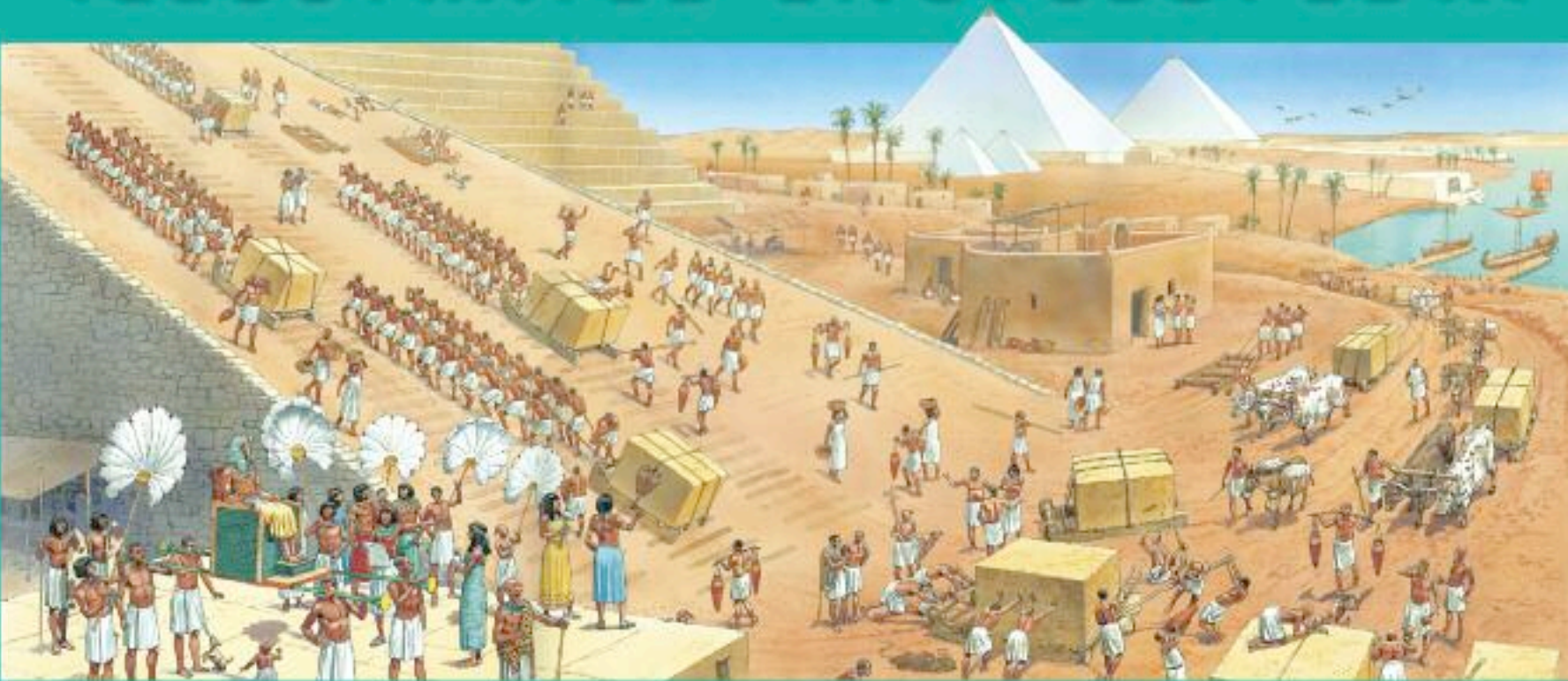
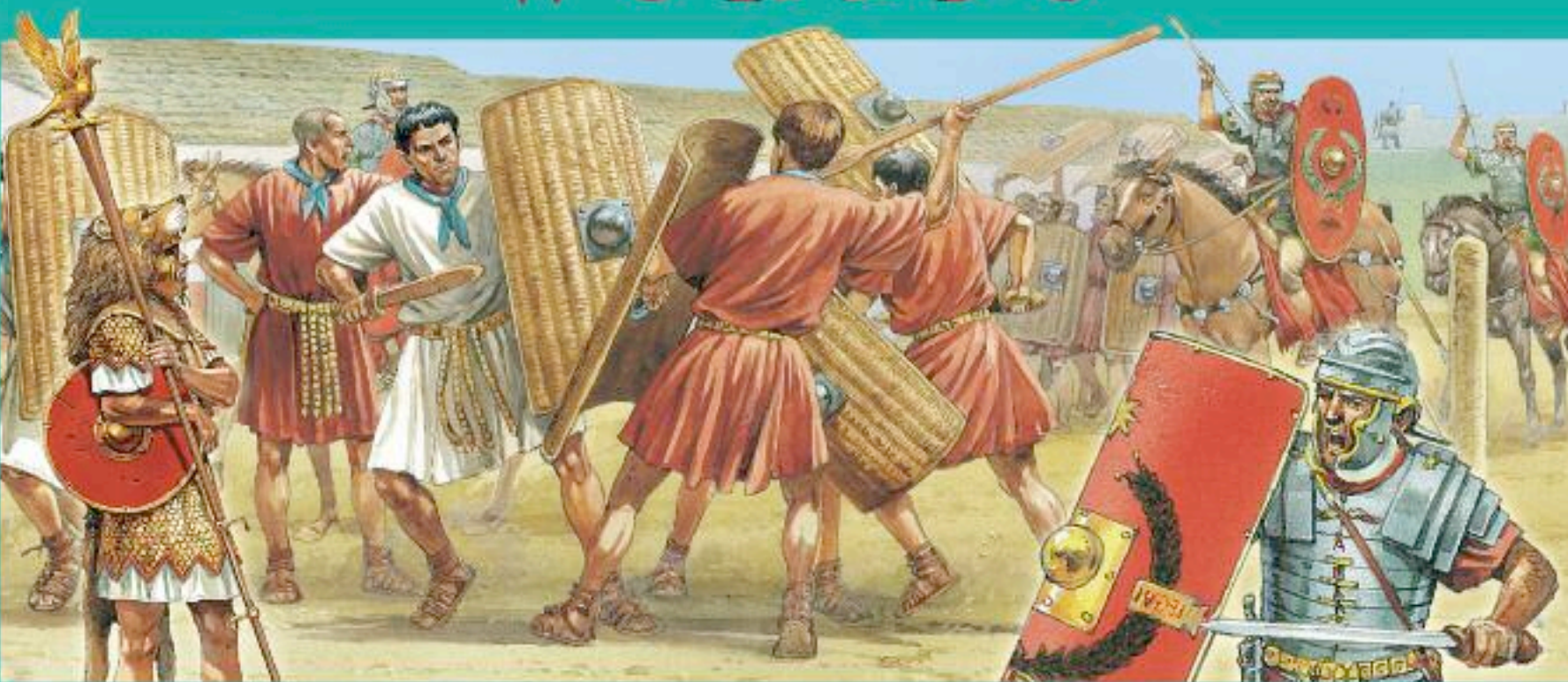


ILLUSTRATED ENCYCLOPEDIA



ANCIENT WORLDS



More than 200 keywords

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ANCIENT WORLDS

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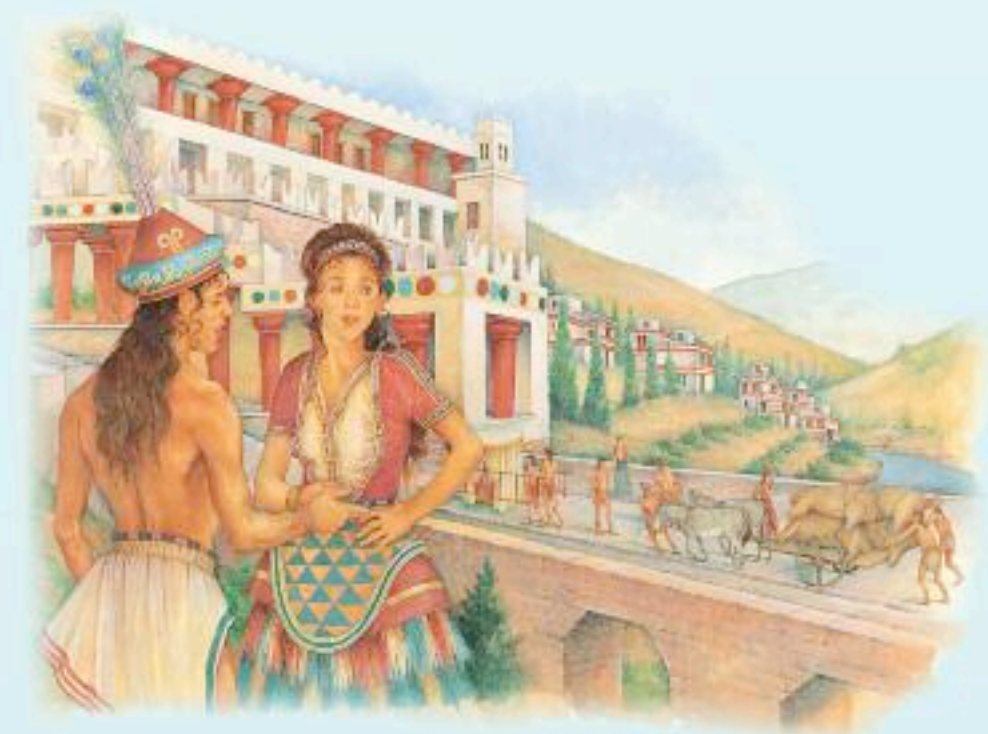
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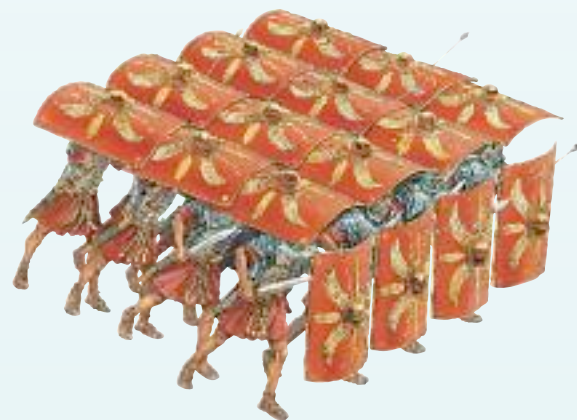
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ABOUT THIS BOOK

Each double page contains a brief introduction, explaining the general subject, followed by key words arranged in alphabetical order. To look up a specific word, turn to the index at the back of this book: this will tell you which page to go to. If you want to learn more about a subject, take a look at the factfile, or follow the arrows to read related entries.



INTRODUCTION

This explains the general subject and provides some basic knowledge.

KEY WORDS AND ENTRIES

Key words are arranged alphabetically across each double page. Each entry provides a short explanation of what the key word means.

A BRIEF HISTORY

The brief history provides a summary of the key events in this period.

ANCIENT EGYPT

THE PYRAMIDS AT GIZA The smaller pyramids in front of the Pyramid of Khufu are the Queen's pyramids, where the pharaoh's mother and queens were buried.

Abu Simbel The site where two huge temples, ordered by Ramesses II, are built into a rock wall. Outside the temple are seated statues of the king. The smaller temple is dedicated to Queen Nefertari.

Akhenaten King of Egypt from 1353 to 1336 bc. He tried to make people abandon their many gods and worship only Aten, the Sun in the sky. He was the father of Tutankhamun (1323-1300 bc).

Capstone The pyramid-shaped stone at the top of a pyramid, also called a pyramidion.

The temple of Amun at Karnak

Casing stones The outer layer of a pyramid, mostly made from limestone blocks. Casing stones would be highly polished.

Causeway The covered way that led from a pyramid's valley temple to the pyramid.

Cleopatra Queen of Egypt from 51 to 30 bc and the last pharaoh before Egypt was conquered by the Romans.

Crook A gold-plated shepherd's crook carried by the pharaoh during religious ceremonies. It was a symbol of his duty to protect his people.

Falx A gold, whip-like farming tool, carried by the pharaoh during ceremonies. It was a symbol of his power to punish enemies.

Giza A famous pyramid site, made up of three large pyramids. These are the Great Pyramid of Khufu, the Pyramid of Khafre and the Pyramid of Menkaure.

Great Pyramid of Khufu The largest of the pyramids at Giza. It was 147 m high. It is the only one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World (1) still standing today.

Hatshepsut Queen of Egypt from 1479 to 1458 bc. When her husband Thutmose II died, she took power and was made pharaoh. She wore the traditional clothing of a male pharaoh, including a false beard.

Heb Sed An ancient Egyptian festival held to celebrate the rule of the pharaoh. It was celebrated after 30 years of a pharaoh's reign and then every three years afterwards. The pharaoh would have to perform physical activities to prove that he was still fit enough to rule Egypt.

Karnak The site of a huge temple built to honour the god Amun-Re (1324). The temple complex had ceremonial halls and avenues where processions took place.

Lower Egypt The northern area of Egypt.

Menes The first pharaoh to rule both Upper and Lower Egypt. He conquered Lower Egypt in about 3100 bc and brought the two kingdoms together.

Middle Kingdom A period of time in ancient Egypt's history from about 2040 to 1640 bc. During this period, Egypt traded widely and conquered Nubia.

Nefertiti Queen of Egypt from 1353 to 1336 bc. She ruled beside her husband Akhenaten. After her husband's death, she ruled in her own right for a short time.

Nemes A striped headdress worn by the pharaoh as a symbol of his royalty.

New Kingdom A period of time in ancient Egypt's history from about 1550 to 1070 bc. During this period, the "Golden Age" of Egypt, the pharaohs conquered much land and made their kingdom prosperous. New Kingdom pharaohs were buried in underground tombs instead of in pyramids.

Nomarch A person who governed a province, or area, of ancient Egypt.

Nubia A region to the south of Egypt. The Nubians flourished through trade with Egypt. Nubia was controlled by Egypt for much of the New Kingdom.

Obelisk A tall stone pillar with a small pyramid at its top. The Egyptians placed obelisks at the entrances to their temples.

Old Kingdom A period of time in ancient Egypt's history from about 2575 to 2134 bc. During this time, the belief in the Afterlife (1) became an important part of Egyptian religion. This was the age of pyramid-building.

Pharaoh The king, high priest, and ruler of ancient Egypt. The Egyptians believed that the pharaoh was descended from the Sun god, Re (1324), and that the spirit of the falcon god Horus (1324) entered the pharaoh when he was crowned.

Pschent The double crown worn by the pharaoh. It was a symbol of a united Egypt, combining the pointed white crown (hehjet) of Upper Egypt and the flat red crown (deshtet) of Lower Egypt.

Pyramid A pharaoh's stone tomb with four sloping triangular sides. The pharaoh's body was placed in the pyramid, alongside his treasures. The entrance was then sealed to deter robbers. It took thousands of workers more than 20 years to build one pyramid.

Rameses Twelve kings of ancient Egypt carried the name Rameses, meaning "born of the Sun god Re" (1324). The most famous was Ramesses II, or Ramesses the Great, who ruled from 1279 to 1213 bc. He led his people to victory over nearby lands.

Sphinx A statue in the shape of a lion with a human or ram's head. The most famous example is the Great Sphinx at Giza.

Thebes An ancient Egyptian city on the east bank of the Nile. It was the capital of Egypt during the Middle and New Kingdoms.

