "why" part.

or

B. What are the beliefs and values of Greek civilization that still affect modern Western society today? Name specific discoveries, beliefs, political practices, values, philosophical concepts, etc. that the Greeks had that modern Western people tend to have as a result.