

In the Beginning



There was man?

A large, leafy tree with a thick trunk and a wide, spreading canopy of green leaves. The tree is set against a clear blue sky. The foreground shows a grassy field with some dry, brownish vegetation. The overall scene is bright and clear.

Archeology-

The study of prehistoric people and their cultures

Anthropology-

The study of origins and social relationships of human beings

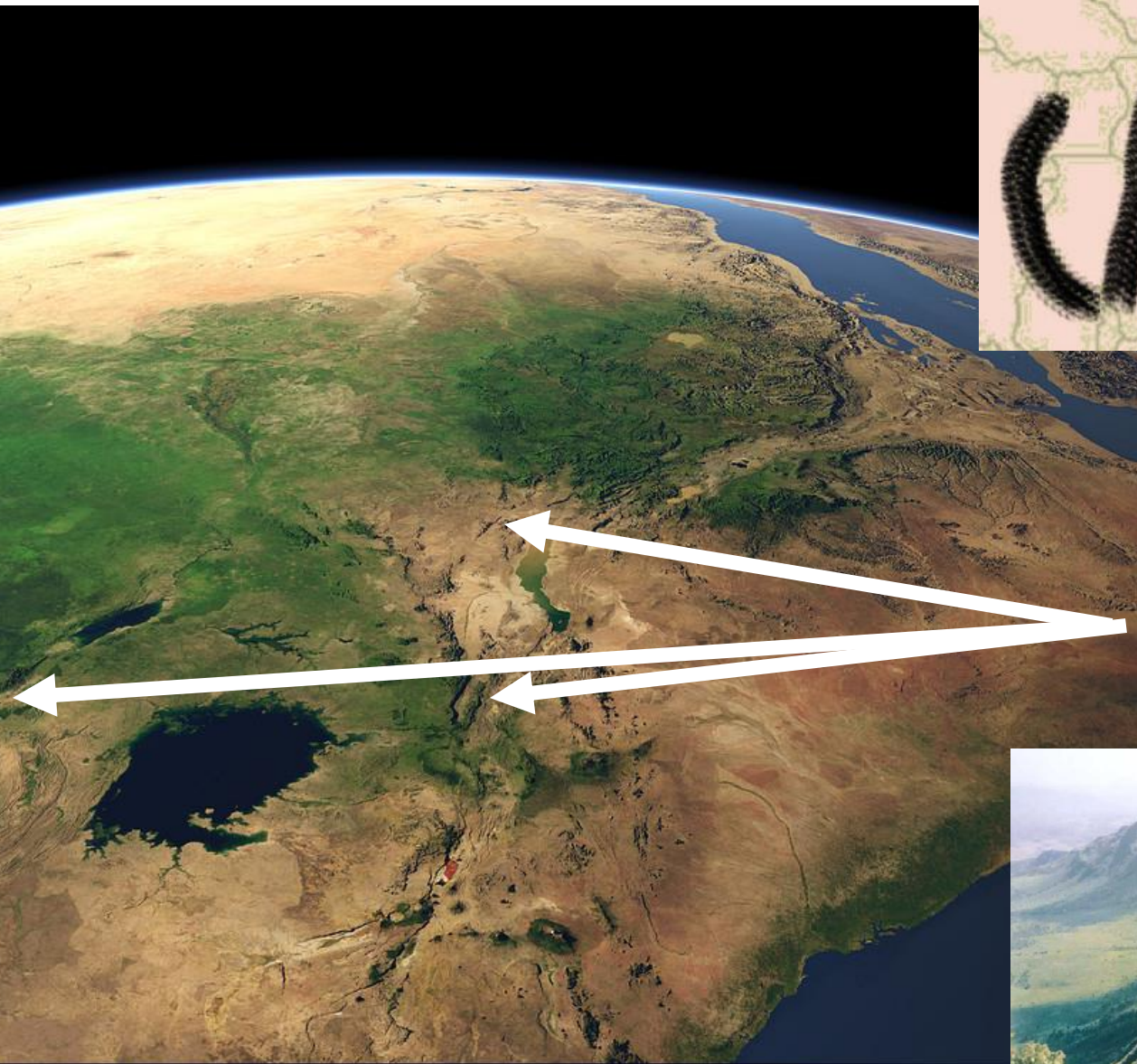
Economics-

The study of production, consumption, and transfer of wealth

Sociology-

The study of human societies

The Great Rift Valley



Home?



