

# Working All Together: Civilization

Sophie Rosen

# Lesson One

Before we begin learning,  
we need to  
ask questions:

# Question 1:

What kind of questions  
may we ask  
when we study history?

# Religion

asks questions  
that are answered  
by faith and  
celebrated by liturgy.

# Science

asks questions  
that can be answered  
by conducting experiments.

**Philosophy**  
asks questions  
that require deep thought  
but do not provide  
definitive answers.

# History

asks questions  
that can be answered  
by reliable sources.



## Question Two:

What are reliable sources?

How can we trust  
what we are taught?

# Choose reputable sources of information.

- World Book Online
- nonfiction books by reputable publishers
  - textbooks by reputable publishers

Reputable = a good reputation for telling the truth and not leaving out important facts that would change how we view a situation or event.

# Check the credentials of authors.

*What reason do you have for believing the authors know their topic?*

A university education

Extended experience

Other reputable books they have written

Recommendations from reliable sources

Awards and honours

# Some sources aren't reliable.

Wikipedia contains a disclaimer, saying researchers should not trust that their information is accurate, saying researchers should check other sources to verify their information. So, Wikipedia may be useful if it is not important if the information is true.

But all sources reflect their  
own world view.

World view = a religious and  
philosophical world view that  
affects how people see the world

So, as we learn  
about civilization  
we will always  
stop and check  
our sources  
of information.

# Pause and consider:

- Have you ever been disappointed by someone who was not reliable?
- What are the signs you watch for to decide if you can trust someone?
- What is your own world view?

# Lesson Two



# Let's review:

- Science asks questions that can be answered with \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Religion asks questions that are answered by \_\_\_\_\_ and celebrated with \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Philosophy asks questions that require deep \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_ be answered \_\_\_\_\_.
- History asks questions that can be answered by \_\_\_\_\_ sources.

# More review:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Online is a  
\_\_\_\_\_ source of information.
- All sources of information portray a  
\_\_\_\_\_ view that shows a  
fundamental outlook on life.  
\_\_\_\_\_ for it!

# Why do we study history?

1. To remember notable people from the past
2. To remember great achievements from the past
3. To discover the causes and consequences of disagreements between people

Herodotus said this 2400 years ago!

# What is civilization?

- an organized group of people that lives in a certain area and shares both a common culture and a sense of safety

# What is culture?

- Let's look at World Book Online:

Kottak, Conrad Phillip. "Culture." *World Book Student*. World Book, 2014. Web. 13 Oct. 2014.

- Let's look at a book by Crabtree Publishing, a reputable source of informational books for students of various ages:

Kalman, Bobbie. What is Culture? New York: Crabtree Pub., 2009.

# Culture...

- is a word that means the 'way of life' of a group of people
- includes food and clothing, customs and values, inventions and technology
- describes how people in a group behave in similar ways and have similar world views
- creates a sense of belonging among people
- has to be learned by children and newcomers

# Culture includes customs.

- What can you tell about people by how they dress?
- What can you tell about people by their favourite music?
- What can you tell about people by the food they eat?
- What can you tell about people by the occasions they celebrate?

# Cultures use symbols.

- **Flags**  
Canada: maple leaf  
U.S.A.: stars and stripes
- **Greetings**  
Canada: shaking hands  
S. Korea: bowing
- **Colours**  
China: white = mourning  
Canada: black = mourning
- **Important Holidays**  
American Thanksgiving  
Canadian Christmas



# Culture creates a feeling of safety.

- New inventions can change a culture.
- Change can threaten a feeling of safety.
- Contact with other cultures can change a culture.
- Change can threaten a feeling of safety.

# Pause and consider:

- What are some symbols of our culture?
- What are some new inventions that threaten people's sense of belonging together in Canada?
- What are some customs from other cultures that threaten people's sense of belonging together in Canada?
- What civilization do we belong to?

# LESSON THREE

# Some reliable sources

Bentley, Jerry H. "World, History of the." *World Book Student*. World Book, 2014. Web. 14 Oct. 2014.

Manning, Richard. Against the Grain. New York: North Point Press, 2004.

Swedlund, Alan. "Races, Human." *World Book Student*. World Book, 2014. Web. 14 Oct. 2014.