Upper Egypt The southern area of Egypt.

Vizier The person responsible for the day-to-day running of Egypt. He collected taxes and administered justice.

A BRIEF HISTORY

- ★ 4500 bc Farmers settle by the River Nile.
- ★ 3400 bc Egypt has developed as two kingdoms, Upper and Lower Egypt.
- ★ 3100-3050 bc Rule of Menes.
- ★ 3150-3050 bc Work begins on the pyramids at Giza.
- ★ 2370 bc Hyksos invaders from Syria gain control of Egypt.
- ★ 1600 bc Ramses drives Hyksos from Canaan to Egypt. Nefertiti
- ★ 1550-1350 bc Hyksos are driven out of Egypt.
- ★ 1479-1350 bc Rule of Hatshepsut.
- ★ 1479-1350 bc Rule of Akhenaten.
- ★ 1350-1279 bc Rule of Ramesses II. The Hittites wage war and fight the Egyptians at the Battle of Kadesh.
- ★ 671 bc Egypt is conquered by the Assyrians (1324). It later falls to Greece, Persia and finally the Romans in 30 bc.

ARROWS

These arrows show you where to look up other words mentioned in the entry. For example, (26) tells you to go forward to page 26 and (6) tells you to turn back to page 6.

BOLD WORDS

These highlight useful words that do not have their own entry.

PAGE NUMBER

Page numbers are easy to find at the side of the page.

TIMELINE



Sculpture made 24,000 years ago

c.2.5 million BC Start of the Stone Age. The Palaeolithic Period, or Old Stone Age begins.

c.8350 BC The founding of the city of Jericho, the first walled town in the world.

c.7000 BC Çatal Hüyük, the largest city of its day, is built in Turkey,

c.5000 BC Agriculture starts on the Greek island of Crete.

c.5000 BC The first farming communities settle by the River Nile in Egypt.

c.5000 BC Irrigation starts in Mesopotamia.

c.5000 BC Farming communities settle in the Indus valley in India.

c.3500 BC Writing develops in Mesopotamia.

c.3400 BC Egypt has developed as two kingdoms, Upper and Lower Egypt.

c.3100 BC Egypt is united under the first pharaoh, Menes.

c.3000 BC The emergence of major cities, such as Ur, in Mesopotamia.

c.3000 BC The start of the Bronze Age in the Middle East.

c.2575 BC Work begins on the pyramids at Giza in Egypt.

c.2500 BC The rise of the Assyrian civilization.

c.2400 BC The Indus valley civilization develops on the banks of the River Indus. It was one of the first civilizations to have the wheel and develop methods of writing.

c.2300 BC The Bronze Age begins in Europe.



Nefertiti

c.2000 BC The Minoans start to build palaces on the island of Crete.

c.1792 BC King Hammurabi comes to the throne of Babylon.

c.1750 BC The Indus Valley civilization ends, when people leave the main cities, perhaps because of severe flooding.

c.1750 BC The Shang dynasty comes to power in China.

c.1650 BC The start of the Hittite Empire.

c.1595 BC The Hittites overthrow the Babylonians.

c.1550 BC The Mycenaean civilization begins in Greece.

c.1550 BC The start of the Iron Age in the Middle East.

c.1377 BC Pharaoh Akhenaten enforces the worship of a single god, Aten, in Egypt.

c.1290 BC Rameses II becomes King of Egypt.

c.1200 BC The Hittite Empire collapses.

c.1200 BC The Olmec civilization begins in Mexico.

c.1100 BC The Shang are overthrown in China.

1046 BC The Zhou dynasty begins in China.

c.800 BC The Etruscan civilization begins in Italy.

c.800 BC City-states are founded in Greece.

776 BC The first Olympic Games are held in Greece.

753 BC The traditional date for the founding of the city of Rome.

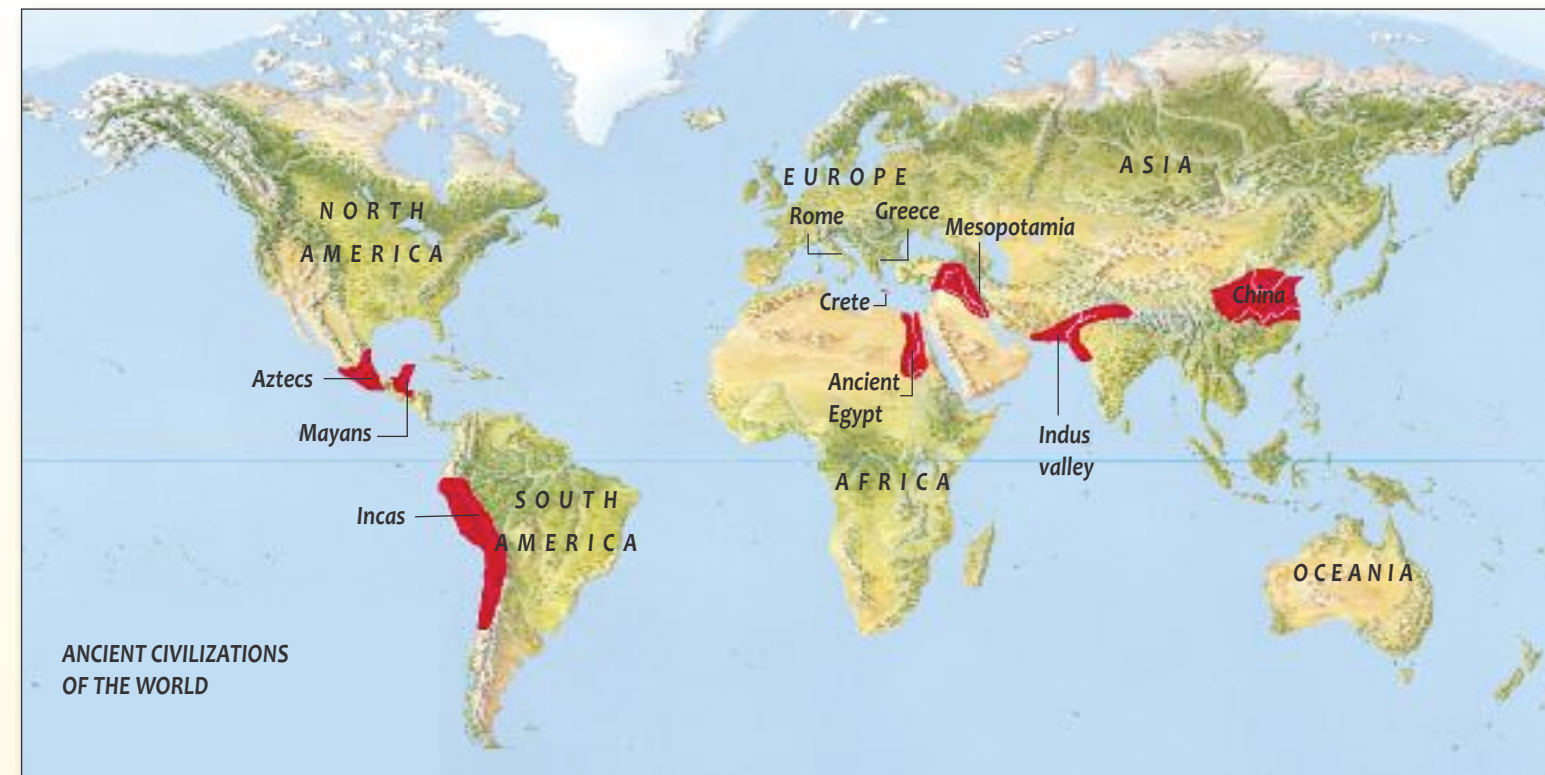
671 BC The Assyrians conquer Egypt.

625 BC Nabopolassar overthrows the Assyrians and makes Babylon powerful.

c.560 BC The rise of the Persian Empire.



Etruscan musician



510 BC Tarquin, the last king of Rome, is driven out and Rome becomes a republic.

c.500 BC The dawn of the Classical Age in Greece and the start of democracy.

499 BC The Persian Empire reaches the height of its power.

490 BC The Persians raid Athens. Persia then tries to conquer Greece but is persistently fought back. Greece finally defeats Persia in 449 BC.

431-404 BC Peloponnesian Wars between Athens and Sparta.

359 BC Philip of Macedonia defeats the Greeks and unites Greece.

334-327 BC Alexander the Great attacks the Persian Empire.

Roman footsoldier

323 BC The Hellenistic Period begins in Greece.

322 BC The Mauryan Empire is founded in central India by Chandragupta Maurya.

264-146 BC The Punic Wars are fought between Rome and Carthage.

221 BC Qin rule begins in China. Shi Huangdi becomes the first Chinese emperor. Work begins on the Great Wall of China.

202 BC The Han dynasty begins in China.

c.200 BC The rise of the Nazca civilization in America.

c.112 BC The Silk Route is opened, linking China to the West.

c.100 BC The Moche civilization begins in Peru in South America.

59 BC Julius Caesar is elected consul of Rome. He starts to rule Rome as a dictator but is assassinated in 44 BC.



Chinese silk merchant

27 BC Octavian becomes the first emperor of Rome, named Augustus. Rome ceases to be a republic.

AD 14 Tiberius becomes emperor of Rome.

AD 37 Caligula becomes emperor of Rome.

AD 41 Claudius becomes emperor of Rome.

AD 50 The building of Teotihuacán starts in Central America.

AD 54 Nero becomes emperor of Rome.

AD 64 A fire destroys part of Rome.

AD 300 Rise of the Maya civilization in Central America.

AD 380 Christianity becomes the official religion of the Roman Empire.

AD 410 Barbarian Visigoths invade Italy and sack Rome.

AD 476 Rome is overthrown by German chieftain Odoacer. The western Roman Empire ends.



Jaguar knight

SEVEN WONDERS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

Travellers of the ancient world would often write about the sights they had seen. The monuments that were most admired became known as the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. These were:

1 The Great Pyramid at Giza (♣12)

2 The Hanging Gardens of Babylon (♣10)

3 The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus. It was the largest temple of its time, completed in 550 BC and dedicated to the goddess Artemis.

4 The Statue of Zeus in Olympia. Completed in 432 BC, the seated statue was 12 m high and made of ivory and gold-plated bronze.

5 The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus. This was a marble tomb built for a rich man called Mausolus in 453 BC. It was 45 m high and decorated with sculptures.

6 The Colossus of Rhodes. This was a huge bronze statue of the Greek god Helios. Erected in 280 BC, it was over 30 m high and stood over Rhodes harbour.

7 The Lighthouse at Alexandria. This was the world's first lighthouse, built in 300 BC. It was over 120 m high.



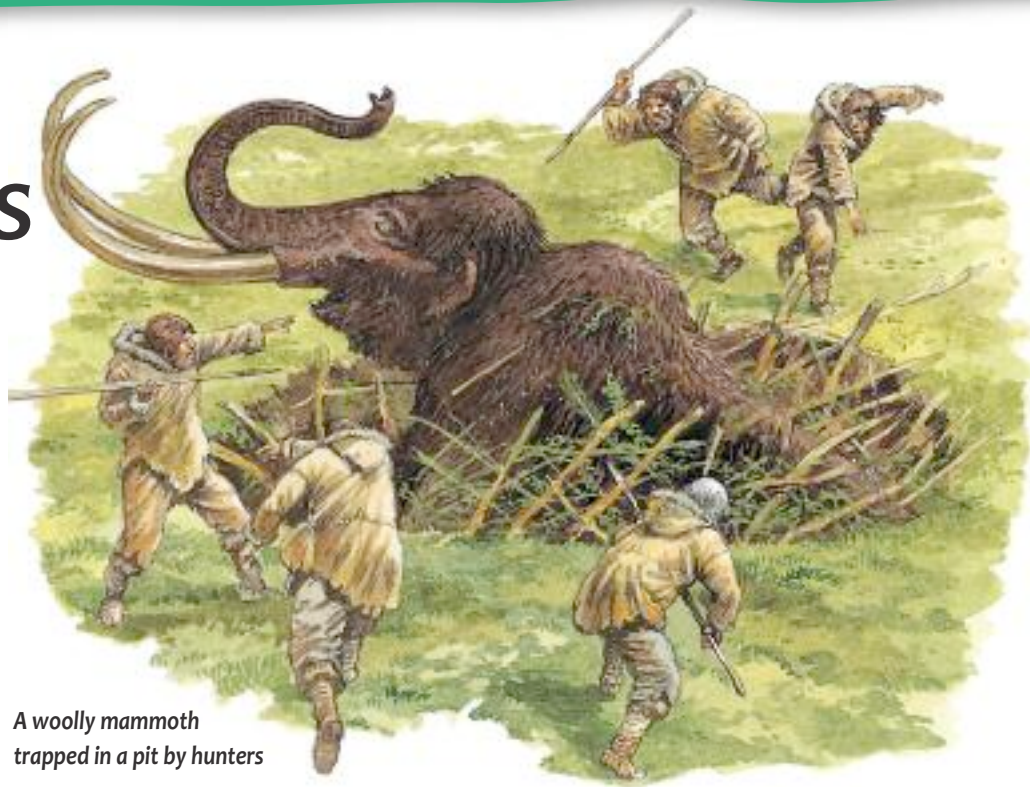
The lighthouse at Alexandria

FIRST CIVILIZATIONS

The earliest human beings never settled anywhere for long, but drifted from place to place, eating wild plants and hunting wild animals. When their food ran out they would move on. Then, around 12,000 years ago, people started to farm crops and keep animals. A continuous supply of food meant that people could live in the same place all year round. Groups settled in villages. As it was no longer necessary for everyone to search for food, people began to develop crafts and trade. Villages grew into towns and cities. Civilization had arrived.

Aurochs A type of wild cattle, much larger than the modern cow, which is probably descended from it. Aurochs were domesticated around 8000 years ago. They can often be seen in ancient cave art.

Artists at work on a cave painting



A woolly mammoth trapped in a pit by hunters

Bronze Age The period when people learned to make tools from the metal bronze. Bronze was made by melting tin and copper together. Bronze was found to be harder and longer-lasting than other metals, but still easy to cut and shape. The Bronze Age began about 5000 years ago in the Middle East, but started later in other parts of the world.

Çatal Hüyük An ancient city built in about 7000 BC in what is now Turkey. Its brick houses were packed together with no streets to separate them. It was home to about 5000 people. Some were farmers but others were craftworkers, making ornaments, jewellery and cloth to trade.

Cave paintings Paintings thought to have been made by hunter-gatherers between 35,000 and 18,000 years ago. They usually show wild animals such as horses, bison and deer. There are examples of cave art on every continent in the world.

Civilization A society, or group of people, that have developed art, government, learning and trade. In a civilization, work is divided up so that only a few people provide enough food for everyone to eat. This enables other individuals to develop different skills such as craft and trade.

Cradle of civilization A name for the place where civilization first emerged. It is usually used to describe the Fertile Crescent but can also refer to China, India or Mexico.



Cave painting

Domestication The process of taming wild animals and looking after crops. Domestication meant that people had a steady supply of food and no longer needed to move about to hunt.

Fertile Crescent A curve of land that stretched from the Persian Gulf in the east to the Mediterranean in the west. The land was perfect for farming as there was plenty of sunshine and rain. Some of the earliest civilizations developed here, such as those that developed in Mesopotamia (10).

