

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

LT: I can understand what is expected of me in this project.

## *Classical Civilizations Learning Menu Project*

*The Civilization I am focusing on is* \_\_\_\_\_

Unit 7 focuses on Threshold 7: agriculture. Big History considers agriculture to be a threshold because it allowed complex civilization to flourish. Farming and domesticated animals allowed us to create a food surplus, and we no longer needed to focus all of our time and energy into hunting/gathering enough food.

All around the world, complex, sophisticated civilizations emerged. These civilizations all developed cities, governments, religions, social orders, jobs, art, language, and advanced technology. But that's where the similarities end. Every civilization was impressive and memorable in different ways.

In this project, you will choose one of the eight classical civilizations we've looked at, and you will become an expert on it. It's up to you to figure out why your civilization is memorable and important. This project is called a "learning menu" because it has 3 parts to it: an appetizer, main course, and dessert, and you'll have a choice from a few different options. Later, it will be up to you to teach other students about what you've learned.

### **Appetizer**

**Due** \_\_\_\_\_

You must complete ALL of the following:

- Map of your civilization's region
- 8 Features of Civilization chart
- Flashcards of key terms and concepts

### **Main Course**

**(Preview– do not begin this section yet)**

You must complete ONE of the following:

- Create a photo album of your civilization's art/architecture (this may include writing systems) Give specific examples of how it demonstrates your civilization's belief systems or government.
- Create a model or diorama of the region's geography. It should answer the following questions: How did humans modify the environment to fit their activities, and how were human activities influenced by the environment of the region?
- Create a museum exhibit. There should be at least 3 items in it, and each should have a 1-paragraph card describing its importance to the civilization.

### **Dessert**

**(Preview– do not begin this section yet)**

You must complete ONE of the following:

- Create a campaign video for your civilization. Evaluate how citizens perceived the principles of liberty and equality then and now.
- Create a comic book of the rise, prosperity, and fall of your civilization.
- Create a rap battle or song. At least two perspectives should be represented. Explain your society's major belief system/government and how it either unified or divided people.

## **Appetizer Criteria and Grading** (These will be entered as homework grades)

### **1. Map**

Use the atlas, a textbook, info from the internet to help you complete the map. A full-credit map includes:

- Map is accurate, neat, and easy to read.
- Civilization's territory is clearly shaded, and major cities are labeled
- Physical features (mountains, rivers, deserts, etc) are clearly labeled
- Information about the domesticated crops and animals they had is included (either written or drawn on the side/back)

**Total Points** \_\_\_\_\_/5

**Comments:**

Tip: make a list of what you want to include before you begin

### **2. 8 Features of Civilization Chart**

Use the textbook, the handouts, and info from the internet to help you complete the chart. A full-credit chart includes:

- Chart is accurate, complete, and in your own words
- Unknown/important terms/concepts are explained (example: If you write that Rome's government was a republic, you also write down what a republic is)
- Main ideas are supported with key details. (example: if you write that Egyptians developed a lot of advanced technology to take advantage of the Nile's flooding, then key details might be examples of those inventions)

**Total Points** \_\_\_\_\_/5

**Comments:**

Tip: Take notes on loose leaf first, then go through and organize the info into the 8 features chart.

### **3. Flashcards**

By now you should have a solid set of notes. Use your notes, the handouts, textbooks, and and info from the internet to help you complete the flashcards. A full-credit set of flashcards includes:

- 15-20 flashcards with a question and answer on each one.
- Information is accurate and in your own words
- Flashcards focus on important information, not random details. (Example of important information: Why was Hinduism both good and bad for the Gupta Empire? Example of random detail: Vamana is the Hindu god of \_\_\_\_\_."

**Total Points** \_\_\_\_\_/5

**Comments:**

Tip: Write your questions and answers on a sheet of paper before making the flash cards.