

Name: _____

ANALYZING THE CODE OF HAMMURABI

Directions: Read the laws from Hammurabi's Code. Rewrite each law in your own words and describe the purpose of the law in the table below.

LAW	IN MY OWN WORDS	PURPOSE
If a slave say to his master: "You are not my master," if they convict him his master shall cut off his ear.		
If the herdsman overlook something, and an accident happen in the stable, then the herdsman is at fault for the accident which he has caused in the stable, and he must compensate the owner for the cattle or sheep.		
If a man rent his boat to a sailor, and the sailor is careless, and the boat is wrecked or goes aground, the sailor shall give the owner of the boat another boat as compensation.		
If any one break a hole into a house (break in to steal), he shall be put to death before that hole and be buried.		

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If any one steal the property of a temple or of the court, he shall be put to death, and also the one who receives the stolen thing from him shall be put to death.		
If a man let in the water, and the water overflow the plantation of his neighbor, he shall pay ten gur of corn for every ten gan of land.		
If a man put out the eye of another man, his eye shall be put out		
If a builder build a house for some one, and does not construct it properly, and the house which he built fall in and kill its owner, then that builder shall be put to death.		

THE 3 KINGDOMS OF EGYPT

The history of ancient Egypt covers a staggeringly long period of time. As archaeologists studied its history, they noticed something very interesting. They realized that much of Egypt's ancient history could be divided into three main periods of time. Each period had distinct characteristics and pharaohs who generally all behaved in a certain way. Historians have named these periods "The Old Kingdom", "The Middle Kingdom", and "The New Kingdom". Between each Kingdom was an "Intermediate Period" which was more unstable and featured greater conflict.

The Old Kingdom

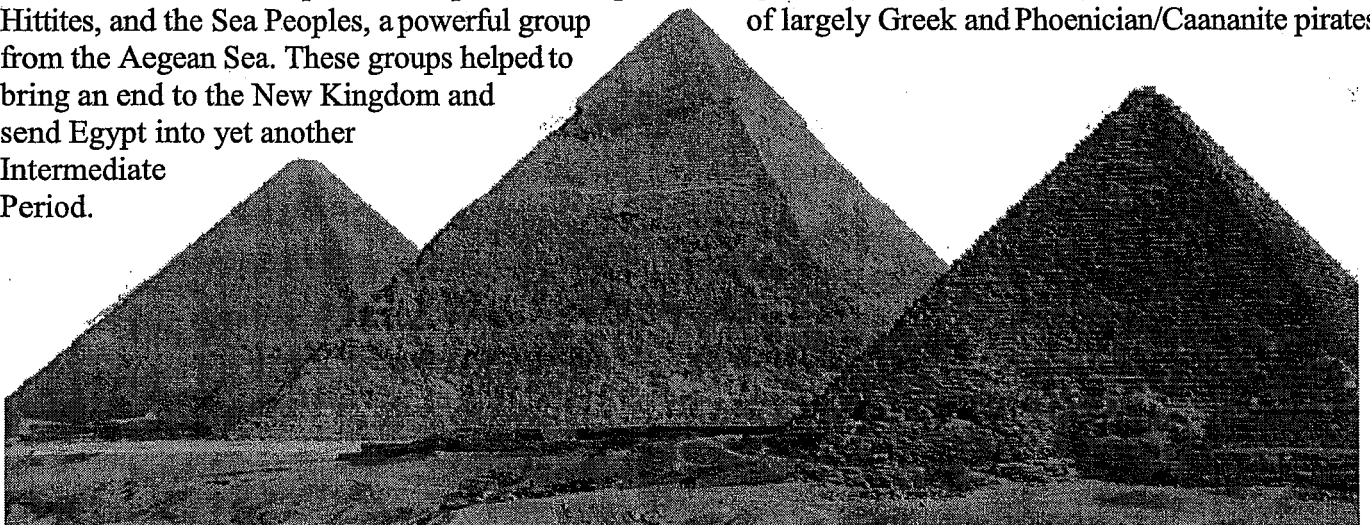
The Old Kingdom is considered to have begun around 2700 BCE and come to an end around the year 2200 BCE. During this period, the pharaohs of Egypt had absolute power and were considered gods on earth. But that's not why this kingdom is nicknamed "The Pyramid Age". Pharaohs were buried in pyramids *only* during this time period in history. After building a few pyramids, at a great cost to the state, it occurred to pharaohs that pyramids were rather easy to spot, and thus, much easier to rob than a hidden tomb. The Great Sphinx of Giza was also built during this period. Eventually, the power of the pharaohs diminished and several severe droughts caused the country to enter a period of famine and strife known as the First Intermediate Period. This period saw great food shortages, political disputes, and small-scale civil wars.