Hunter-gatherers People that found their food by hunting and foraging in the wild. They did not stay in one place for long, but followed animals that moved to different areas with the changing seasons.

Ice age A period when the Earth's temperature drops significantly and ice sheets spread out from the poles. The term usually refers to the most recent ice age, which reached its peak around 20,000 years ago.

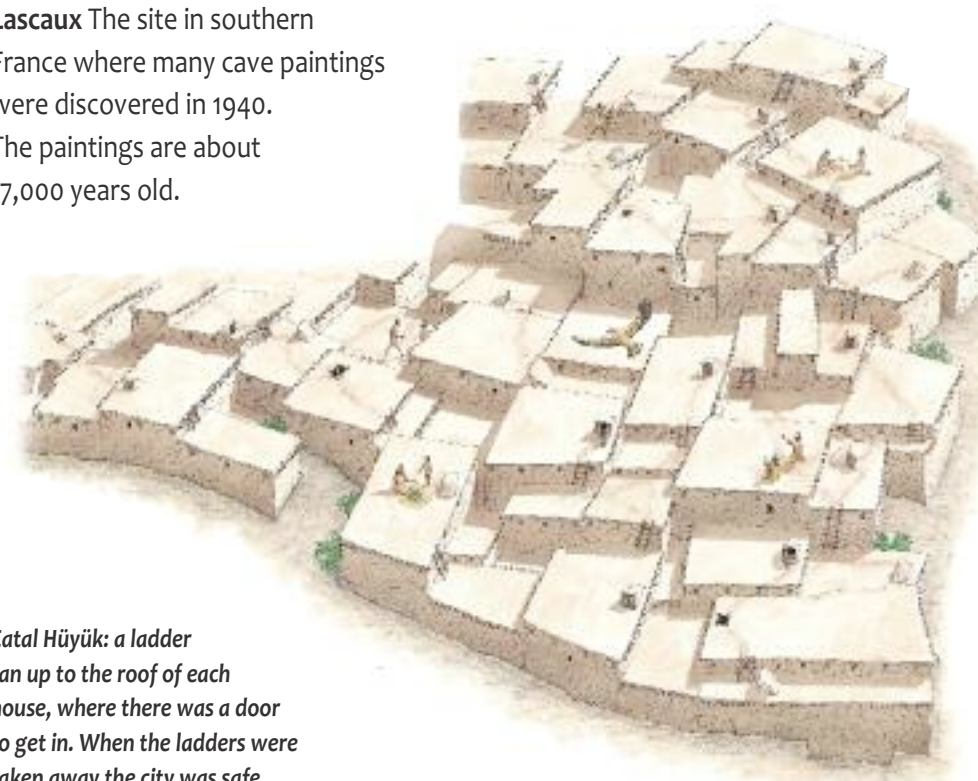
Iron Age The period when people learned to make tools from the metal iron. The Iron Age first began in about 1500 BC in the Middle East. Iron was found to be more widely available than tin and copper and stronger than bronze. However, it was also harder to produce as it required smelting.

Irrigation A means of supplying dry land with water using ditches or streams. Irrigation meant that farming could develop in naturally dry areas so long as they were close to rivers.

Jericho One of the oldest cities in the world. Built in around 8000 BC on the banks of the River Jordan, the city had huge walls built around it to protect it from attack.

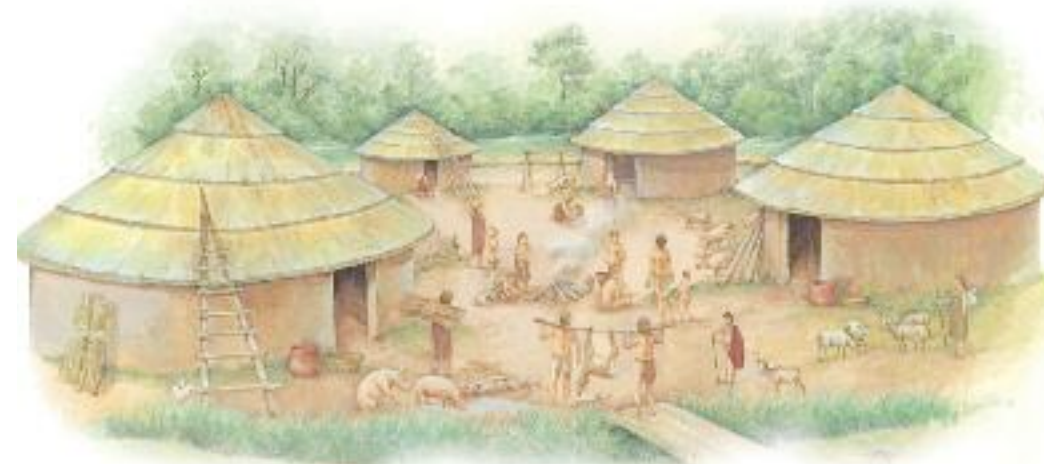
Lascaux The site in southern France where many cave paintings were discovered in 1940. The paintings are about 17,000 years old.

Çatal Hüyük: a ladder ran up to the roof of each house, where there was a door to get in. When the ladders were taken away the city was safe.



Mesolithic Period The middle part of the Stone Age, when people used tools to hunt. It started in about 12,000 BC in the Middle East.

Neolithic Period The last part of the Stone Age, when humans began farming. It started in about 9500 BC in the Middle East.



Smelting The process through which iron or other metals are extracted from rock. Blacksmiths produce iron by heating the rock that contains it to incredibly high temperatures in a furnace.

A simple farming community in Europe c.1200 BC. People lived in huts of mud and straw.

Palaeolithic Period The first part of the Stone Age, when the ancestors of modern humans began using simple stone tools. It started around 2.5 million years ago.

Prehistoric The time before people started to write records. Prehistory is divided into the Stone Age, the Bronze Age and the Iron Age.

Stone Age The period when most tools were made out of stone. This era is divided into the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic Periods.

A BRIEF HISTORY

- ★ c.2.5 million BC The start of the Palaeolithic or Old Stone Age. People live a nomadic lifestyle with no fixed home.
- ★ 15,000 BC The cave paintings are made in Lascaux in southern France.
- ★ 12,000 BC The Mesolithic Period begins.
- ★ 10,000 BC The end of the last Ice Age.
- ★ 9500 BC The start of the Neolithic Period. People start to farm the land and settle in villages. Some animals are domesticated for the first time.
- ★ 8530 BC The city of Jericho is founded.
- ★ 7000 BC The city of Çatal Hüyük is built.
- ★ 3000 BC The start of the Bronze Age.
- ★ 1500 BC The start of the Iron Age.



Cave art

MESOPOTAMIA

Mesopotamia means “between two rivers”, and refers to the stretch of land which lies between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in what is now Iraq. The civilizations that developed there more than 6000 years ago are among the oldest known. The area was dominated by the Assyrian and Babylonian empires for several hundred years until it was later conquered by the Persian Empire (♣21).



A scribe records the number of cattle a farmer has. He is using a wedge-shaped tool to make cuneiform symbols on a clay tablet.

Ashurbanipal The last king of Assyria. He is most famous for creating the world’s first library in the city of Nineveh.

Assyrian civilization A civilization that developed in northern Mesopotamia in about 2300 BC. The Assyrians were traders and warriors with an empire that stretched across much of northern Mesopotamia. In 612 BC, the Assyrian capital, Nineveh was destroyed by the Babylonians and the Assyrian Empire collapsed.

Babylon The capital city of the Babylonian civilization, founded in about 2500 BC. Babylon was a rich city, topped with beautiful gardens and surrounded by massive walls with eight gateway entrances. The name Babylon means “gateway of the gods”.



The Assyrian king hunting lions

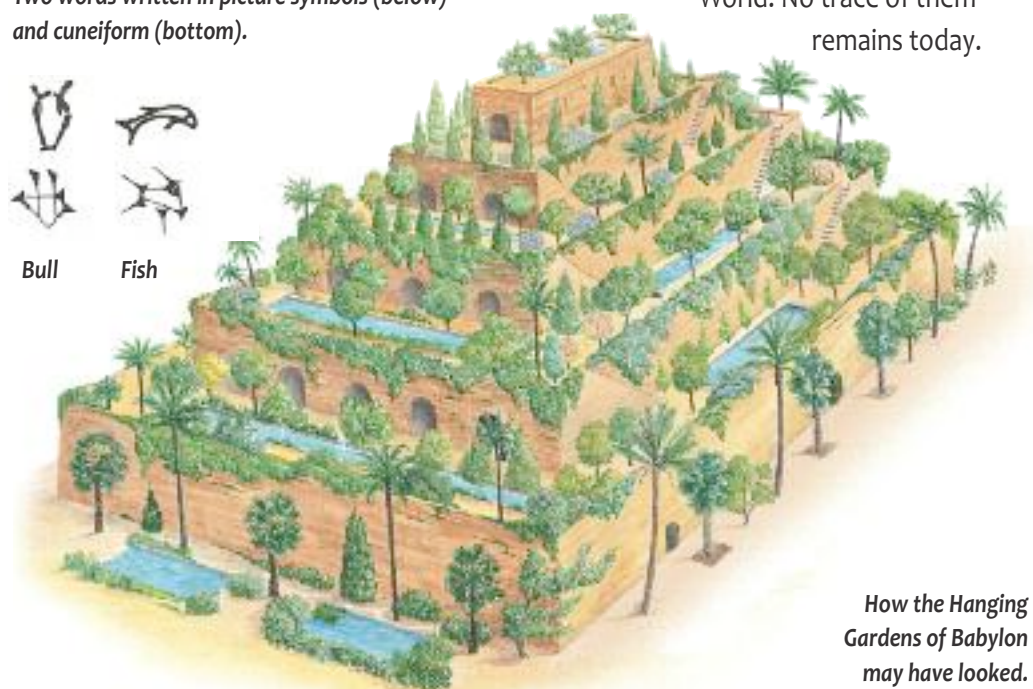
Babylonian civilization A civilization that emerged around 6000 years ago. They were the first people to divide the day into 24 hours of 60 minutes and 60 seconds. Their astronomers believed the Earth was a flat disc suspended in space on a cushion of air. At its height, the Babylonian Empire controlled most of Mesopotamia.

Cuneiform A method of writing using symbols. It replaced an earlier, more complicated form of writing that used picture symbols. Cuneiform was invented by the Sumerians and adopted by the Assyrians, the Babylonians and the Persians. The word *cuneiform* is Greek for “wedge-shaped”, because of the wedge-shaped tool used to make the symbols.

Two words written in picture symbols (below) and cuneiform (bottom).



Bull Fish



How the Hanging Gardens of Babylon may have looked.

Gilgamesh An epic poem about the hero-king Gilgamesh. It was found in the library of Ashurbanipal at Nineveh. It is the earliest known written story, thought to have been written in around 2000 BC.

Hammurabi King of Babylon from 1792 to 1750 BC. Babylon began to dominate Mesopotamia under his rule. Unlike other kings, Hammurabi did not regard himself as a god. He is most famous for the laws he created, which were the first ever to be written down.

Hanging Gardens of Babylon A terraced garden, ordered by King Nebuchadnezzar. Water was pumped up from the river and ran down through the gardens. They were one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. No trace of them remains today.

Hittite civilization A civilization from Anatolia, in present-day Turkey. At its peak, in about 1400 BC, the Hittite Empire covered much of northern Mesopotamia.

Ishtar Gate The northern entrance to Babylon, covered in glazed blue bricks with carvings of dragons and bulls. Built to honour the goddess of love and battle, the gateway, through which sacred processions would have passed, was 14 m high.

Kassites A tribe from the mountains that ruled southern Mesopotamia from 1500 to 1155 BC. The Kassites were the longest ruling dynasty in Mesopotamia’s history.



Babylonian astronomers at work

Marduk The patron god of Babylon, often represented as a dragon. The Babylonians believed Marduk was the king of the gods. Nebuchadnezzar built a ziggurat to honour him in Babylon.

Nabopolassar King of Babylon from 625 to 605 BC. He overthrew the Assyrians and declared Babylonian independence.

Nebuchadnezzar II King of Babylon from 605 to 562 BC and son of Nabopolassar. Nebuchadnezzar was a warlike king who fought the Egyptians and expanded the Babylonian Empire. He made Babylon more secure by building a new city wall.

Nineveh The ancient capital of Assyria and home to King Ashurbanipal’s famous library. Archaeologists have found nearly 22,000 clay tablets in the library at the palace of Nineveh. The tablets, covered in writing, have provided many details about Assyrian life, laws and history.

Sumerian civilization The first civilization to settle in Mesopotamia and the oldest known civilization in the world. The Sumerians settled across southern Mesopotamia in around 4500 BC, in an area called the **Sumer**. They invented writing and the wheel among many other things. They flourished until 200 BC, when they were invaded by desert tribes.

Sumuabum The first king of Babylon. He declared Babylonian independence from all other rulers and ruled Babylon from 1894 to 1881 BC.

The Ishtar Gate



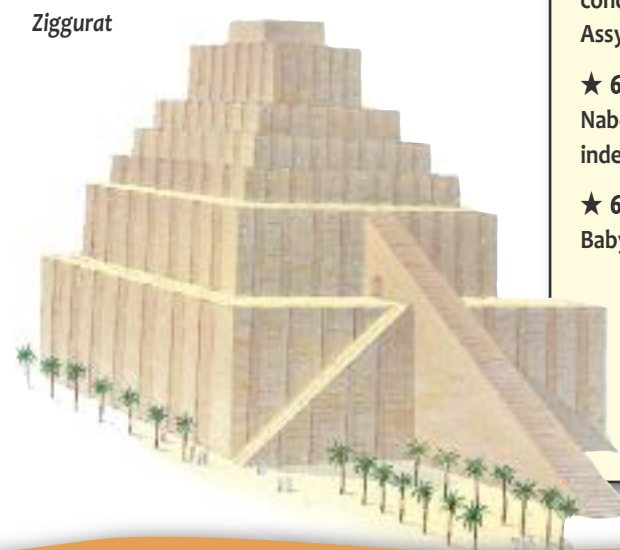
Ziggurat A towering, stepped pyramid with a temple at the top. Ziggurats were first built by the Sumerians but later adopted by the Babylonians and Assyrians. They were believed to be stairways linking heaven and earth. The name *ziggurat* comes from the Assyrian word for “mountaintop”.

A BRIEF HISTORY

- ★ **c.5000 BC** Groups of farmers begin irrigation in Mesopotamia.
- ★ **c.3500 BC** Early writing is developed in Mesopotamia.
- ★ **c.3000 BC** The development of major cities, such as Ur, in Sumer. Various city-states struggle over rule of Mesopotamia.
- ★ **c.1792 BC** Hammurabi comes to the throne of Babylon, which begins to dominate Mesopotamia.
- ★ **1650 BC** The start of the Hittite Empire.
- ★ **1595 BC** Hittites overthrow the Babylonian Empire.
- ★ **1150 BC** Babylon is conquered by the Assyrians.
- ★ **627 BC** Nabopolassar declares Babylonian independence from Assyria.
- ★ **605-562 BC** Reign of Nebuchadnezzar II. Babylon conquers Assyria and Judah, widening its empire.
- ★ **539 BC** Babylon falls to the Persians in the Battle of Opis. Babylon goes on to become one of the most important cities in the Persian Empire (♣21).



