

Part 1: The Anchor Fact Timeline of Ancient History

Write a brief description (in a complete sentence) of the key event occurring at the date indicated on the anchor fact timeline.



- 1. 2015/16 - We are here! This world we live in, today, is the way that it is because of human history — all the way back to ancient times. (1 pt)
- 2. 1776 AD - The Founding Father signs the Declaration of Independence, giving birth to the United States of America, a modern republic based on classical examples. (1 pt)
- 3. 1492 AD - Christopher Columbus discovers America, brining Europe and its knowledge of ancient history to the Americas. (1 pt)
- 4. c.509/c.508 BC - Roman became the first republic and Athens became the first democracy, establishing the classical examples upon which modern government is based. (1 pt)
- 5. 1922 - The intact tomb of King Tut is discovered by Howard Carter, leading to new interest in archaic Egypt in modern society. (1 pt)
- 6. 1799 - The Rosetta Stone is discovered in Egypt, leading to the decipherment of hieroglyphs and a huge expansion of our knowledge of the ancient past. (1 pt)
- 7. c.1700 BC - The code of Hammurabi is created by the Babylonian emperor Hammurabi, showing us what archaic society was like. (1 pt)
- 8. 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: 8 points

Part 2: Archaic Egypt

9. 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 and monuments to represent the power of the pharaohs over Egypt. 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)**

10. What was the importance of the Nile to Egyptian life? How did it especially affect the Egyptian government?

The Nile was the single most important feature of the natural world in Egypt. It provided water and soil for crops. The Nile affected the government, because it would lower 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)**

11. Why are Pepy II and Montuhotep II important pharaohs? (What do their reigns tell us about important changes to Egyptian life?)

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, and other took power. This led to the end of the Age of Pyramids. Montuhotep II is important 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. **(3 pts: 1 pt for Pepy; 1 pt for Montuhotep; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

12. 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. 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)**

Total Points for this page: 14 points

Part 3: Archaic Mesopotamia & Persia

13. What is the Behistun Inscription? Why is it important to Mesopotamian history?

The Behistun Inscription is 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. **(3 pts: 1 pt trilingual carving; 1 pt for decipherment; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

14. 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. **(3 pts: 1 pt for land between rivers; 1 pt for Assyrian notoriety; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

15. What did the Code of Hammurabi basically say? What key idea did the Persians add to the Babylonian kind of rules in archaic life that helped the Persian Empire be more successful than the Babylonian Empire?

The Code of Hammurabi basically said “an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth”—which means, punishments would be equal to the crime. The Persians improved on the usual archaic way of organizing life by allowing conquered people to keep their religion. **(3 pts: 1 pt for meaning of the code; 1 pt for religious toleration; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Total Points for this page: 9 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 Mesopotamia?

patesis **(0.5 bonus pts)**

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

ziggurats **(0.5 bonus pts)**

Total bonus points on Test: 1.5 points
Total Points on Test: 31 points