# Do all people belong together?

- Anthropologists believe that people have probably been on earth for about 2 million years.
- They believe that people originated in Africa and spread out from there.

# Why does skin colour vary?

- The environment encourages changes that help survival.
- Darker skin protects from the harsh equatorial sun. Lighter skin helps enables more absorption of Vitamin D in areas nearer the poles.
- So, people started with darker skin and developed lighter skin as they migrated further from Africa.

# Why do other features vary?

- The environment encourages changes that help survival.
- Darker-coloured eyes are able to see more easily in bright sunlight.
- Inuit people maintain a high body temperature to burn fat and protein and to keep blood flowing to extremities, necessary in their cold climate.

# How did people spread?

- .Long, long ago in prehistory, the time before there was writing, people started leaving Africa.
- By 100,000 years ago, people had moved into the Middle East and Asia.
- By 45,000 years ago, people had moved to Australia.
- By 40,000 years ago, people had moved to Europe.



# How did people get to N.A.?

- Over 15,000 years ago, some people left Asia and crossed a land bridge from Siberia to North America and then South America.
- During ice ages, sea levels were lower and so people and animals could cross what is now the Bering Sea.

# What about Africa?

- As the climate became warmer and drier, the Sahara became a desert and made it difficult to travel farther south to Africa.
- So, the area south of the Sahara developed a different culture.

# What did people eat?

- For at least 290,000 years, they hunted animals and caught fish.
- Only little over 10,000 years ago, they started farming crops.
- The first crops, grasses or grains, were probably grown in the Middle East.
- Agriculture also started in China, Central and South America.

# What conditions led to agriculture?

- Wheat and barley, grasses, were easy to domesticate in the Middle East.
- Many domesticated plants did well in flood plains such as along the Nile in Egypt and the Indus in Pakistan.
- Sedentism began, people started settling down and staying put near reliable water sources where they could catch fish.

# How did agriculture affect life?

- People did not have to move about so much to find food.
- They could grow more than enough for themselves.
- People could have specialized jobs.
- The first cities developed.
- The oldest known city on earth is still in existence: Jericho!

# How did agriculture create poverty?

- People with more power built pyramids, towers and big walls to demonstrate their power.
- This required many workers and slaves.
- Sedentism led to a poorer diet for the poorer people due to the fact that they ate mostly cheap grain: carbohydrates. And diseases followed.

# How did surplus food cause problems?

- Insects and rodents were attracted to stored food.
- Weeds easily grew in cultivated - disturbed - soil and produced seeds that were not useful to people.
- Diseases such as smallpox and the plague followed the trading routes.
- Diseases also afflicted more people because they lived close together in cities.

# How did animals become domesticated?

- Herbivore herd animals were useful for transport, protection and food.
- Herbivores do not eat people.
- Herd animals like living in groups.
- So, horses, cattle, pigs, chickens, goats, dogs and cats were all domesticated.



# Why were some animals not domesticated?

- Zebras are too bad-tempered and will bite their riders.
- Large elephants cost too much to feed.
- Lions eat meat. People are meat.
- Preferred animals provide more work or food than they cost to raise. And they like living in groups. And they don't threaten people.

# Did agriculture always cause poverty?

- In most of Europe, the switch to sedentism occurred quite quickly: in about 300 years.
- In northern Europe, the switch developed over about 1000 years because these northern people relied more on fish and sea creatures for food, and the thick forests didn't encourage growing grain like the plains in the Middle East.
- The same slow change happened along B.C.'s coastline.

# Pause and consider:

- What does your appearance tell you about your background?
- How are all people alike?
- What jobs are essential in a group of people?
- What are the disadvantages of agriculture?
- What are the disadvantages of cities?
- How does this information help you understand the spread of Ebola?

# CIVILIZATION: LESSON FOUR

# Let's review:

- Civilization is an \_\_\_\_\_ group of people that lives in a certain \_\_\_\_\_ and shares both a common \_\_\_\_\_ and a sense of \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is a way of \_\_\_\_\_ and includes f\_\_\_\_\_ and m\_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_ and sy\_\_\_\_\_.