Early writing in picture symbols on a clay tablet



Ziggurat

ANCIENT EGYPT

The ancient Egyptian civilization grew up on a narrow strip of land along the banks of the River Nile in Egypt. The Egyptians were surrounded by arid desert and their farming year relied on the annual flooding of the Nile (17). Their civilization, which began to thrive over 5000 years ago, lasted for 3500 years. Many ancient Egyptian monuments still stand today. The most famous are the pyramids, which were built to house the remains of early Egyptian pharaohs.

Abu Simbel The site where two huge temples, ordered by Ramses II, are built into a rock wall. Outside the temple are seated statues of the king. The smaller temple is dedicated to Queen Nefertari.

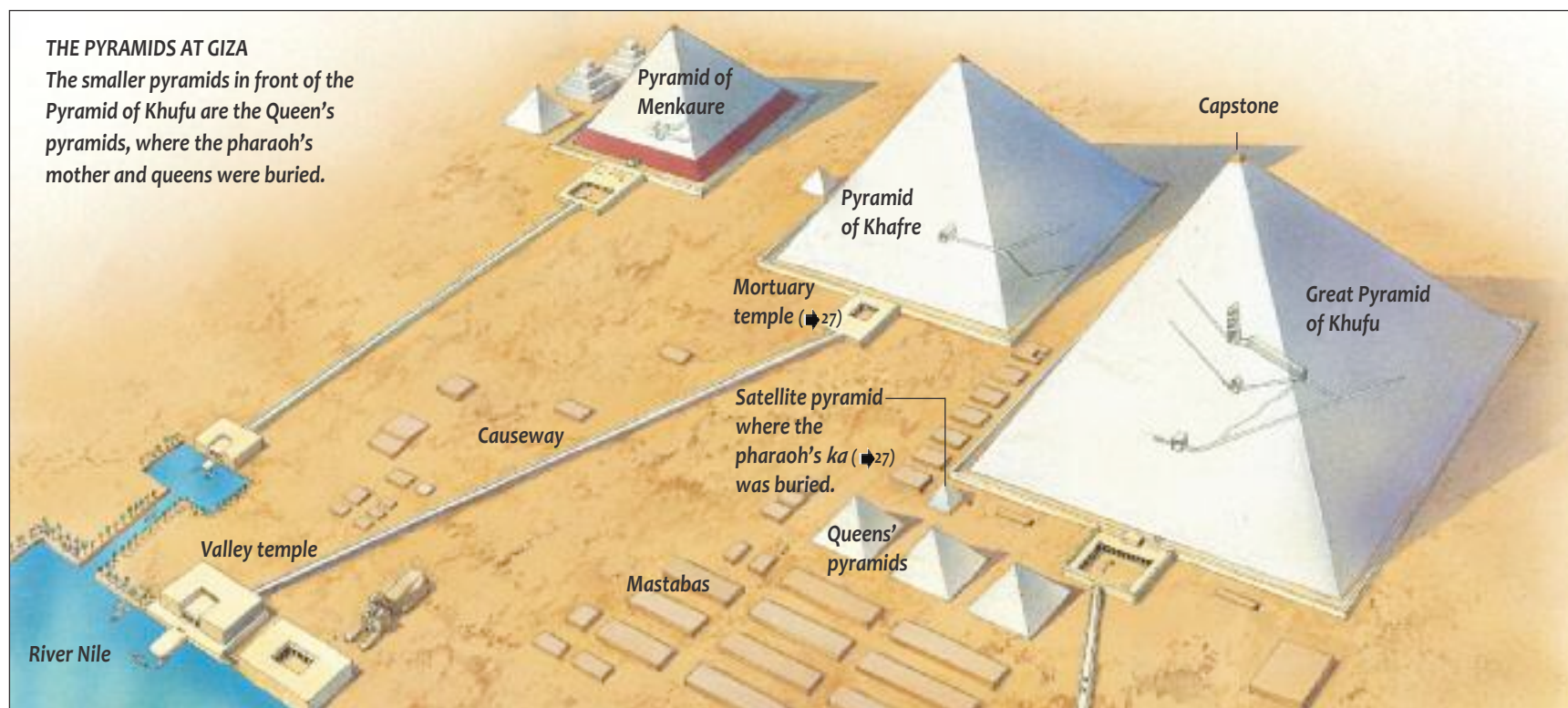
Akhenaten King of Egypt from 1358 to 1336 BC. He tried to make people abandon their many gods and worship only Aten, the Sun in the sky. He was the father of Tutankhamun (15).

Capstone The pyramid-shaped stone at the top of a pyramid, also called a **pyramidion**.

The temple of Amun at Karnak



THE PYRAMIDS AT GIZA
The smaller pyramids in front of the Pyramid of Khufu are the Queen's pyramids, where the pharaoh's mother and queens were buried.



Casing stones The outer layer of a pyramid, mostly made from limestone blocks. Casing stones would be highly polished.

Causeway The covered way that led from a pyramid's valley temple to the pyramid.

Cleopatra Queen of Egypt from 51 to 30 BC and the last pharaoh before Egypt was conquered by the Romans.

Crook A gold-plated shepherd's crook carried by the pharaoh during religious ceremonies. It was a symbol of his duty to protect his people.

Flail A gold, whip-like farming tool, carried by the pharaoh during ceremonies. It was a symbol of his power to punish enemies.

Giza A famous pyramid site, made up of three large pyramids. These are: the Great Pyramid of Khufu, the Pyramid of Khafre and the Pyramid of Menkaure.

Great Pyramid of Khufu The largest of the pyramids at Giza. It was 147 m high. It is the only one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World (6) still standing today.

Hatshepsut Queen of Egypt from 1479 to 1458 BC. When her husband Thutmose II died, she took power and was made pharaoh. She wore the traditional clothing of a male pharaoh, including a false beard.

Heb Sed An ancient Egyptian festival held to celebrate the rule of the pharaoh. It was celebrated after 30 years of a pharaoh's reign and then every three years afterwards. The pharaoh would have to perform physical activities to prove that he was still fit enough to rule Egypt.

Karnak The site of a huge temple built to honour the god Amun-Re (14). The temple complex had ceremonial halls and avenues where processions took place.

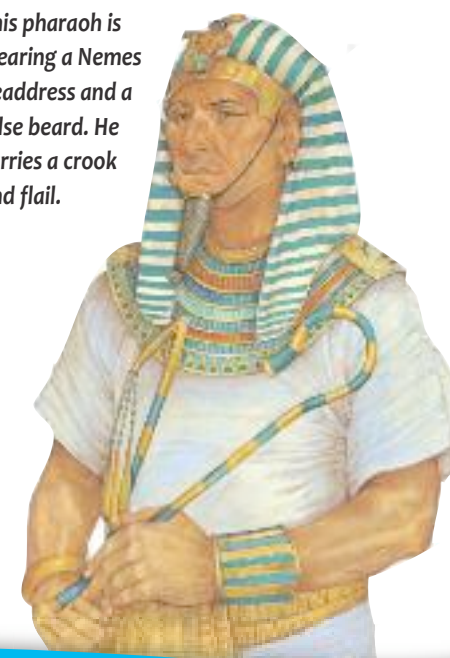
Lower Egypt The northern area of Egypt.

Menes The first pharaoh to rule both Upper and Lower Egypt. He conquered Lower Egypt in about 3100 BC and brought the two kingdoms together.

Middle Kingdom A period of time in ancient Egypt's history from about 2040 to 1640 BC. During this period, Egypt traded widely and conquered Nubia.

Nefertiti Queen of Egypt from 1353 to 1336 BC. She ruled beside her husband Akhenaten. After her husband's death, she ruled in her own right for a short time.

This pharaoh is wearing a Nemes headdress and a false beard. He carries a crook and flail.



Nemes cloth A striped headdress worn by the pharaoh as a symbol of his royalty.

New Kingdom A period of time in ancient Egypt's history from about 1560 to 1070 BC. During this period, the "Golden Age" of Egypt, the pharaohs conquered much land and made their kingdom prosperous. New Kingdom pharaohs were buried in underground tombs instead of in pyramids.

Nomarch A person who governed a province, or area, of ancient Egypt.

Nubia A region to the south of Egypt. The Nubians flourished through trade with Egypt. Nubia was controlled by Egypt for much of the New Kingdom.



The Sphinx

Obelisk A tall stone pillar with a small pyramid at its top. The Egyptians placed obelisks at the entrances to their temples.

Old Kingdom A period of time in ancient Egypt's history from about 2575 to 2134 BC. During this time, the belief in the Afterlife (14) became an important part of Egyptian religion. This was the age of pyramid-building.

Pharaoh The king, high priest, and ruler of ancient Egypt. The Egyptians believed that the pharaoh was descended from the Sun god, Re (24), and that the spirit of the falcon god Horus (24) entered the pharaoh when he was crowned.

Pschent The double crown worn by the pharaoh. It was a symbol of a united Egypt, combining the pointed white crown (**hejet**) of Upper Egypt and the flat red crown (**deshret**) of Lower Egypt.

Pyramid A pharaoh's stone tomb with four sloping triangular sides. The pharaoh's body was placed in the pyramid, alongside his treasures. The entrance was then sealed to deter robbers. It took thousands of workers more than 20 years to build one pyramid.

Rameses Twelve kings of ancient Egypt carried the name Ramses, meaning "born of the Sun god Re" (14). The most famous was Ramses II, or Ramses the Great, who ruled from 1290 to 1225 BC. He led his people to victory over nearby lands.

Sphinx A statue in the shape of a lion with a human or ram's head. The most famous example is the Great Sphinx at Giza.

Thebes An ancient Egyptian city on the east bank of the Nile. It was the capital of Egypt during the Middle and New Kingdoms.

Upper Egypt The southern area of Egypt.

Vizier The person responsible for the day-to-day running of Egypt. He collected taxes and administered justice.

A BRIEF HISTORY

- ★ **c.5000 BC** Farmers settle by the River Nile.
- ★ **3400 BC** Egypt has developed as two kingdoms, Upper and Lower Egypt.
- ★ **3100-3038 BC** Rule of Menes.
- ★ **2575 BC** Work begins on the pyramids at Giza.
- ★ **c.1730 BC** Hyksos invaders from Syria gain control of Egypt.
- ★ **1600 BC** Famine drives Hebrews from Canaan to Egypt.
- ★ **c.1560 BC** Hyksos are driven out of Egypt.
- ★ **1473-58 BC** Rule of Hatshepsut.
- ★ **c.1358-36 BC** Rule of Akhenaten.
- ★ **1290-25 BC** Rule of Ramses II. The Hittites wage war and fight the Egyptians at the Battle of Kadesh.
- ★ **671 BC** Egypt is conquered by the Assyrians (11). It later falls to Greece, Persia and finally the Romans in 30 BC.



Nefertiti

RELIGION & THE AFTERLIFE

The ancient Egyptians worshipped many different gods and goddesses. Some of them were associated with different animals, and are shown in paintings or sculptures with animal heads. The Egyptians also believed in the Afterlife, a place where they would go when they died. To be reborn in the Afterlife, the body had to be preserved. Important people were mummified and buried in a tomb. Poor people were buried in pits in the sand. But all Egyptians agreed that the survival of Egypt depended on the burial of the pharaoh and his successful journey to the Afterlife.

Amulet A charm worn like jewellery or placed between the bandages on a mummy. Amulets were thought to protect against evil. They came in the shapes of hieroglyphs (16), gods and animals.

Amun-Re King of all the Egyptian gods, considered the father of the pharaohs.



Decorated coffin with mummy inside



Priests perform the Opening of the Mouth ceremony. One priest wears the jackal mask of the god Anubis.

Akh The part of a person's soul that would live on in the Afterlife. The life of the *akh* was only possible if the proper funeral rites were performed. The *akh* was represented as a crested bird called an ibis.

Anubis The Egyptian god of the dead, mummies and embalming. He is depicted with the head of a dog called a jackal.

Ba The part of a person's soul that was their personality. The *ba* was represented as a human-headed bird.

Book of the Dead A book of spells and hymns that were thought to help the dead through the Afterlife. It was written on papyrus (17) and placed in the coffin or burial chamber of the dead person.

Burial chamber The room in a tomb or pyramid where a mummy was placed. It was filled with objects that would be needed in the Afterlife.

Canopic jar Decorated jars inside which a mummy's internal organs were stored. In the New Kingdom (13) they took the form of the four sons of Horus: a man, a hawk, a jackal, and a baboon.

Cartouche An oblong shape that symbolized eternity. Pharaohs believed that their name would live on for ever if it was written inside a cartouche.



Re

Anubis

Death mask A highly-decorated mask placed on a mummy to guard the soul from evil on its journey to the Afterlife.

Embalm To preserve a body from decay.

Hathor The Egyptian goddess of love, music, joy and beauty.

Horus The Egyptian god of the sky, war and protection. He was depicted with the head of a falcon and was believed to enter a pharaoh's body when he was crowned.

The mummification process

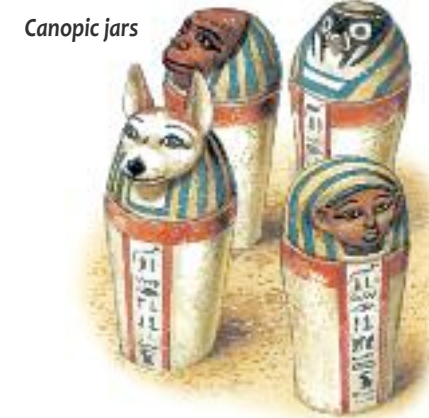


Isis The Egyptian goddess of women, mothers and children.

Ka The part of a person's soul that needed food and drink to survive. On death, it was thought to leave the body. The *ka* was represented as a pair of upraised hands.

Ma'at The principle of truth, justice and morality that was strictly followed by the ancient Egyptians. The principle was embodied by the goddess Ma'at.

Mastaba A rectangular, flat-topped tomb made from mud-bricks and stone. Mastabas were used for the burial of high-ranking individuals.



Canopic jars

Mortuary temple A temple built alongside a pyramid. Priests went there each day to make offerings to the spirits of the dead.

Mummy A body that has been preserved after death and then wrapped in cloth.

Mummification The process of preserving a body. It was carried out by people called **embalmers**. First they removed all the inner organs except for the heart, placing them in canopic jars. Next, they packed the body with salt, sand and spices and rubbed it with oils and resin, before wrapping it in layers of long linen bandages. It took about two months to mummify a body.

1 Removing the inner organs

2 Packing the body with salt, sand and spices

3 Wrapping the body in bandages

Mut Queen of the Egyptian gods. She was shown as a vulture or a crowned woman.

Natron A natural salt used to dry out bodies during mummification.

Opening of the Mouth A funeral ceremony believed to give the mummy its senses and movement in the Afterlife. A priest touched the hands, feet, eyes, ears, nose and lips of the mummy with a tool called an **adze**.

Osiris The Egyptian god of the dead. He was believed to rule the Afterlife.

Re The Egyptian god of the Sun. He was shown with a falcon's head, carrying the disc of the Sun above his head.

Resin A sticky substance that comes from tree sap and was used for embalming.

Sarcophagus The outer stone coffin into which a wooden coffin was laid.