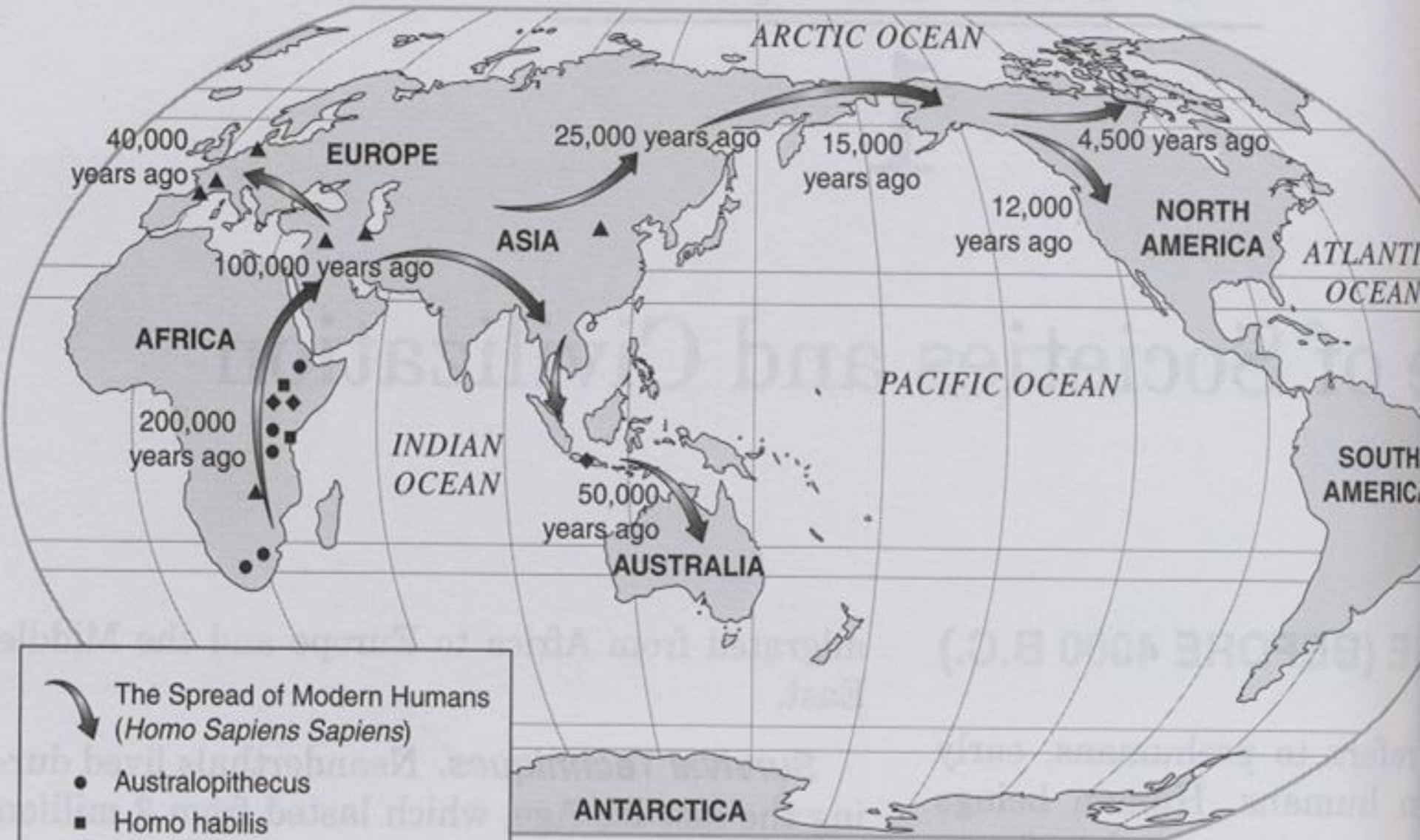
Follow the clues



Migration of Homo sapiens



Sites of Prehistoric Peoples and Spread of Modern Humans



↪ The Spread of Modern Humans
(*Homo Sapiens Sapiens*)

- Australopithecus
- Homo habilis
- ◆ Homo erectus
- ▲ Homo sapiens

The Stone Age

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graph TD; A[The Stone Age] --> B[Paleolithic Age]; A --> C[Mesolithic Age]; A --> D[Neolithic Age]; B --- B1[Old Stone Age  
2.5 million-  
10,000 B.C.]; C --- C1[Middle Stone  
Age 10,000-  
8000 B.C.]; D --- D1[New Stone Age  
8000- 3000 B.C.]
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Paleolithic Age

Mesolithic Age

Neolithic Age

Old Stone Age
2.5 million-
10,000 B.C.