People started in \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_ years ago and spread out from there. \_\_\_\_\_ skin was an advantage in the hot climate, but \_\_\_\_\_ skin was needed to absorb Vitamin \_\_\_\_\_ in the northern climates.

People were \_\_\_\_\_ for at least 290,000 years and became farmers only about \_\_\_\_\_ years ago.

People started staying put, which is called \_\_\_\_\_ . They settled near \_\_\_\_\_ where they could catch \_\_\_\_\_ .

The first domesticated crops were probably \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Middle East.

The domesticated animals were useful for f \_\_\_\_\_ , t \_\_\_\_\_ , doing work, or for p \_\_\_\_\_ .

As soon as lots of people started living together, though, some people had more p\_\_\_\_\_ than others.

Cheap w\_\_\_\_\_ were needed and p\_\_\_\_\_ and even s\_\_\_\_\_ became prevalent.

Stored grain attracted i\_\_\_\_\_ and r\_\_\_\_\_ which caused illnesses.

Diseases such as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ occurred because of crowded \_\_\_\_\_ and t\_\_\_\_\_ routes.



In Europe, the switch from \_\_\_\_\_  
to agriculture happened in only about  
\_\_\_\_\_ years.

But in northern \_\_\_\_\_ and along the  
coast of \_\_\_\_\_ it happened much  
more slowly because there were lots of  
\_\_\_\_\_ to eat and the thick  
\_\_\_\_\_ were not conducive to  
growing gr\_\_\_\_\_ .

# Some reliable sources

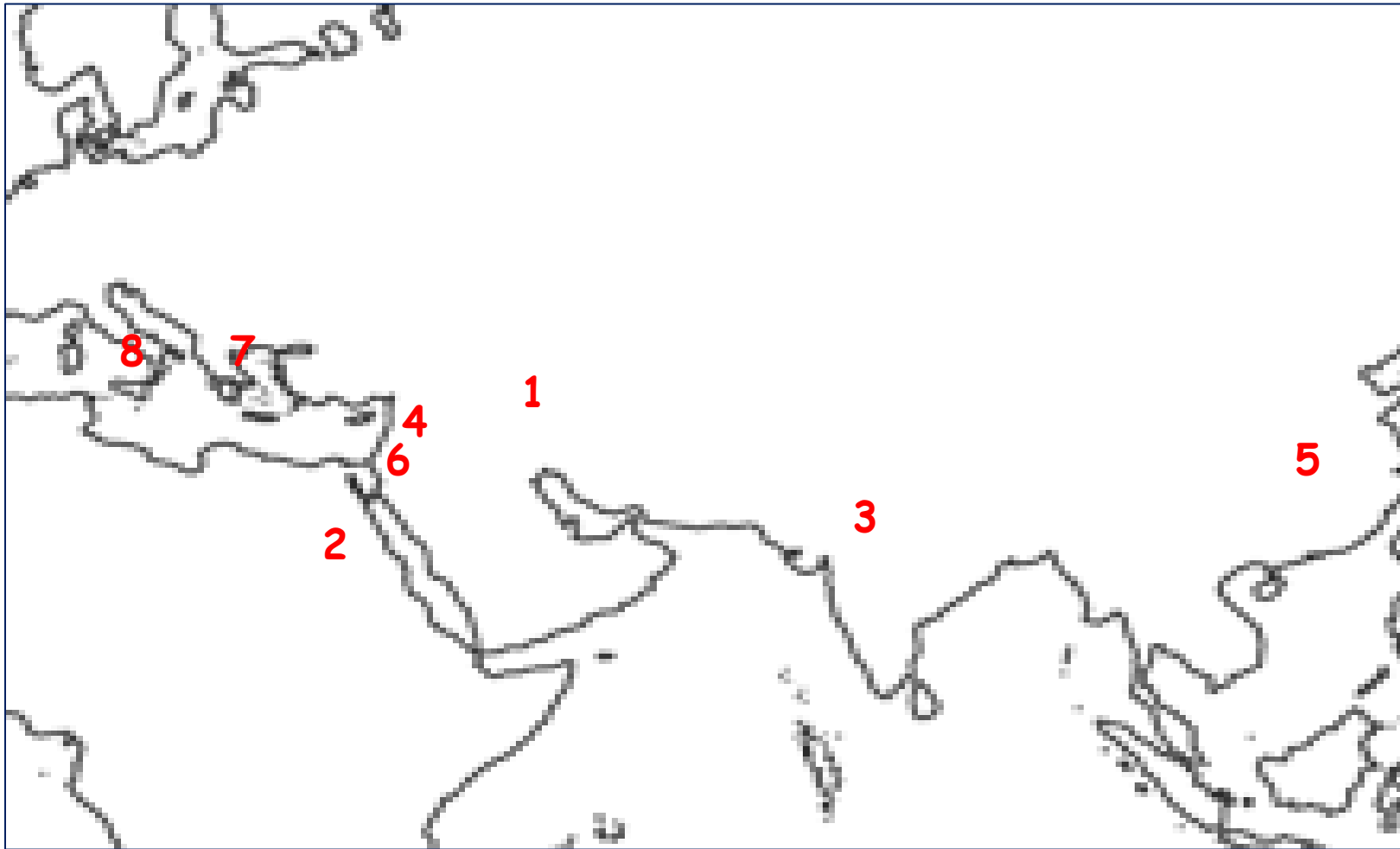
Davis, James C. The Human Story. New York: HarperCollins, 2004.