Scarab A dung beetle that was a sacred symbol of new life and regeneration.

Seth The Egyptian god of deserts, storms, evil, darkness and war.

Shabti A small figure in the shape of a mummy. Shabti were placed in tombs to act as servants in the Afterlife.

Some of the treasures found in the tomb of Tutankhamun



The death mask of Tutankhamun

Tutankhamun King of Egypt from 1333 to 1323 BC. He is sometimes called the Boy King because he was only 19 when he died. His tomb was discovered intact in the Valley of the Kings in 1922.

Valley of the Kings A valley near Thebes where New Kingdom (13) pharaohs were buried in underground tombs.

Valley temple A temple on the River Nile, linked to the pyramid by a causeway (12). It was where the Opening of the Mouth ceremony may have been performed. The mummy was brought to the temple along the river on the royal funerary barge.

FACTFILE

★ The ancient Egyptians worshipped hundreds of different gods and goddesses.

★ As a result of the embalmer's skilled work, many mummies have not decayed thousands of years after mummification.

★ The word "mummy" comes from the Arabic word *mumiya*, meaning "pitch". This is because, over time, the resins used to soak the bandages wrapped around a mummy became black and sticky, resembling tar or pitch.



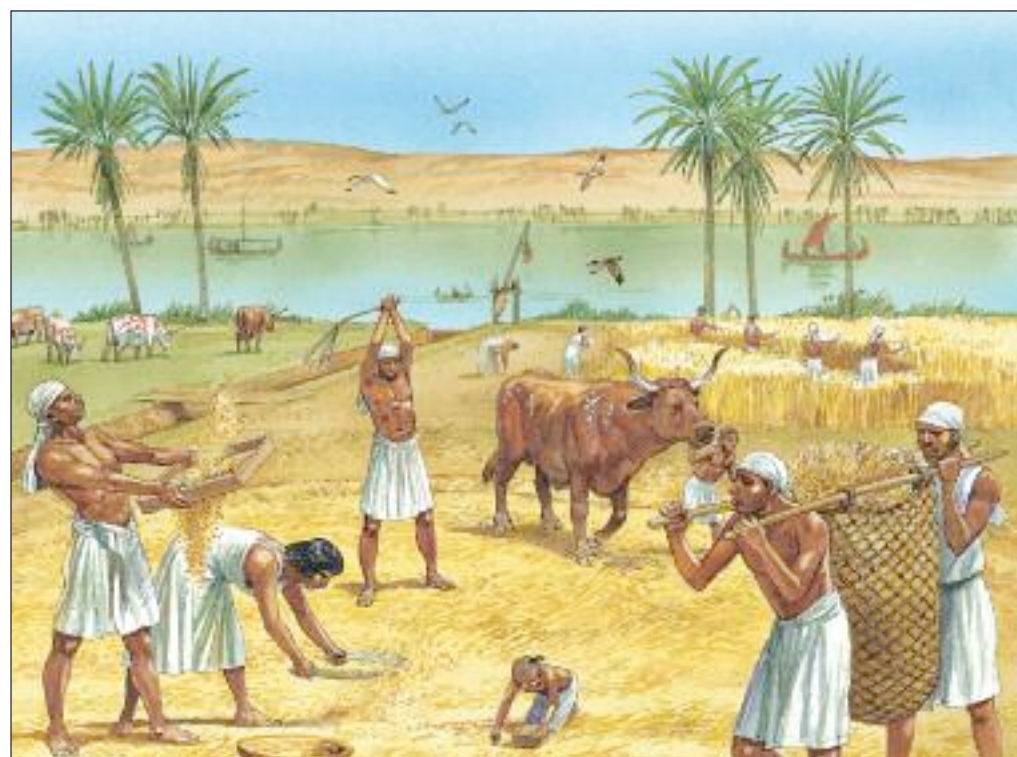
The eye of Horus, a popular amulet.

DAILY LIFE IN ANCIENT EGYPT

In ancient Egypt, social rank was extremely important. A person's position in society was closely linked to the work he did. At the top of Egyptian society was the pharaoh (13). Beneath him was his vizier, his high priests and priestesses and his army generals. Then came architects, doctors, soldiers and priests. Below them were artists and craftworkers. At the very bottom were the peasants and farmers. Most Egyptians were farmers, who farmed and fished around the edges of the River Nile.

Akhet One of the three seasons in ancient Egypt. It was the season when the Nile flooded, spreading tons of mud and silt across its floodplain. This occurred between September and January. Akhet was also known as the "season of the inundation".

Harvesting on the banks of the River Nile in the season of Shemu.



Reed boat

Demotic The normal, everyday writing used by the Egyptians in the later years of their civilization.

Deshret The ancient Egyptian name for the desert. The name means "the red land", referring to the colour of the sand.

Emmer A type of wheat grown in ancient Egypt. It was used for making bread.

Hieratic The normal, everyday form of writing used by ancient Egyptians. It was a simplified form of hieroglyphics and was much quicker to use.

Hieroglyphics A form of Egyptian writing, using signs that resemble pictures. The signs themselves are known as **hieroglyphs**. They were used only for inscription on tombs and other official or ceremonial purposes.



Hunters caught wild birds using curved sticks to stun the birds in mid-flight.

Inundation The annual flooding of the Nile. Each summer, rains upstream caused the Nile to burst its banks, laying down a fresh layer of rich, fertile earth across the floodplain on both sides. The Egyptians learned to irrigate the land so that it was not too dry or too sodden after the floods. They dug channels between the fields to take water to fields that were further away from the river.

Kemet The ancient Egyptian name for the floodplain surrounding the Nile. The name means "the black land", referring to the dark colour of the floodplain's fertile soil. It is sometimes called the Nile valley.

Nile The river that flows through the centre of Egypt. The river flooded every year, providing fertile soil for farming. The river was also vital for travelling from place to place and for transporting heavy goods.

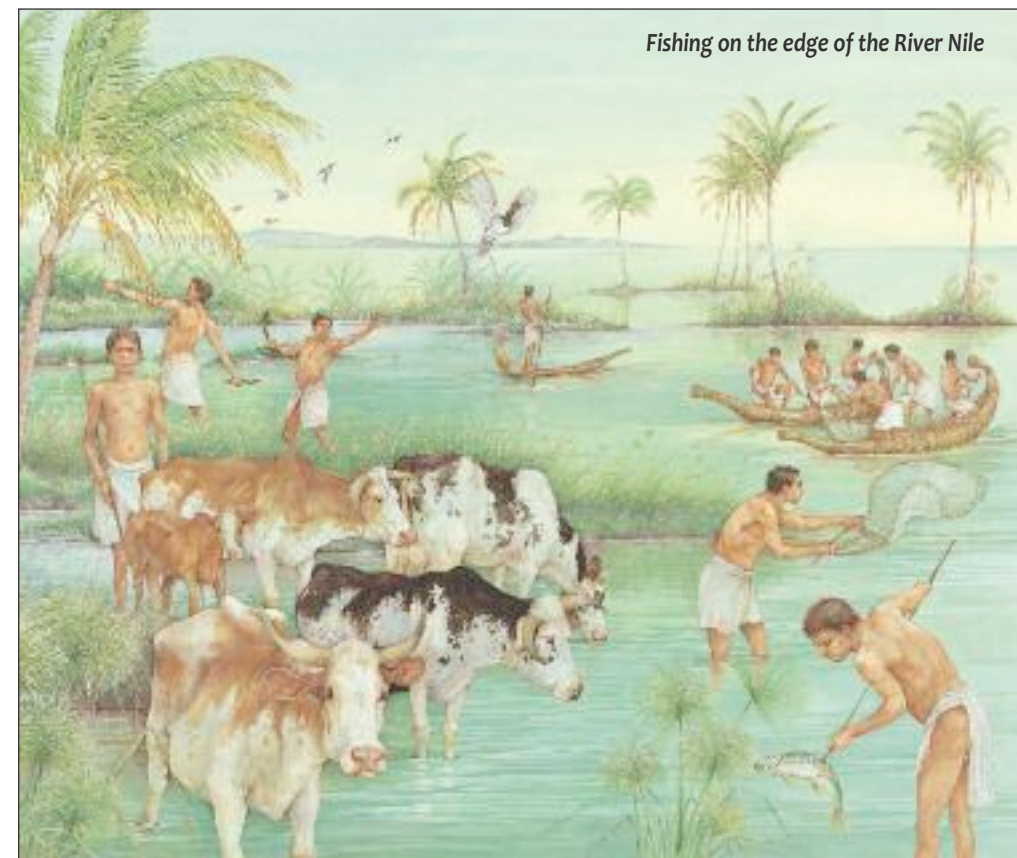


Hieroglyphs carved into stone

Nile Delta The place where the River Nile flows into the Mediterranean Sea. In ancient Egyptian times, it divided into seven main channels and hundreds of smaller ones which fanned out across the lowlands. This triangular area of land resembled the shape of the Greek letter "delta", so the region was known as the Nile Delta. The lands around the Nile Delta were fertile and an ideal place for farming.

Papyrus A reed that grows along riverbanks and can be used to make every day utensils, boats and a material for writing on.

Peret One of the three seasons in ancient Egypt. Peret was the Egyptian winter, when the Nile's flood waters retreated, leaving behind a layer of fertile soil. This occurred between January and May. It is sometimes known as the "season of the emergence".



Fishing on the edge of the River Nile

Reed boat A simple boat made from bundles of papyrus tied together. Reed boats had wooden paddles or long poles.

Scribe A person trained to read and write in ancient Egypt. Written records were vital to the way Egypt was governed. All government officials, priests, army generals as well as the pharaoh himself, knew how to read and write. In the cities, classes were set up for scribes. Only the sons of wealthy families went to school.

Shaduf A device for lifting water from the river to water the fields close by. It consisted of a pole with a bucket suspended from one end and a heavy counterweight at the other end. A farmer would lift the bucket of water by pulling the weight.



Formal hieroglyphs (top) and informal hieratic writing (above)

Shemu One of the three seasons in ancient Egypt. Shemu was the time of year when the River Nile was low and the crops were harvested. The word shemu means "low-water".

FACTFILE

★ Wealthy Egyptians lived in comfortable, houses. Beds were made of wicker on a wooden frame and sleepers rested their heads on wooden headrests. Couches had cushions stuffed with goose feathers, and tables were often highly decorated.

★ The Rosetta Stone is a fragment of a stone slab engraved with writing in three different scripts. It was discovered in 1799 and has proved vital in the understanding of ancient Egyptian writing. Because its inscriptions were written in Greek as well as hieroglyphic and demotic scripts, Frenchman Jean-François Champollion (1790-1832) was able to crack the code of hieroglyphic writing in 1824.



The Rosetta Stone

ANCIENT CHINA

People started to settle on the banks of the Huang (Yellow) River in northern China more than 7000 years ago. As the Chinese civilization developed, ruling families, or dynasties, began to take power. China became prosperous but was remote from the rest of the world for hundreds of years. The ancient Chinese were skilled craftworkers and artists, and made great achievements in technology. Chinese inventors developed paper, gunpowder and even rockets.

Characters Pictures or symbols used in Chinese writing. Each character represents a word or part of a word. Characters often have more than one meaning.

Confucius (551-479 BC) An important Chinese philosopher, who lived during the Zhou dynasty. He taught that it was better to govern people wisely than to rule them by force. His teachings became very popular during the time of the Han dynasty.

The Terracotta soldiers were originally painted in brilliant colours.



Chinese noblemen hunting rhinoceros

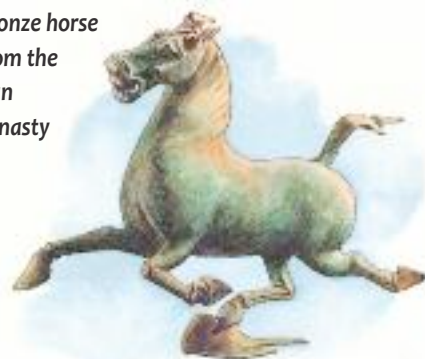
Great Wall of China A huge wall built to protect northern China from attack. The wall was ordered by Qin Shi Huangdi and added to by later emperors. Most of the wall we see today was built during the Ming dynasty. The wall is 600 km long and 10 m high.

Han dynasty The dynasty that ruled China from 202 BC to AD 220. During this period, the Chinese army added extensive new lands to the Chinese Empire. China made great progress in science and many new objects were invented, including paper and gunpowder.

Han tombs The stone tombs where the Han emperors were buried. The most famous is the tomb of **Prince Liu Cheng**, who was buried in a suit made from over 2000 pieces of jade, sewn together with gold thread.

Mandarin An important government official from the time of the Han dynasty. Mandarins ensured that people followed the laws and paid their taxes.

Bronze horse from the Han dynasty



Mandate of Heaven A traditional Chinese belief that the emperor had the blessing of heaven, so long as he was just and fair.

Oracle bones Animal bones used by fortune-tellers in Shang times. The bones were inscribed with questions, in the form of picture symbols. They were heated over a fire until cracks appeared. The places where cracks crossed the pictures were supposed to give answers from the gods. The symbols are the first known example of writing in China.

Qin Shi Huangdi The first emperor of China. He ruled from 221 to 210 BC. He forced everyone to pay taxes and use the same money, weights and writing. Despite his ferocity, Shi Huangdi had a great fear of death. Soon after he became emperor, he began to plan his tomb, which was guarded by his Terracotta Army. He also ordered the construction of the Great Wall.

Oracle bone from the Shang dynasty



Qin dynasty The dynasty that ruled China from 221 to 206 BC. The dynasty reunited China after years of division and war.

Shang dynasty The first true Chinese dynasty. It ruled from 1600 to 1046 BC. The Shang people discovered how to make strong tools and weapons from the metal bronze.

Silk A material made from the threads produced by silkworms. Wealthy Chinese people wore clothes made from silk, which kept them cool in the hot weather.

