6.2: Classical Empires Museum Scavenger Hunt

**Directions:** Explore the various Classical Empire exhibits to answer all of the questions below. This information should help with details and organization of the major ideas, but it is not intended to replace textbook readings or information asked of you on the unit study guide. You can visit the exhibits in any order. Good luck!

**PERSIAN EMPIRE**

1. The Persian Empire began in __________ and was founded in the town of _______________________________.

2. How are Darius the Great and Xerxes related?

3. The capital of the Persian Empire was at ___________________________.

4. What are satrapies and satraps? What did they do?

5. Describe the events that took place during the Persian War (i.e.: which empires fought, where it was fought, who won and how they won).

6. What was name of the primary route of commerce for the Persians that linked the provinces together?

7. What goods were imported or exported along this primary route of commerce? Who bought these goods?

8. ___ T/F: The Persian government standardized weights and measures in order to promote ease of commerce.

9. Identify the members of the lower, middle, and upper classes of the Persian Empire.

10. What is a qanat? What other intellectual ideas did the Persians ‘discover’?

11. Who conquered the Persian Empire in 330 BCE?
HAN EMPIRE

1. How did Emperor Gao Zu (previously known as Liu Bang) become emperor of the Han Dynasty?

3. The capital city of the Han Empire was at ______________________ and the empire was divided into provinces.

4. Wudi (sometimes called Wu Ti) was the sixth Han emperor (r. 140-87 B.C.E.). Why was he so respected?

5. What was the Civil Service Exam and how did it change the nature of the government? Why was it unique?

6. What new agricultural technologies were developed to grow rice, and what were the benefits?

7. What social group was the largest? Why? (Why wasn’t it merchants?)

8. What was a woman’s rightful duty in Chinese society during the Han Dynasty? What influenced this?

9. Coins in the Han Empire were made out of ________________________. Why?

10. Identify the people placed in the upper class, lower class, and mean class (hint: mean ≠ middle).

11. In combination with internal family fighting, which nomadic group invaded and ended the Han Empire?

GREEK EMPIRE

1. Which emperor ruled during the Golden Age (c. 461-429 B.C.E.)?

2. ________________ was a city-state that sat atop the acropolis with the marketplace and a surrounding agora.

3. Which city-state conquered the lower half of the Peloponnese Peninsula?

4. What were helots?
5. ____ T/F: Greek city-states taxed their citizens during good times and heavier in times of need.

6. Describe the military requirements of the ancient Spartans – include women’s role in the military too.

7. For Athens and Sparta, identify the members that made up the executive and legislative functions of government.

   **ATHENS:**
   - Executive:
   - Legislative:

   **SPARTA:**
   - Executive: -5 Euphors (oligarchy)
   - Legislative: -men over 60 in Council of Elders

8. What were hoplites? Describe their characteristics.

9. What were coins made out of in ancient Greece? How were they valued?

10. What was the difference in social status between citizens and resident aliens?

11. ____ T/F: Greece has abundant land on which to farm.

12. Which ethnic group/person led an invasion of Athens in 322 BCE, ultimately collapsing the Greek Empire?

**ROMAN EMPIRE**

1. Which three people were in the First Triumvirate? Who became the dictator from this group?

2. How did Caesar die?

3. Which leader was also known as Augustus, or “the revered one”? What was his reign like?

4. The term *Pax Romana* means __________________________ and existed in the years ________________________.

5. What myth did Romans use to explain the establishment of the city of Rome?

6. The Punic Wars were fought between the Romans and the people of ________________________, led by Hannibal.

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7. What was the name of the first uniform law code, adopted in 450 B.C.E., for Classical Rome? Why is it unique?

8. Later the law code for #9 was ineffective and was replaced with the __________________________.

9. What was the name for the head of the household in the Roman Empire? What were his duties?

10. Which occupation was performed by the largest group of people in the Roman Empire?

11. At what age were daughters and sons married off, respectively? Why was there an age difference?

12. Name at least 3 reasons for the decline of the Roman Empire:

13. Historians agree that the fall of the Roman Empire is marked in _______ C.E. (well, the Western part anyway)

14. Compared to other empires of the Classical era, why did the Romans have the fewest technological advances?

ALL CLASSICAL EMPIRES

1. Which empire had scholar-gentry in its upper class?

2. Which empire had a city-state with women who took lead over the household while the men spent decades living in the barracks? What does this say about women’s status in that city-state?

3. Why were the first currencies coins rather than paper money?

4. T/F: All of the Classical Empires had highly centralized governments?

5. T/F: All of the Classical Empires had extensive bureaucracies to help the emperor or king manage the empire.

6. Although the Royal Road was unique to the Persian Empire, what other land-based route encouraged extensive trade?

7. What did the governments of Classical empires do if there were years of bad harvests? Give an example.

8. Compared with the Foundational Civilizations, the Classical era states had large, central cities. What were the purposes of these cities?