The Middle Kingdom

The Middle Kingdom began around 2100 BCE and lasted until about 1800 BCE. The Middle Kingdom is considered to be Egypt's Golden Age. The pharaohs of the Middle Kingdom restored prosperity and stability, thereby stimulating a resurgence of art, literature, and building projects. Trade also flourished along with art and literature. Egypt built strong armies to defend itself against its neighbors. During the time period of the Middle Kingdom, pharaohs were expected to be good kings and wise rulers. Unlike the Old Kingdom, pharaohs of this period were buried in hidden tombs all over Egypt. Most likely there are still tombs yet to be discovered. Ambitious building and mining activities, however, combined with severe floods of the Nile River strained the economy and began the slow decline into the Second Intermediate Period.

The New Kingdom

The New Kingdom in Egypt is considered to have lasted from about 1500 BCE until 1000 BCE. This was Egypt's expansion period. Egypt expanded its borders through military conquest and became a world power. During the time period of the new kingdom, pharaohs were all powerful, and buried in the same geographic area called the Valley of the Kings. Some of these great pharaohs included Akhenaten, Ramses the Great, and the female ruler Hatshepsut. Other powerful empires were growing nearby, including the Assyrian Empire, Hittites, and the Sea Peoples, a powerful group of largely Greek and Phoenician/Canaanite pirates from the Aegean Sea. These groups helped to bring an end to the New Kingdom and send Egypt into yet another Intermediate Period.



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THE 3 KINGDOMS OF EGYPT

Directions: Place each of the following under the Egyptian kingdom that it best describes:

- c. 1000 BCE
- c. 2000 BCE
- c. 2500 BCE
- Built the pyramids
- Conquered other areas
- Ramses the Great ruled
- Created powerful army for defense
- Golden Age
- Built hidden tombs
- Pharaohs buried in many different places
- Pharaohs buried in pyramids
- Pharaohs buried in Valley of Kings
- Pharaohs were god-like
- Pharaohs were wise and good rulers
- Spent LOTS of money on building Pyramids
- Tombs built were easy to rob
- Time of expansion
- Great Sphinx built

OLD KINGDOM	MIDDLE KINGDOM	NEW KINGDOM



HISTORICAL SNAPSHOT

ANCIENT CHINA CLOSE READING INVESTIGATION



THE BEGINNING OF CHINA

Pre-historic Chinese (around 6500 BCE) people first settled in the Yangtze River valley. This river flows 2,900 miles eastward emptying into the East China Sea. Then 1,500 years later, villagers along the *Huang He* (Whon-chee) River (Yellow River) invented rice *terrace farming* (growing crops on steep hills). The Yellow River, named for the yellow silt it carries during flood season, is 3,430 miles long and empties into the Yellow Sea. China's western border is marked by the largest mountain range in the world, the Himalayas, which is the home of six-mile-high Mt. Everest. In the central part of China is the Gobi Desert. These natural protections isolated China from the surrounding countries limiting trade and cultural exchanges.

The people cultivated rice, which is a *staple* (eaten routinely and a dominant food) in the Chinese diet. The farmers adapted to the steep slopes in southern China *terrace farming* (cutting flat places into the sides of hills for farming). This technique took advantage of the warm, wet climate, which is perfect for growing rice, producing tons of rice every year. The poorer people had plenty to eat because the rice was cheap.

THE RISE OF GOVERNMENT & TECHNOLOGY

The first ruler in China was **Yu the Great** who founded the **Xia** (Zee-ha) **Dynasty** (a sequence of ruler from the same family) that ruled from 2070-1600 BCE. "Whoever *controls* the Yellow River controls China,"

said the Great Yu. Yu worked tirelessly to control the yearly flooding of the Yellow River that ruined crops. After 13 years he built a two-tier system of levees, very long, tall, man-made hills built far enough away from the banks of the river to hold flood waters at bay. The levees, much like the Mississippi River levees, finally did control the river. Yu established a hereditary ruling succession system, which became known as a dynasty.