Middle Stone
Age 10,000-
8000 B.C.

New Stone Age
8000- 3000 B.C.

Paleolithic (Old Stone Age)

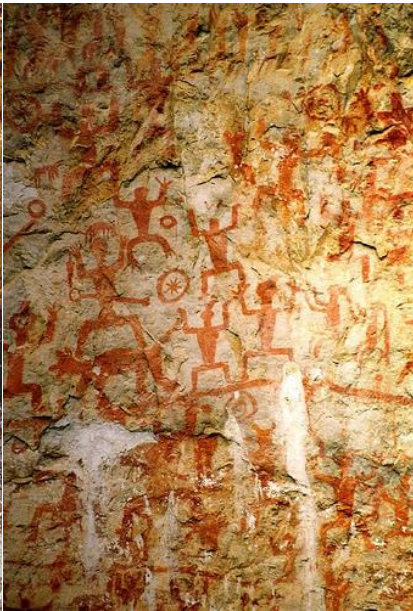
2.5 mil BC to 8000 BC

Hunter-Gathers (nomads) who moved around looking for food

- *invented tools*
- *developed language*
- *mastered use of fire*
- *created drawings and paintings on cave walls*



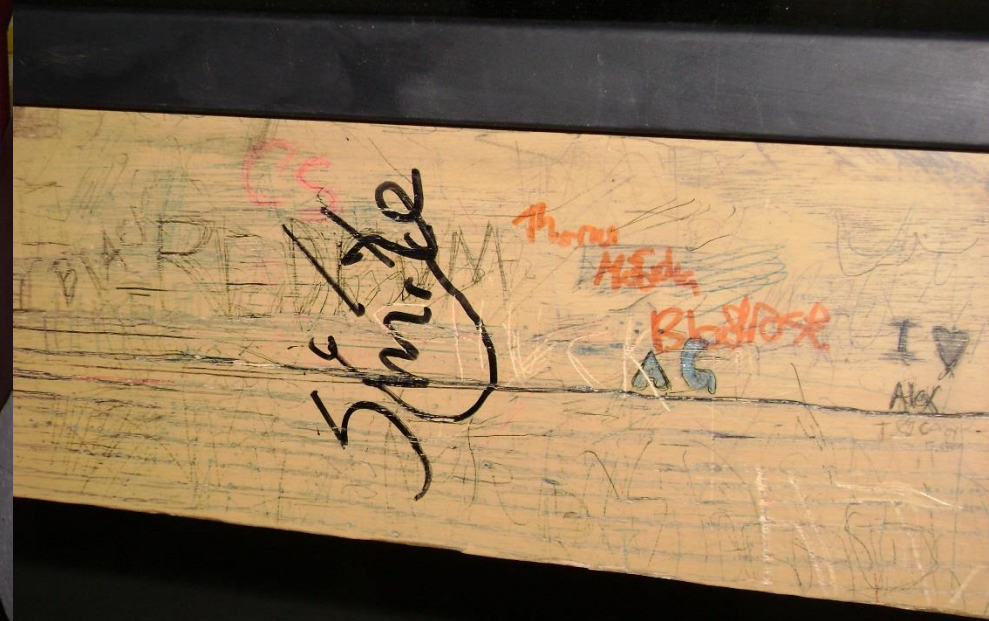
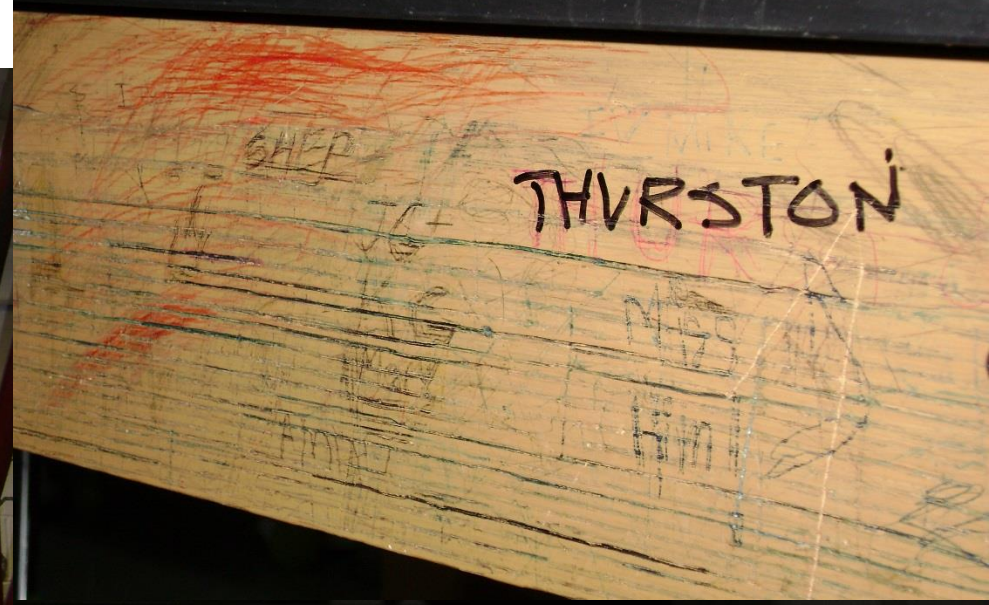
Cave Drawings



