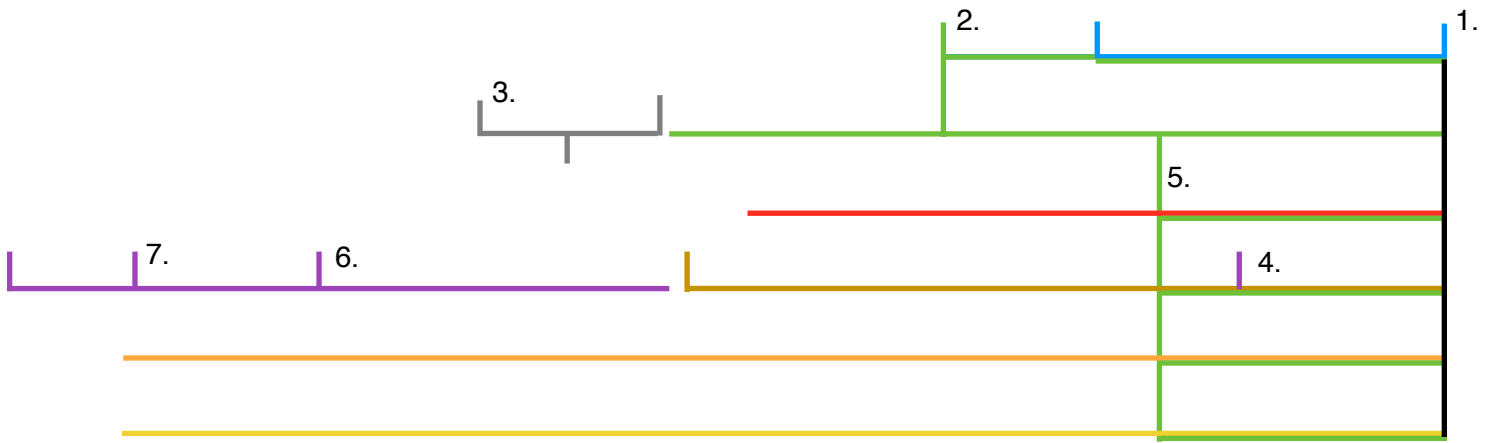


Part 1: The Anchor Fact Timeline of Ancient History

Write a brief description (in a complete sentence) of the key event indicated on the anchor fact timeline, including the date it occurred if it is not given.



1. We are here, in 2015 AD! This world we live in, today, is the way that it is because of human history — all the way back to ancient times. **(2 pts: 1 for event and significance; 1 for the date)**
2. Christopher Columbus discovers America in 1492, bringing European culture and its knowledge of ancient history to the Americas. **(2 pts)**
3. Rome became the first republic c.509 BC and Athens became the first democracy c.508 BC, establishing the classical examples upon which modern government is based. **(2 pts)**
4. 1922 - The intact tomb of King Tut is discovered by Howard Carter, leading to new interest in archaic Egypt in modern society. **(1 pt)**
5. (Following Napoleon’s conquest of Egypt in 1798) The Rosetta Stone is discovered in Egypt in 1799 AD, leading to the decipherment of hieroglyphs (by Jean-Francois Champollion in 1822) and a huge expansion of our knowledge of the ancient past. **(2 pts + 1 bonus point for items in brackets)**
6. c.1700 BC - The code of Hammurabi is created by the Babylonian emperor Hammurabi, showing us what archaic society was like. **(1 pt)**
7. c.2500 BC - The pyramids of Giza are constructed in Egypt creating a permanent symbol of the pharaonic culture to inspire later civilizations to study the history of archaic Egypt. **(1 pt)**

Total Points for this page: 11 points

Part 2: Archaic Egypt

8. What were the pyramids of ancient Egypt? What do they tell us about the beliefs of the Egyptians?

The pyramids of ancient Egypt were tombs for the pharaohs (the monarchs of all Egypt) and monuments of a colossal scale to represent the power of the pharaohs over Egypt and their connection to the supernatural forces the Egyptians believed in. They show us that the Egyptians believed in an afterlife and that the pharaohs would watch over Egypt from the heavens after death. **(4 pts: 1 pt for tombs; 1 pt for monuments; 1 pt for belief in afterlife; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

9. Explain how Egyptian life was “Nilocentric.”

One could say that Egyptian life was “Nilocentric,” because the Nile was the single most important feature of the natural world in Egypt. It provided water and soil for crops and thus was essential to agricultural life at the archaic level. Even the pharaonic system was Nilocentric in its own way. The government adjusted taxes based on the flooding, lowering taxes if the flood levels were not good for the farmers. **(3 pts: 1 pt for crops; 1 pt for taxes; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