Gombrich, E.H. A Little History of the World. London: Yale University Press, 2008.

World Book Student, 2014.

# What were some early civilizations?

1. Sumer and Mesopotamia: Tigris & Euphrates R., 3500 BCE
2. Egypt: Nile R., 3100 BCE
3. Pakistan & India: Indus R., 2600 BCE
4. Phoenicia: 1900 BCE
5. China: Huang He Valley, 1700 BCE
6. Hebrew people: Middle East, 1500 BCE
7. Greece: 800 BCE
8. Rome: Italy, 200 BCE



## Contributions of Early Civilizations

# How Can we Learn This?

1. Make a timeline of the 8 civilizations.
2. Draw a map and label the locations of the civilizations.
3. Make a list of the contributions of each civilization.
4. Draw a 'memory palace' for each civilization.

# What is a memory palace?

A diagram that shows info. as little coloured pictures. Here's a rough copy of Egypt:



Where did this idea come  
from?

**THE ANCIENT  
GREEKS AND ROMANS!**

# Sumer and Mesopotamia

- how to record information in writing (cuneiform: pressed into clay)
- how to keep track of things (an inventory)
- how to live close together in cities
- written law that everyone could see
- seven days in a week
- canals and water cisterns
- how to make pots using a pottery wheel
- how to measure fields
- how to figure out square and cube roots
- how to use chariots and axes in battles



# Egypt

- how to keep cattle, goats, pigs, and sheep
- how to grow wheat and barley
- how to irrigate fields with water ditches
- how to make glass objects
- how to preserve the bodies of the dead

# India

- how to make a plan for a city
- how to make a drainage system for cities
- the number zero
- the decimal system
- the value of pi
- yoga
- 3 religions: Buddhism, Hinduism, Sikhism
- the game of chess
- how to grow cotton for fabric

# Phoenicia

- how to write using symbols for sounds (and not just for objects)
- 24 symbols to represent consonants (perhaps developed from Egyptians)
- how to make woolen and linen cloth
- how to make purple dye
- how to dye cloth
- how to travel by ship to trade with many other people in other places

# China

- how to farm rice and millet on terraced hills
- how to harvest silk from silkworms and make fabric
- how to grow tea
- how to make all sorts of things:
  - paper from silk, wood or bamboo
  - ink and a printing press
  - porcelain
  - gunpowder
  - an abacus for calculating numbers
  - wheelbarrow
  - compass for orienting buildings
  - kites
  - seismographs (detect earthquakes)

# Hebrew People

- a day of rest each week
- a book of stories that tells about the past so that people can retain a feeling of belonging to each other
- the knowledge that sometimes suffering is not our fault and cannot be explained
- the importance of justice and kindness towards others, even strangers
- the importance of helping people in need (charity)
- a belief in one God

# Greece

- government by a citizens
- the importance of public service
- trial by jury
- equality under the law
- vowel sounds in the alphabet
- poetry that tells stories
- poetry that shows emotions
- dramatic stories that have tragic endings
- dramatic stories that are funny (comedies)
- philosophy

# Rome

- the Latin language, which is the basis of French, Spanish and Italian and many English words
- our legal system: Senate was the name for the Roman government
- engineering of roads and bridges
- piped water along aqueducts
- public baths
- sewers and central heating
- schools, libraries and theatres

# Pause and consider...

- How were the lives of people long ago similar to ours today?
- How is your life better because of people who lived long ago?
- If you could visit the past, which civilization would you choose?
- What do you consider five of the greatest technological advancements?
- What do you consider 3 of the greatest philosophical advancements?