High School Graffiti: Our “Cave Paintings”



High School Graffiti



The World's Biggest Graffiti Board: Berlin Wall

© Ilka Hartmann 2006

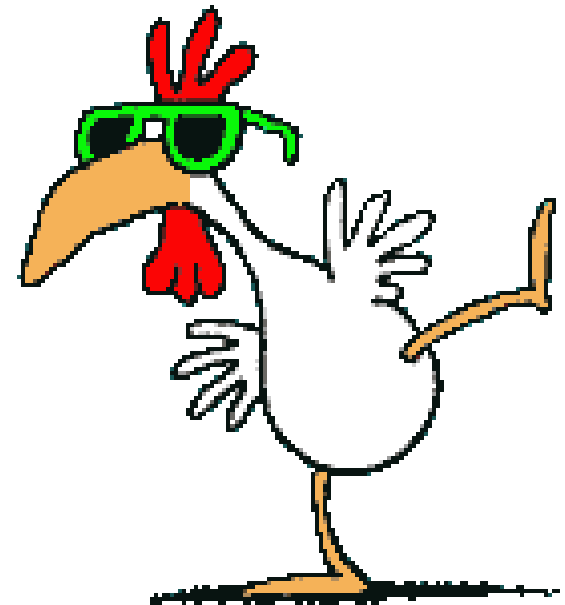


Neolithic Age (New Stone Age)

8000 BC to 3000 BC

Causes

- 1. Change in climate (Ice Age ended)*
- 2. Surplus food supports larger population*
- 3. farming provides steady source of food*



Neolithic Age (New Stone Age)

Characteristics

a. Polished stone tools

b. made pottery

c. grew crops instead of foraging for food

d. domesticated animals



Neolithic Age (New Stone Age)

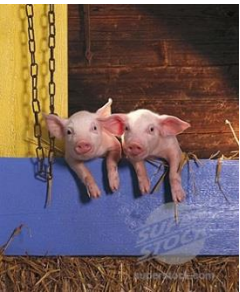
Early Farming Methods

- 1. cut trees, cleared & burned off fields etc.*
- 2. farmed fields for a year or two, then moved on*



C. Domestication of Animals

- 1. tamed horses, dogs, goats, sheep, pigs, etc.*
- 2. Nomads also tamed camels, sheep, goats, etc.*



Villages Grow and Prosper

Farming developed in many places:

- *Africa*
- *China*
- *Central America*
- *South America*



Villages Grow and Prosper



+ Benefits of Farming

- *Steady source of food*
- *frees people to specialize in jobs*
- *stationary*
- *animals can do some of the work*

- Drawbacks of Farming

- *tied to one spot*
- *unreliable weather (**drought, etc.**)*
- *threat of attack (**must fortify**)*