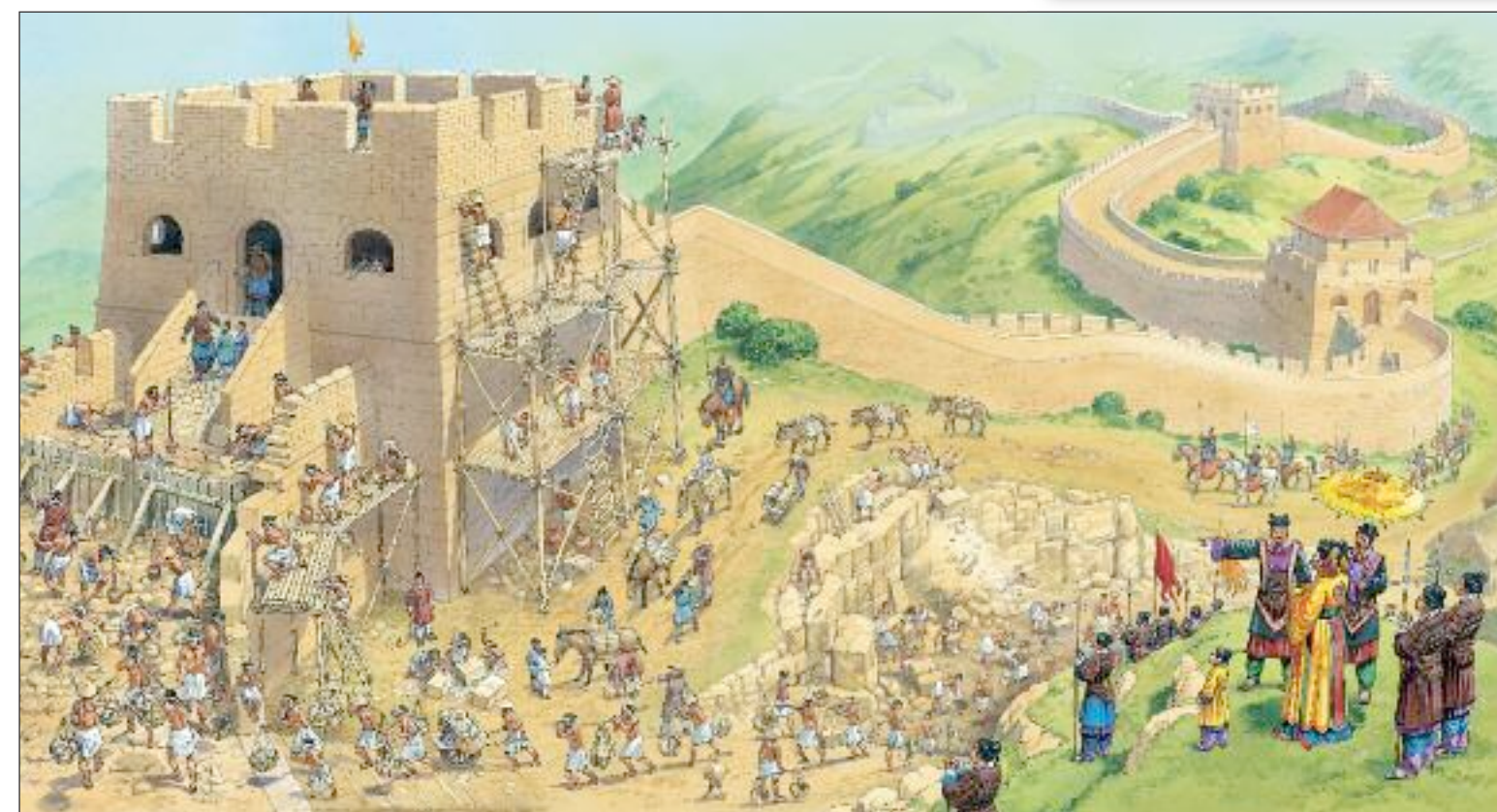
Silk Route A group of roads that linked cities in China to various areas in the Middle East. Few merchants travelled the whole route. Most would travel a certain distance and then pass their goods on to another merchant.

Taoism The teachings of the Chinese philosopher **Lao Tzu**. He taught that people should live simple lives in harmony with nature.

Terracotta Army An army of 600,000 life-size soldiers made of clay. They were buried alongside Qin Shi Huangdi to protect his spirit after death. Some soldiers were on horseback or carrying weapons. Each brightly-painted soldier had a different face. It is thought that they may have been portraits of men in the emperor's real army.

Zhou dynasty The dynasty that ruled China from 1046 to 256 BC. During this period, iron replaced bronze as the main material for making tools and weapons.

The construction of the Great Wall of China. Millions of workers carried every block from the quarry to the site in baskets.



A BRIEF HISTORY

★ **c.5000 BC** The Chinese civilization begins. Farming methods become more efficient and the population increases.

★ **1750 BC** The Shang dynasty comes to power in China.

★ **1046 BC** The Shang dynasty is overthrown and the Zhou dynasty begins.

★ **551 BC** Birth of the philosopher Confucius.

★ **475-221 BC** Period of unrest across China as separate states gradually become independent and begin to fight each other.

★ **221 BC** Qin rule begins in China. Qin Shi Huangdi becomes the first emperor. Work on the Great Wall of China begins. The Terracotta Army is produced.

★ **210 BC** Qin Shi Huangdi dies

★ **202 BC** The Han dynasty gains control of China.

★ **112 BC** The Silk Route opens.

Qin warrior

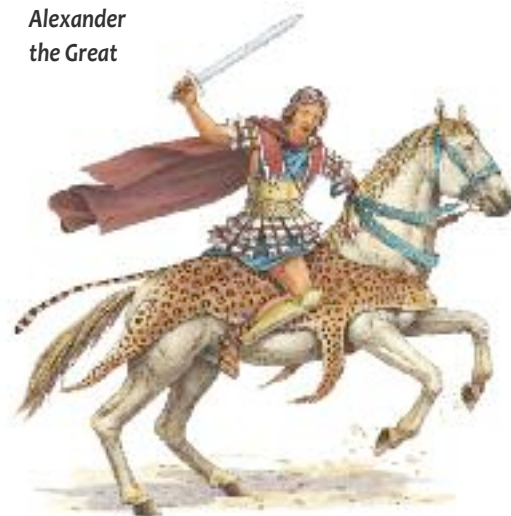


ANCIENT GREECE

Three thousand years ago, Greece was not one country, but a land made up of many different city-states. They all shared the same language and religion but each state had its own laws, government and money. Greek cities had a theatre and a gymnasium, law courts and public forums where politics were discussed, and huge temples and shrines dedicated to the gods. The Greeks made great progress in science, philosophy, politics and the arts, and for this reason Greece is often called “the birthplace of Western civilization”.

Alexander the Great King of Macedonia from 336 to 323 BC. He was a great military commander and conquered most of the ancient world, including Greece, the Persian Empire and Egypt.

Alexander the Great



Athens A city-state of Greece. In the 5th century BC, Athens was one of the world's most powerful cities. It was named after its patron goddess, Athena.

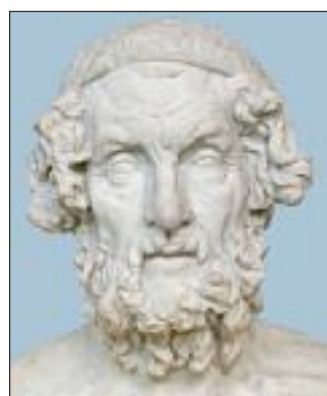
Crete The largest of the Greek islands and the centre of the Minoan civilization.

Democracy A political system that gave citizens a say in how they were ruled by allowing them to vote on their laws. The word democracy comes from the Greek *demokratia*, which means “government by the people”.

Drama All large cities in Greece had a theatre and drama was a popular form of entertainment. The main types of plays were **comedies** and **tragedies**.

Greek gods The ancient Greeks worshipped many gods and goddesses, who they believed controlled every aspect of their lives. The 12 most important gods were said to live on **Mount Olympus**, the highest mountain in Greece. **Zeus** was the chief of the Olympian gods.

Hellenistic Period The era between the death of Alexander the Great (323 BC) and the Roman conquest of Greece (27 BC).



Homer

Homer A famous poet, thought to be the author of the epic stories the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. Homer is thought to have lived in the 8th or 9th century BC.

Hoplites The foot soldiers of the Greek army. They were mainly armed with spears or swords. The soldiers were all citizens, who would work as farmers when they were not fighting.

Minoan civilization A civilization that developed on the Greek island of Crete. The Minoans had started building their towns and palaces by about 2000 BC. They made their wealth by trading with other Mediterranean centres.

Minoan acrobats



Myths Tales about gods and heroes that were passed down from generation to generation. The word myth comes from the Greek word *mythos* meaning “story”.

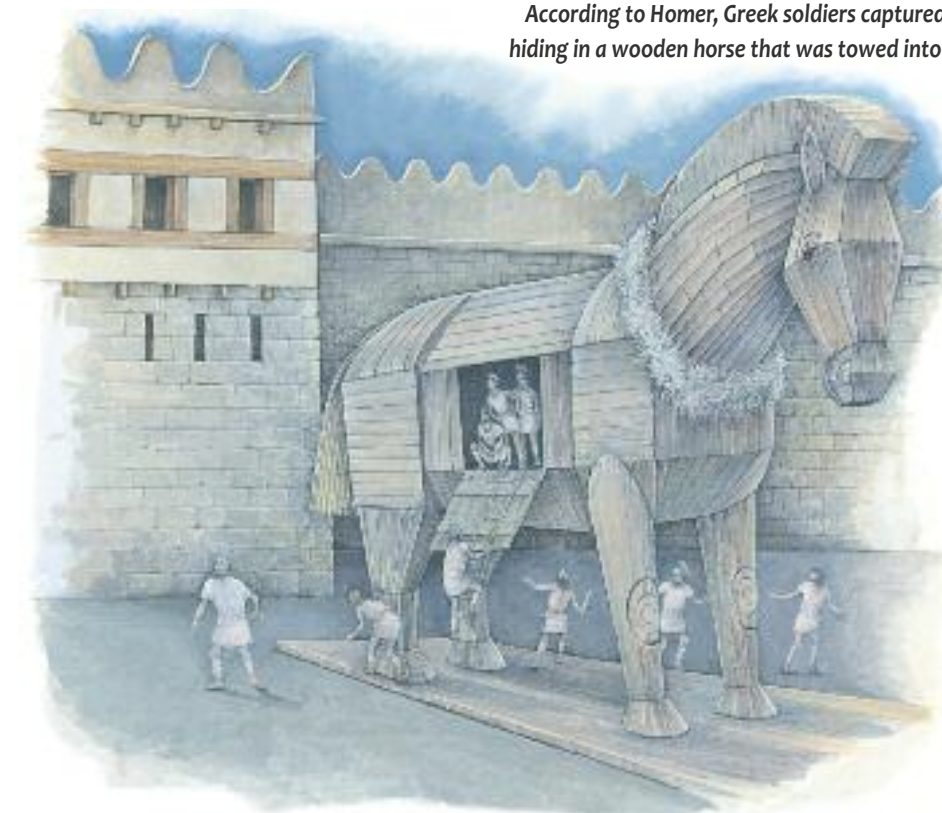
Mycenaean civilization The first civilization to develop on the Greek mainland. The Mycenaeans were a warlike people who flourished between 1600 and 1100 BC.

Mycenaean gold mask



Olympic Games A series of sporting competitions held between the different city-states of ancient Greece. The games were of equal athletic and religious importance, with ritual sacrifices taking place alongside sporting events. Then as now, the games were held every four years.

Peloponnesian War The war fought between Athens and its empire and Sparta and its allies, known as the Peloponnesian League. The war lasted from 431 to 404 BC, when the Athenian Empire was defeated and the city of Athens overrun.



According to Homer, Greek soldiers captured Troy by hiding in a wooden horse that was towed into the city.

Persian Empire An empire that ruled much of the Middle East from 550 to 330 BC. The Persian army made several failed attempts to conquer the Greek city-states. The empire ended in 330 BC after Alexander the Great invaded the Persian capital.

Philosophy The study of thought. Philosophers ask questions such as “what is wrong?” and “how do we know we exist?”. The word philosophy comes from the Greek *philos* meaning “love” and *sophia* meaning “wisdom”.

Sparta The only Greek city-state with a full-time army. The Spartans had a reputation for strength and bravery. Boys were taught to fight in battle from the age of seven.

Trireme A Greek warship that was rowed into battle by three rows of oarsmen.

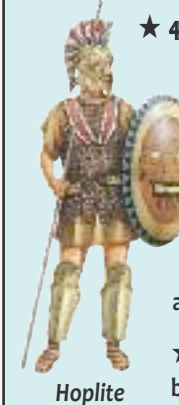
An amphitheatre, where plays were performed



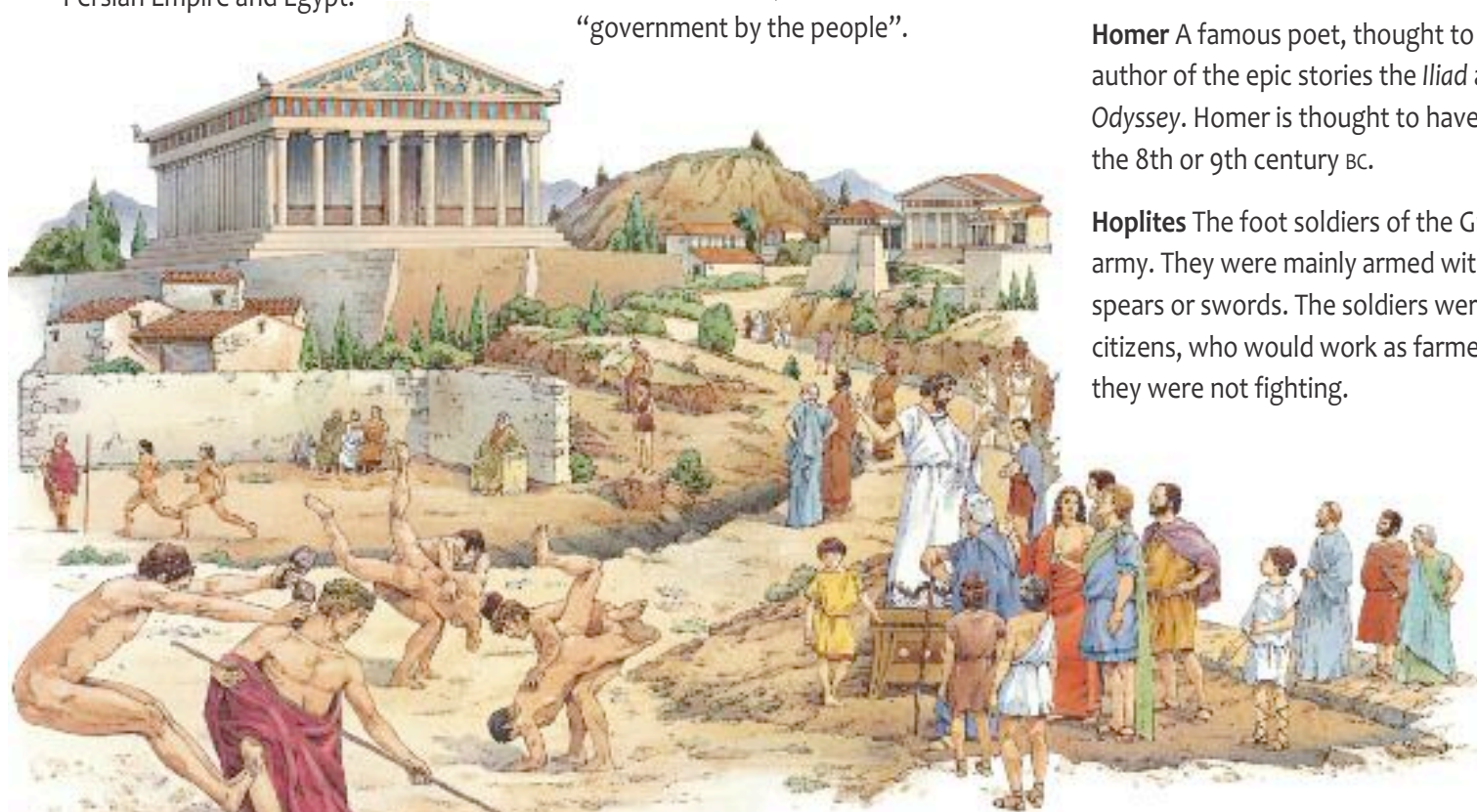
Trojan Wars The 10-year siege of Troy. It was waged by Menelaus, in order to retrieve his beautiful wife Helen, who had run away with Paris, a Trojan prince.