As ruler succeeded ruler in the Xia Dynasty, they became more extravagant and laid a heavy burden (degree of difficulty) on the people. This treatment of the people is why **Tang** from the **Shang Dynasty** led a revolt against the last ruler of the Xia Dynasty. Tang lowered taxes and stopped the *opulent* (expensive) building projects. Tang ruled with great wisdom and the economy expanded. With the relief from financial burden came a flourishing cultural and art boom.

Thus the **Shang Dynasty** ruled China from 1600-2046 BCE. During this period, writing with character symbols developed along with bronze metal works and chariots. Religion became more organized with temples. The Shang rulers used diviners (people who spoke to the gods). However, the same *extravagancies* (expensive living) of Xia Dynasty reoccurred with the Shang Dynasty.

Zhou vs. Zhou: Around 1046 BCE, **King Wu** of the *province* (similar to a state) of Zhou (Jho) rebelled and won against King Zhou of Shang. This win began the **Zhou Dynasty**, which lasted until 226 BCE. Culture, art, and civilization spread under this dynasty. One

example is the refinement of iron metal works. Some of the most significant Chinese philosophers (wisdom lovers, studied values) lived during the Zhou Dynasty. About 500 BCE, Duke Ting appointed **Confucius** the Minister of Crime whose care decreased crime to almost non-existent.

From 221-206 BCE came the rise of the **Qin (chin) Dynasty**, a tiny state that became the most powerful in China. **Ying Zheng**, King of Qin, defeated Zhou forces with iron weapons and chariots using the philosophy "win at any cost." He declared himself **Qin Shi Huangdi** (chin she whon dee) - the Qin, the First Emperor of China. Under his rule, The Great Wall of China was begun to protect them from their enemies to the north. It ran for 3,000 miles from East to West along the northern border. Zheng built an extensive road system like our Interstate system. One was more than 4,500 miles long and 50 feet wide. He commissioned the creation of the Grand Canal in the south, divided up land holdings, and was initially (at first) a fair and just ruler. The Qin Dynasty quickly ceased after his death because of court intrigue (secret plots) and ineptitude (lack of leadership ability).

The **Han Dynasty** (202 BCE - 220 CE) began with **Liu Bang**, a man from a poor farming family. He held fast to Confucius' teachings and ruled wisely. He made Confucianism the official religion of China. During this time, the Silk Road was built. Another leader during this dynasty **Wu Di** formed a vast army, and he had to increase taxes to support it. He also developed a *Civil Service* that took care of daily government tasks. The Civil Service stemmed from the belief that jobs should be based on merit and not on birthright, referred to as a *meritocracy*.

WIDE SPREAD INNOVATION

From the beginning, the Chinese people were very innovative. During the Xia Dynasty, beer-making developed. They invented a water clock in which water slowly dripped on a dial that made one revolution in twenty-four hours. Around 5000 BCE they discovered a way to harvest silk produced by silkworms to use in paper and clothing. The Silk Road, built more than 2,000 years ago for silk trade, became a path for culture, economic, and technology exchanges with other countries.

During the Zhou Dynasty, iron smelting (extracting

metal by melting) advanced by melting pig-iron to make many tools. This new technique led to making steel by combining iron and carbon with other elements for buildings. The Shang Dynasty artists created porcelain (special ceramic). Porcelain dishes are often referred to as china because this process began in China. Other inventions from China are gunpowder, the compass, and woodblock printing that led to movable type printing. They used gunpowder in their fireworks and to fend off their enemies from the North. The compass made land and sea travel more accurate.

An extraordinary medical development around 5000 BCE was brain surgery, the drilling of holes in the skull to reduce brain swelling after head trauma. Some scholars suggest the medical procedure was to obtain bone discs for protection from demons associated with illness and disease. The *Yellow Emperor's Canon of Internal Medicine* was codified (arranged in a system) during the Han Dynasty. This book was so important that it has been translated and printed since that time. You can purchase a copy of it today.