Civilization

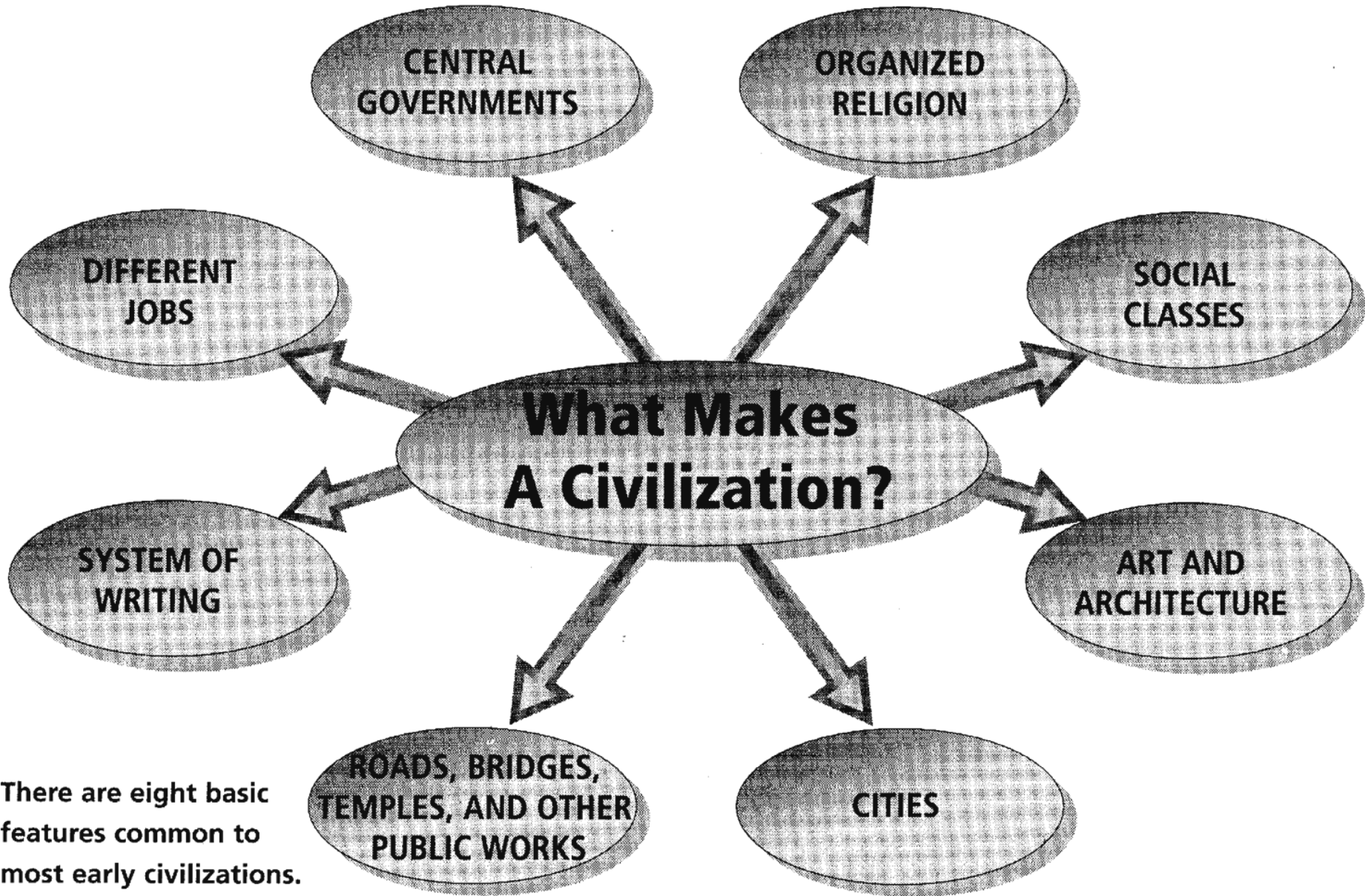
Villages Grow into Cities: *crop yields improved (due to better farming methods) allowing towns to support greater populations requiring more complex social relationships.*

Economic Changes

- 1. *better irrigation = larger crops*
- 2. *more food freed some villagers from farming*
- 3. *people had time to learn crafts & manufactured trade objects (pottery, metal work, etc)*
- 4. *the wheel and the sail allowed trade of craftwork with other villages (cultural diffusion)*

Social Changes

- 1. *large irrigation projects required cooperation & organization*
- 2. *social classes began to emerge*
- 3. *organized religions developed*



There are eight basic features common to most early civilizations.