# LESSON FIVE

# Some Reliable Sources

Walker, Robert. Pushes & Pulls: Why Do People Migrate? New York: Crabtree, 2010.

# How can we learn this?

1. Take notes.
2. Turn your notes into a mindmap with pictures.

# Why do people migrate?

1. to find food and water
  - basic physical need: physical survival
  - prehistoric hunter-gatherers
    - probably followed animals out of Africa
    - probably followed animals across the land bridge from Asia to N.A.
  - prehistoric farmers
    - settled in river valleys in India, China, Egypt
    - settled by springs in Jericho

# Why do people migrate?

2. to find more land for farming when their population grows too large
  - basic physical need: food
  - Romans established colonies in
  
  - the Vikings of Scandinavia (800s)

# Why do people migrate?

## 3. to gain more power

- basic emotional need: achievement
- Genghis Khan of Mongolia (1200s)
  - power over more people
- Christopher Columbus (1500s)
  - recognition of his importance

# Why do people migrate?

4. to follow religious beliefs
  - basic emotional need: freedom
  - Pilgrims from England to U.S. (1600s)
  - Mennonites from Netherlands to Germany (1500s)
  - Mennonites to Russia (1800s)
  - Jews from Russia to N.A. (1920s)

# Why do people migrate?

## 5. forced to by others

- basic need of other people: power
- slavery from Africa to America (1500s to 1800s)
- slavery from poorer countries to Canada and the U.S.A. (2000s)



# Why do people migrate?

6. forced to by others

basic need: economic power

- criminals from Britain to N.A. and Australia (1700s to 1800s)
- aboriginal people in N.A. (1800s)
- European Jews into ghettos and camps (1930s to 1940s)

# Why do people migrate?

7. to escape slavery - basic need: freedom
  - African-Americans from southern U.S. to northern U.S. (late 1800s to 1960s)

# Why do people migrate?

8. to escape persecution

basic need: survival and freedom

- Muslims to Pakistan and Hindus to India (1947)
- Sudanese from south to refugee camps and other countries (1960s)
- Sudanese from east (Darfur) to refugee camps (2000s)

# Why do people migrate?

## 9. to escape war

basic need: survival and freedom

- Mennonites from Russia to S.A./N.A. (1920s)
- Europeans away from Nazi Germany (early 1900s)
- s. Vietnamese to U.S. (1960s to 1970s)
- Americans to Canada (1960s)

# Why do people migrate?

10. to escape invaders

basic need: freedom and survival

- ancient Britons and Picts (100s)

- ancient Romans

- Afghans from Russians (1980s)

# Why do people migrate?

11. to escape environmental disasters

- Irish people (1800s)

  - potato blight ruined their crops

  - English took what food they could grow

  - they came to America to find a new life

- Ethiopians and Somalis (2000s)

  - drought has destroyed crops

  - millions live in refugee camps

- Kenyans (2000s)

  - lack of water and pastureland

# Why do people migrate?

12. to escape natural disasters
  - basic need: physical survival
  - people in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina

# Why do people migrate?

13. to escape environmental pollution
  - basic need: physical survival
  - Ukrainians after nuclear disaster in Chernobyl (1986)



# Why do people migrate?

## 14. to find work

- basic need: economic survival
- British from farms to factories (1700s)
- Chinese to Californian Gold Rush (1800s)
- Europeans in the Economic Union (2000s)
- Mexicans to the U.S. and Canada (2000s)

# Pause and consider...

- What are three major reasons for migrating? (Divide all 14 reasons into 3 main areas.)
- Why did your family immigrate to this area where you now live?
- How might migration affect people's sense of safety?