SHIFTS IN SPIRITUAL FOCUS

In the beginning, while China was still without unified leadership, the people worshiped many gods. Shangti was the chief god. He presided over war, weather, good government, and agriculture. However, the Chinese people began ancestor worship in addition to Shangti. They believed that when people died, they received divine powers to help the living. Much like the Egyptians, they filled tombs with everything needed for luxurious afterlives. For example, Qin Shi Huangdi became obsessed with death and afterlife, so he built a considerable palace tomb furnished with 8,000 ceramic warriors equipped with real weapons, commanders, chariots, and birds and animals.

The Zhou Dynasty spread a popular belief called the *Mandate of Heaven*, which was "God's blessing on a ruler and rule mandated by Heaven." When the government went against the will of the gods, it could be overthrown.

Confucius, the great philosopher, was only three years old when his father passed away at age 73. The family needed money to survive, so Confucius worked every day after school. He believed the secret to learning was asking questions. His ideas revolve around *li* (person's place in society) and *jen* (the conscience). His teachings focused on respect and social peace. His ideas greatly influenced China until Communism took over in 1949.

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HISTORICAL SNAPSHOT

ANCIENT CHINA CLOSE READING INVESTIGATION ANALYSIS

Complete the following questions by using the reading, *Historical Snapshot: Ancient China Close Reading Investigation*.

1. List the section subheading(s) where you can find the following key concepts for social science:

Geography: _____ Religion: _____

Achievements: _____

Economy: _____

Leadership: _____

2. **Achievements:** Write an excerpt from the reading that explains what achievement Yu the Great did, and why. Use quotation marks. _____

3. **Achievements:** Sketch four inventions of the Chinese that are still used today.

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4. **Leadership/Economy:** Select a portion of text that best supports the Shang rebellion was good for China. Write it in quotation marks. _____

5. **Geography:** Why was the Great Wall so important to the Chinese?

6. **Religion:** Which emperor made Confucianism the national religion? Why was this positive for China?

7. **Achievements:** Who was Ying Zheng? What did he do that boosted China's economy?

8. **Achievements:** What was the extraordinary medical development? How was it used?

9. **Vocabulary:** What is the definition of *terrace farming*? Where is it practiced in China and why?

10. **Vocabulary:** Explain the meaning of *philosophers* in the sentence, "Some of the greatest Chinese philosophers lived during the Zhou Dynasty." Who was one?



The Aryan Invasion

A group of warrior nomads, the Aryans, began to migrate into the Indus Valley region from Europe around the time that the Harappan Civilization began to decline. Scholars disagree about whether the Aryans overtook the Harappan Civilization by force or simply moved in and coexisted with them during their decline. Regardless, the nomadic Aryans were predominately a cattle breeding society, and they learned how to live as settled agriculturists from the remaining Harappan people.

Therefore, the Aryans absorbed remnants of the Harappan Civilization and integrated them into their own culture to form the **Vedic** culture. Since the Indus Valley Civilization left no written records, the nature of the transition from the Harappan culture to the resulting Vedic culture is that much more a mystery.

Many scholars agree that the Aryans were a conquering people when they first spread into India. Slowly, they mixed with the **indigenous** Harappan culture. It is believed that the Aryans were a fierce and conquering people whose culture was oriented around warfare. Their religion also reflected their culture, as it was dominated by warring storm-gods and sky-gods. This warlike nature was preserved in the Rig Veda, the oldest of the Vedas or collection of Hindu prayers and hymns passed down by the Aryans.

In the "Rig Veda," its strictly described society was to be organized. The Indian people were divided into specific classes known as "castes." Your caste was determined upon your birth, and there was no way to change your caste. This became the basis for the socially stratified caste system. The Aryans used this myth to **subjugate** the darker-skinned people they conquered (the Harappans). Further, the Aryans saw themselves as superiors to the people they conquered as evidenced in the Indo-European root word of their name, "ar", meaning "noble" or "superior".

<p>1.) Where did the Aryan people originate from?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. They originated in India b. They sailed from Africa c. They came from Europe d. Aryans came from China 	<p>2.) Which of the following words most nearly means "subjugate?"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. free b. liberate c. crush d. conquer 	<p>3.) Which of the following words best describes Aryan-culture?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Peaceful b. Warlike c. Caste d. Noble
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4.) What are THREE details that explain how the caste system functions: _____