A BRIEF HISTORY

- ★ **c.6000 BC** The Minoans arrive on Crete.
- ★ **c.1600 BC** The Mycenaean civilization begins in Greece.
- ★ **c.800 BC** Greek city-states are founded.
- ★ **776 BC** The first Olympic Games are held.
- ★ **c.500 BC** The start of democracy in Greece.
- ★ **499-449 BC** The Persians attempt to invade Greece but are fought back by the Greeks.
- ★ **449 BC** The Greeks make peace with Persia. Athens flourishes.
- ★ **431-404 BC** Peloponnesian Wars.
- ★ **338 BC** King Philip of Macedonia unites Greece under his rule.
- ★ **336 BC** Alexander the Great seizes power in Greece and invades Persia.
- ★ **146 BC** Greece is dominated by Rome.



Hoplite



A scene in Athens, the most powerful city-state of Greece. The city was dominated by huge temples. People make speeches about government and politics. Meanwhile, athletes are practising for the Olympic Games.

THE ROMAN EMPIRE

Visigoths destroy Rome in AD 455



The Romans came from a province of Italy called Latium. They built up a huge empire. At its peak in AD 117, the Roman Empire included France, Spain, Germany, Britain, and parts of eastern Europe and North Africa. At this time, about 50 million people lived under Roman rule. The secret of Rome's success was its well-trained and organized army that crushed all opposition. Once new land had been conquered, the Romans introduced their own lifestyle and language to the conquered people.

Augustus The adopted son of Julius Caesar and the first emperor of the Roman Empire, which he ruled from 27 BC to AD 13. His real name was **Octavian**, but he took the name Augustus when he came to power. Augustus brought peace, but chose his own successor, thereby turning Rome from a republic with an elected leader into an empire ruled by an emperor.

Barbarian A person who lived outside the Roman Empire. The Romans regarded the Barbarians as rough and uncivilized.

Caesar, Julius Consul of Rome from 59 to 44 BC. Caesar had been a brilliant general, conquering many lands for Rome. When he was elected consul he began to rule Rome as a dictator (someone who has absolute power). Some senators wanted to regain power, so in 44 BC a group of them stabbed Caesar to death.

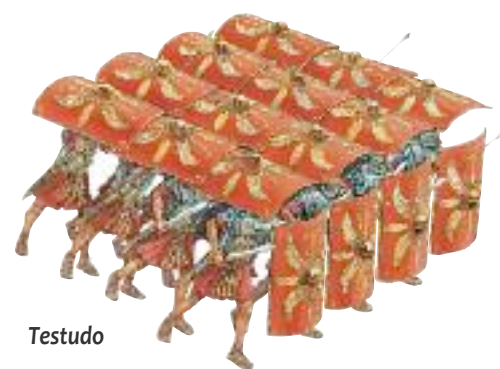
Caligula Emperor of Rome from AD 37 to 41. He was cruel and vain and would often have people slaughtered for no good reason. He was very probably mad: he even tried to make his horse a consul.

Cavalry Soldiers that rode on horseback. They often came from wealthy families.

Centurion The commanding officer of a century, an army unit of 80 men.

Cohort A Roman army unit, usually made up of six centuries, or 480 men.

Consul The most powerful elected official in the Roman Republic. Two consuls were elected to serve for one year. They were expected to govern Rome in agreement with each other.



Testudo

Contubernium An army unit of eight men.

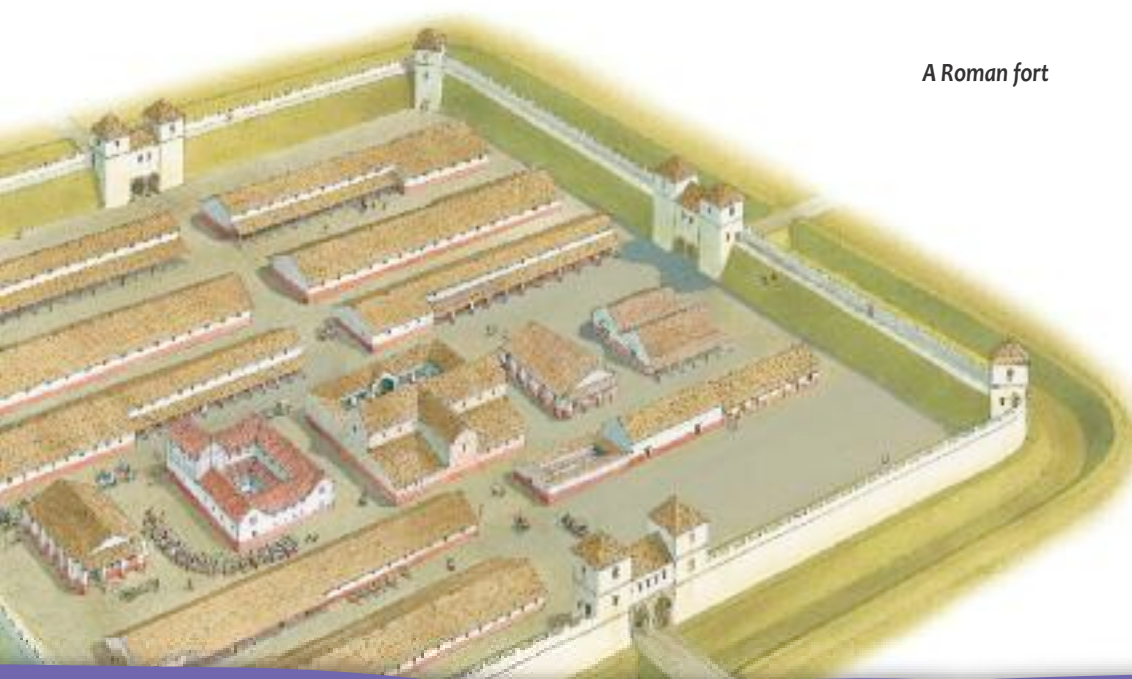
Cuirass Leather or metal body armour worn by Roman soldiers. It was made of several strips joined together to make it more flexible than a single piece.

Legion The largest unit of the Roman army, made up of about 6000 men. A **legionary** was a basic foot soldier.

Nero Emperor of Rome from AD 54 to 68. In AD 64 a fire destroyed part of Rome. It is said that Nero, who saw himself as a great musician, played the lyre as Rome burned.

Prima cohort The largest cohort in a legion, made up of ten centuries, or 800 men.

A Roman fort



Cavalry Reserve soldiers Legionaries Baggage Generals

Punic wars The wars between Rome and Carthage. War broke out in 264 BC over control of Sicily. Carthage was defeated in 241 BC. In 218 BC **Hannibal** of Carthage invaded Italy but was defeated in 202 BC. 60 years later Carthage fell to Rome.

A centurion



Quinquereme A warship powered by 300 oars arranged in three rows on each side of the ship.

Republic A form of government where leaders are elected by the people. Rome was a republic from 509 to 27 BC.

Roman emperor The supreme ruler of the Roman Empire. Emperors were not kings but they had absolute power over their people.

Roman Empire The lands and people controlled by Rome for around 400 years from 27 BC. It was ruled by the Roman emperor.

Senate A group of important men who helped to govern the Republic and the Empire.

SPQR Initials standing for **Senatus Populusque Romanus**, meaning "The Senate and the People of Rome". These initials were found on Roman coins and many public buildings.

Standard A tall pole topped with the symbol of a legion or century. It was carried into battle by a standard bearer.

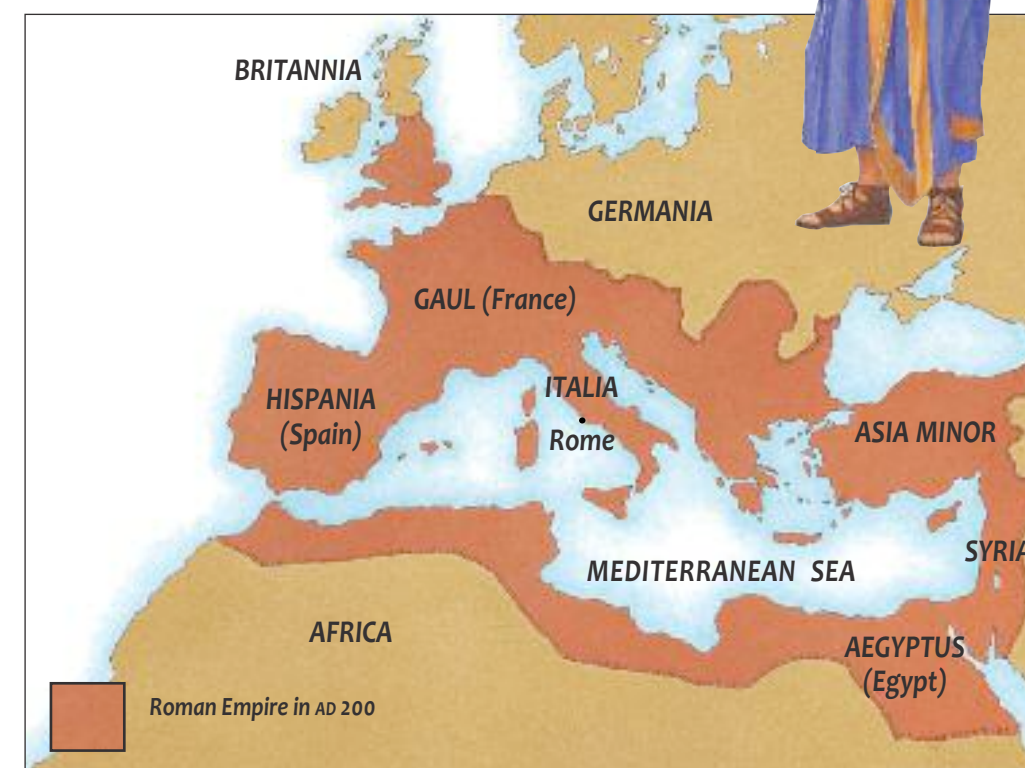
Testudo A military formation where soldiers marched with their shields overlapping over their heads and in front of them. This would protect the men from arrows and spears as they advanced. *Testudo* is Latin for "tortoise".

Tiberius Emperor of Rome from AD 14 to 37. He strengthened the empire but became a tyrant feared by all.

A BRIEF HISTORY

- ★ 753 BC The founding of Rome.
- ★ 510 BC Tarquin, the last king of Rome, is driven out and Rome becomes a republic.
- ★ 264–146 BC Punic Wars
- ★ 59 BC Julius Caesar is elected consul.
- ★ 44 BC Caesar is stabbed to death.
- ★ 43 BC Mark Anthony and Octavian struggle for power of Rome.
- ★ 27 BC Octavian becomes Augustus, the first emperor of Rome.
- ★ AD 14 Tiberius becomes emperor.
- ★ AD 37 Caligula becomes emperor.
- ★ AD 41 Claudius becomes emperor.
- ★ AD 54 Nero becomes emperor.
- ★ AD 380 Christianity becomes the official religion of the Empire.
- ★ AD 410 The Barbarian Visigoths sack Rome.
- ★ AD 476 Rome is overthrown by German chieftain Odoacer.

Emperor Nero



Roman Empire in AD 200

EVERYDAY LIFE IN ROME

Roman streets were laid out in a grid pattern around the forum, a central meeting square. Each town would have its own bathhouse, theatre and amphitheatre. Farmers from the countryside brought their produce into the towns to sell in market. Wealthy Romans lived in comfortable, spacious villas, but poor people's homes were small and cramped.

Amphitheatre A place where Romans went to watch entertainments such as gladiator contests and wild animal hunts. It was usually circular or oval-shaped with an arena in the centre and seats on raised steps surrounding it.

Atrium The central reception area in a town house. It had an open roof to let in light and a pool called an impluvium to catch rainwater. The rooms in a house were arranged around the atrium.

Basilica A large public building where important local business was carried out—much like a modern town hall.



A Roman town

Chariot A cart with two wheels pulled by horses. The Romans used chariots for transport and racing. Drivers raced their horse-drawn chariots at top speed around the circus. They were allowed to ram into each other, and chariots often overturned.

Circus A long, narrow arena with curved ends, where chariot races were held. The Circus Maximus was a massive arena and racecourse in Rome. It was big enough to hold roughly one quarter of the city's population.

Citizen A person born in Rome with parents who were themselves Roman citizens. Later, citizenship was granted to everyone in the empire except for slaves.

Denarius A silver coin. In the first century AD a legionary was paid 225 denarii a year.

Domus A large town house owned by a rich Roman citizen.

Forum A space in the centre of a town where meetings and markets were held.

Gladiator A slave or criminal trained to fight other gladiators and animals for the entertainment of the people. Gladiators fought to the death. After many victories gladiators might be given their freedom. Some gladiators made great careers for themselves in the arena. If a gladiator was wounded and asked for mercy, the emperor could decide whether his life should be spared or not.

Insula An apartment block in town. Most town-dwellers lived in apartment blocks. Some were built above shops.

Latin The official spoken and written language of the Roman empire. It is not spoken today, but there are many words of Latin origin in modern European languages.

Patrician A Roman citizen who was descended from a noble Roman family.

Peristyle A walled garden within a large town house. Gardens typically had a water feature, hedges and trees, herbs, grapevines, statues and wall-paintings.

Plebeian A citizen who was not a patrician.

Roman gods The Romans worshipped many different gods and goddesses, which were based on the Greek gods (♁♃). They worshipped the gods in large temples and before small shrines inside their houses.

ROMAN COINS



Denarius

Sestertius

Aureus

Slave A person sold to another person to work for them for free. Slaves had no rights, but could be granted their freedom by their masters.

Taberna A shop in ancient Rome. Shops sold anything from hot take-away food to pottery and clothing.

Toga A long piece of woollen cloth that was worn over a basic tunic.

Triclinium A dining room, usually furnished with three sofas around a table.