10. Why are Pepy II and Montuhotep II important pharaohs?

Pepy II is an important pharaoh, because he was the pharaoh both as a child and a frail old man. This means he could not rule effectively as a god-king, and others necessarily would have controlled the kingdom in his stead. This contributed to the decline of the “god-king” concept and the end of the Age of Pyramids, which is the single most characteristic aspect of Egyptian culture. Montuhotep II, a former Vizier, is important in connection to this historical transformation because he re-unified Egypt after the Age of Pyramids fell apart and he was the first pharaoh to build a new kind of (rock-cut) tomb. This signaled the abandonment of the myth of the god-kings in favor of a more basic, practical form of kingship. **(4 pts: 1 pt for Pepy’s reign; 1 pt for connection to the Age of the Pyramids; 1 pt for Montuhotep’s and his tomb; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Total Points for this page: 11 points

11. Why is Tutankhaten an *important* but *not* famous pharaoh's name?

Tutankhaten is an important pharaoh's name because it is the name of a pharaoh who was the son of Akhenaten, who tried to change the Egyptian religion. This is one of the few significant episodes in the religious history of Egypt where the culture might have radically changed. Tutankhaten is not a *famous* pharaoh name, however, because it was changed to Tutankhamen, and when his tomb was discovered in 1922, making him the most famous pharaoh in Egyptian history, he was known by second version of his name: Tutankhamen. **(4 pts: 1 pt for religious change; 1 pt for name change; 1 pt for discovery/fame; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Part 3: Archaic Mesopotamia & Persia

12. Why did ancient Mesopotamian culture disappear? How was its history revived?

Ancient Mesopotamian culture disappeared primarily because it was completely swept aside by the dramatic rise of Islam c.622 AD. Islamic culture is focused on a religious triumph that denies the value of pre-Islamic cultures, thus the people of the region abandoned their connection to the ancient past. To some extent, the connection was lost also because the colossal engineering works of the ancients in Mesopotamia did not last. The Ziggurats were built of mud brick, which did not stand the test of time. The story of the ancient Mesopotamians was revived nonetheless, by European historians, following the decipherment of the Behistun Inscription, a great carving on a mountainside in Persia that has cuneiform writing in three ancient Mesopotamian languages. The Behistun Inscription is the Rosetta Stone of Assyriology, because it allowed historians to decipher the history of Mesopotamia. **(5 pts: 2 pts for Islam and Ziggurats; 2 pts for Europeans and Behistun; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

13. What does "Mesopotamia" mean? Why is its history called "Assyriology"?

Mesopotamia means "the land between the rivers." The history of the region is called Assyriology, because the Assyrian empire was the most well-known empire in the ancient history of the region when Europeans began to study it, in part because of connections between the Biblical traditions of Christianity and Assyrian and later empires. **(3 pts: 1 pt for land between rivers; 1 pt for Assyrian notoriety; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Total Points for this page: 12 points

14. What was the Code of Hammurabi? Why is it an “anchor fact” of history?

The Code of Hammurabi was a code of Laws established for the Babylonian empire by its ruler Hammurabi. Its most recognizable tenet was “an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth”—which means, punishments would be equal to the crime. This code is an anchor fact of history because it shows us the brutal nature of archaic law and human life in the absence of individual rights such as are integral to modern law. Having such an anchor is crucial to better understanding and appreciating the values we have today in modern civilization. **(4 pts: 1 pt for historical description; 1 pt for meaning of the code; 1 pt for anchor fact reasoning; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

15. What was the Persian formula for empire?

The Persian emperors had many techniques for building a successful empire. First, they had a strong army, which was always key to achieving wide scale conquests. But they had other methods to bolster this basic strength. Most notably, they let conquered people keep their religions. This was designed to take away one of the most common causes for rebellions. Also, the emperors employed satraps who worked with local leaders to govern conquered areas, spies called the King’s Ear to watch over them, and others called the King’s Eye to watch them both! This close monitoring of officials kept them loyal. In connection with this, they also built a system of roads to connect the parts of the empire to make sure they were always appraised of what was happening in the empire. **(4 pts: 3 pts for three of the elements of the method; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Total Points for this page: 8 points

Part 4: BONUS

16. What device was used to determine the level of taxes in ancient Egypt?

Nilometer **(0.5 bonus pts)**

17. What were local rulers called in ancient Egypt?

nomarchs **(0.5 bonus pts)**

18. What were the giant structures of Mesopotamia and Persia called?

ziggurats **(0.5 bonus pts)**

Total bonus points (including question 5) on Test: 2.5 points

Total Points on Test: 42 points