



Characteristics of Civilization

What classifies a
settlement as a
civilization.

Intro:

- Historians, anthropologists, and other scholars have identified several core characteristics of civilization.



1: Urban Centers

- Urban centers, of course, would include cities or villages throughout the territory occupied by a civilization.



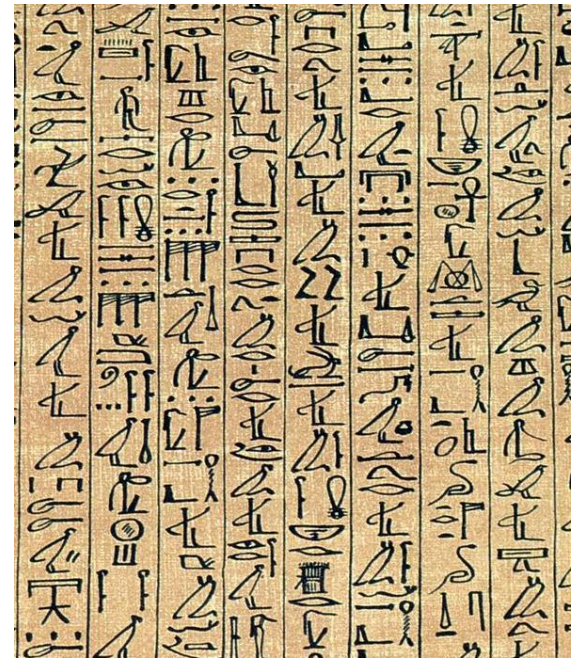
2: Agricultural Manipulation and storage



- Agricultural manipulation and storage is important because it allows people to ensure their future livelihood, rather than just scrounge for food on a day-by-day basis.
- This would include **Irrigation**. **Irrigation** allows for the growth of crops, and in some cases, clean drinking water and even plumbing.

3: Written Language

- Written language unites a people, and allows them to communicate ideas with one another.



4: System of Measurement

- A common system of measurements means that two people understand the same quantity of an object, distance, etc...

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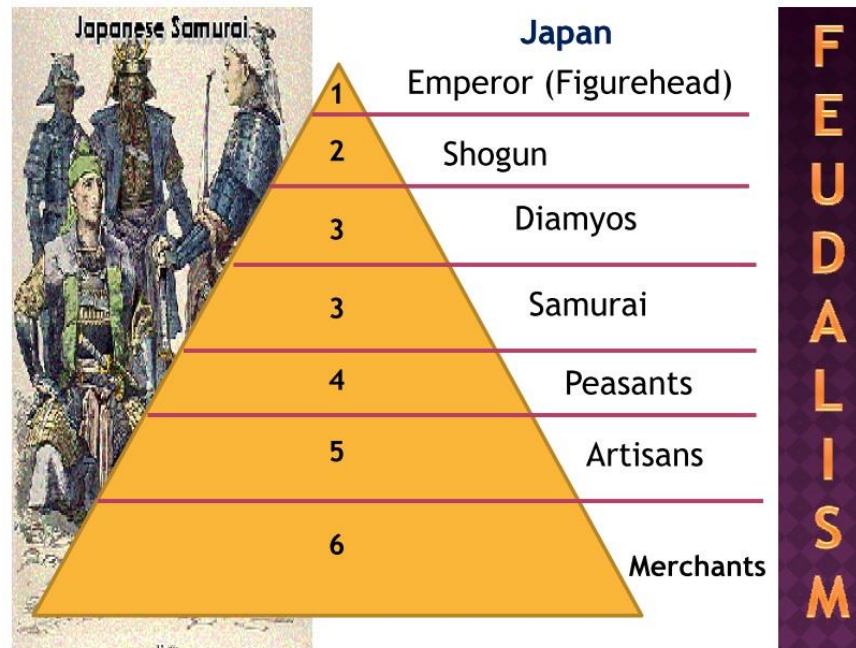
5: Technology/ Craftsmanship

- Craftsmanship technology allows for the building of complex structures, tools, and art.



6: Social Stratification

- Social stratification is a fancy way of saying different classes of people: rulers, laborers, slaves, etc...



7: State Government

- State government refers to a common legal system of political authority.

8: Religion and Ideology

- Religion and ideology refer to what a people group believes about God, gods, and/or the way the world works.

9: Culture

- culture refers to the way of life among a particular group of people
- A people's unique way of life--all of its forms of creative expression and entertainment
- This could look like – art, food, clothing, architecture, education

Assignment:

- After the quick overview of all the 10 Characteristics of Civilization
- **Choose** one of the following civilizations:
 - **Mesopotamia – chapter 3**
 - **Egypt – chapter 5**
 - **China – chapter 18**
 - **Japan – chapter 20**