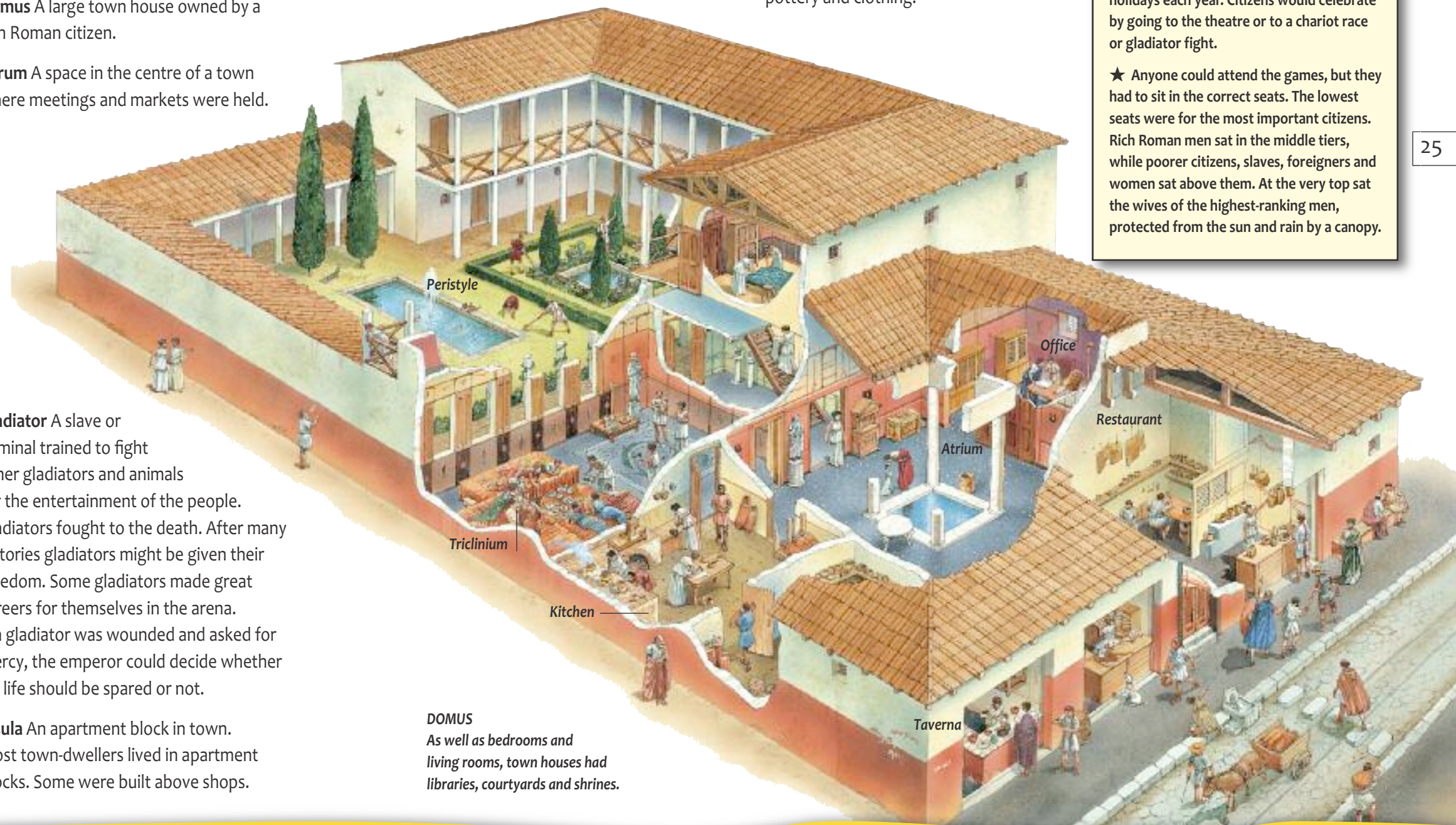
Villa A large house in the countryside.

FACTFILE

★ Much of our evidence about Roman life comes from the ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum. The two cities were destroyed in AD 79 when the volcano Vesuvius erupted. Pompeii was buried under hot ash and Herculaneum disappeared under mud washed down from the volcano. Whole streets of shops and houses have been excavated in both cities.

★ The Romans had about 120 public holidays each year. Citizens would celebrate by going to the theatre or to a chariot race or gladiator fight.

★ Anyone could attend the games, but they had to sit in the correct seats. The lowest seats were for the most important citizens. Rich Roman men sat in the middle tiers, while poorer citizens, slaves, foreigners and women sat above them. At the very top sat the wives of the highest-ranking men, protected from the sun and rain by a canopy.



DOMUS

As well as bedrooms and living rooms, town houses had libraries, courtyards and shrines.

Gladiators fought with shields and swords, or with tridents and nets.

ROMAN BUILDING

The Romans were skilled builders and engineers. After conquering a region, they were quick to build new buildings, roads and aqueducts. Good roads allowed soldiers, messengers and the delivery of supplies to make progress in all weathers. Most towns had public baths that anyone could visit. These were an impressive feat of engineering, with central heating and water brought in via an aqueduct.

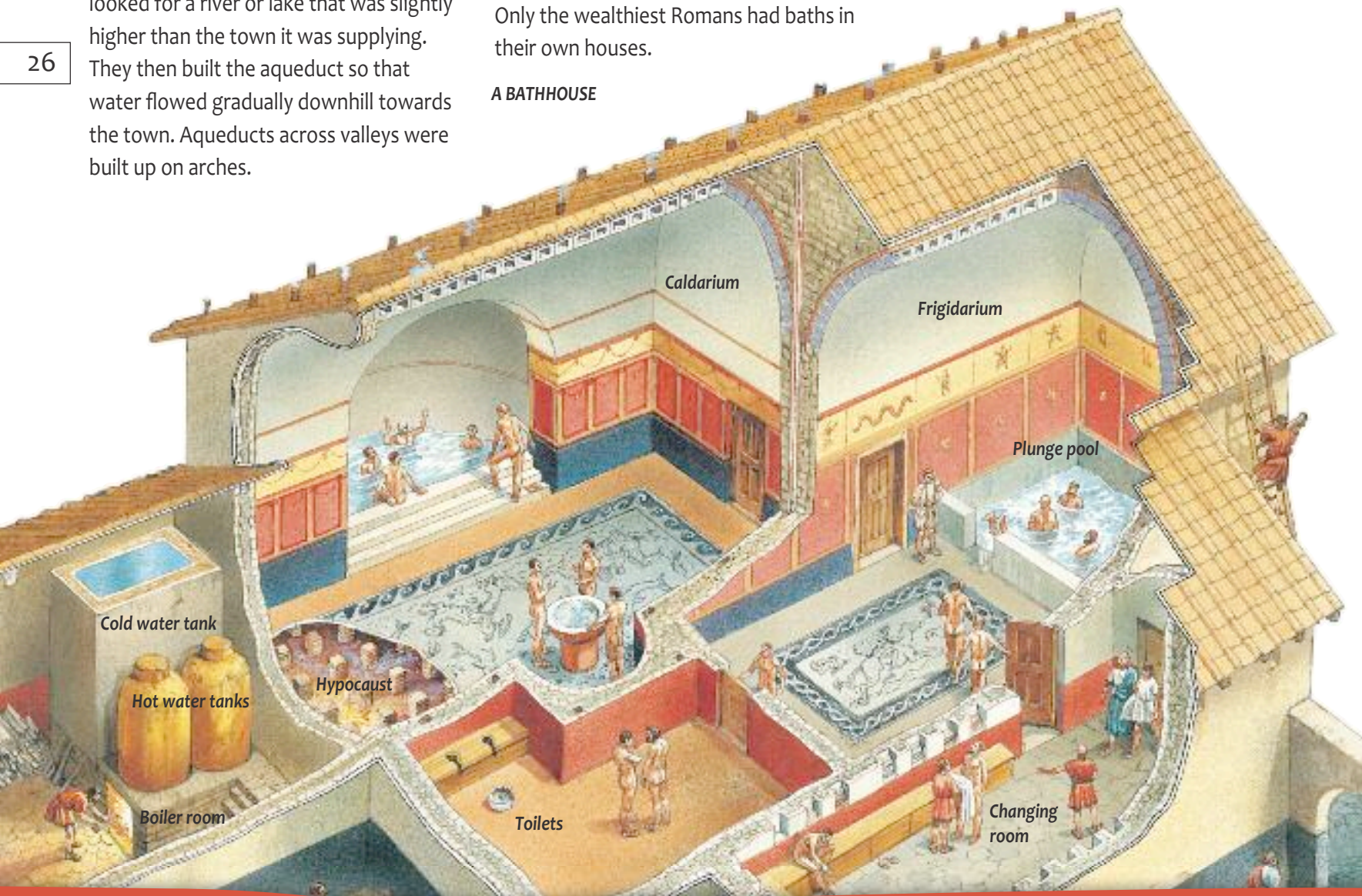
Aqueduct A system of pipes and channels that brought clean water into towns from natural springs and rivers. Engineers looked for a river or lake that was slightly higher than the town it was supplying. They then built the aqueduct so that water flowed gradually downhill towards the town. Aqueducts across valleys were built up on arches.



A mosaic of a partridge perched in a tree.

Bathhouse A public building where people could go to wash. Bathhouses were also a good place to meet friends and socialize. The baths were heated by a hypocaust, or underfloor heating system. Bathers passed through several different rooms. Women had use of the baths in the morning, and men in the afternoon. Only the wealthiest Romans had baths in their own houses.

A BATHHOUSE

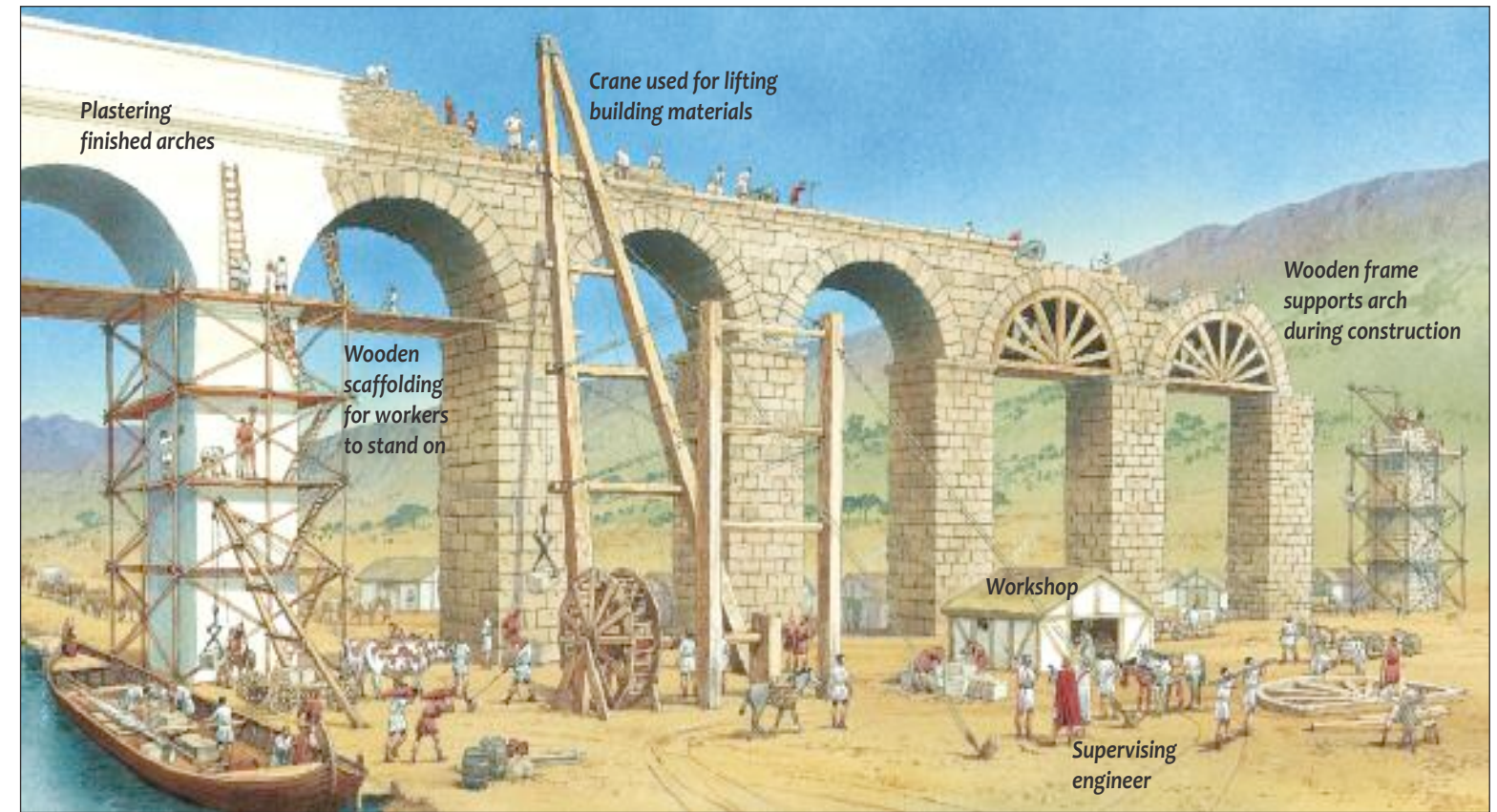


Caldarium The hot room in a bathhouse. Here, bathers would soak in a large hot bath sunk into the ground.

Concrete A building material made of sand, aggregate (rocks, rubble or broken tiles) and mortar (lime, gypsum or volcanic ash). In late Roman times many buildings were made from concrete.

Frigidarium The cold room in a bathhouse. Here there was a cold bath to plunge into, which would close the pores of the skin.

Groma An instrument used to measure straight lines and right angles. It was made of a wooden pole topped with a flat cross from which small weights were hung. A surveyor would position the groma so that two of the strings were aligned. He would then direct an assistant to place poles in line with the strings, thus marking out a straight line.



Building an aqueduct across a valley (above)
Workers make progress on a new road (below)



Hypocaust A central heating system using hot air from a furnace that is channelled through spaces under floors and between walls. Hypocausts were used to heat bathhouses and the homes of wealthy families.

Mosaic A decorative pattern or picture made from coloured pieces of stone, pottery or glass set into cement. Mosaics were used to decorate floors. They mostly showed scenes of daily life or mythology.

Roman roads Roman roads were planned to take the shortest route and to be as straight as possible. When the route had been decided, soldiers and slaves dug a wide trench. The road was then built by packing layers of stone, sand and concrete into the trench. Some Roman roads are still in use today.

Roman sewers The Romans built a system of underground pipes to carry sewage out of their cities and into nearby rivers or streams. The pipes were washed out with used water from bathhouses. These sewers helped to make cities much more hygienic.

Sudatorium A steam room in a Roman bathhouse. Its name comes from the Latin word *sudor* meaning "sweat". In this room, the bather scraped oil and dirt off their skin with a device called a **strigil**.

Surveyor A person who measures and maps the land. A Roman surveyor would decide on the best locations for roads and aqueducts. Surveyors travelled with the army to plan where forts should be built.

Tepidarium The warm room in a Roman bathhouse. Bathers would enter the tepidarium to cool down after the steam and heat of the sudatorium.

Thermae The Roman name for a public bathhouse. The word *thermae* comes from the Greek word *thermos* meaning "hot".

FACTFILE

- ★ The Romans built 85,000 km of roads throughout their empire.
- ★ The Romans made the first milestones—stone blocks that were placed along the side of a road. They gave the distance to Rome as well as the distance to the nearest town. Roman milestones were placed 1000 paces (1480 m) apart.
- ★ About 200 Roman aqueducts are still standing today.
- ★ The word aqueduct comes from the Latin words for "water" and "to draw along"



Using a groma

ANCIENT AMERICA

People had lived in the Americas for thousands of years before Europeans arrived in the 16th century. In Central and South America, farming villages grew into cities with magnificent temples and palaces. Religion was very important to most ancient American civilizations and they worshipped many gods. The Maya and Aztecs held religious ceremonies at which human sacrifices were made to ensure plentiful harvests and good fortune.

Andes A mountain range running the length of western South America. The Inca civilization flourished in the Andes before the arrival of Europeans.

Aztecs A people that dominated Central America from AD 1200 to 1519. Their empire was based around the city of Tenochtitlán in what is now Mexico. They often went to war and would gather captives from the defeated to sacrifice to their gods. The Aztec Empire was destroyed by the Spanish in the 16th century.

Ball games A popular Aztec and Maya activity. Two teams of players tried to knock a ball through a ring using only their forearms, hips and thighs. Members of the losing team were often sacrificed to the gods.

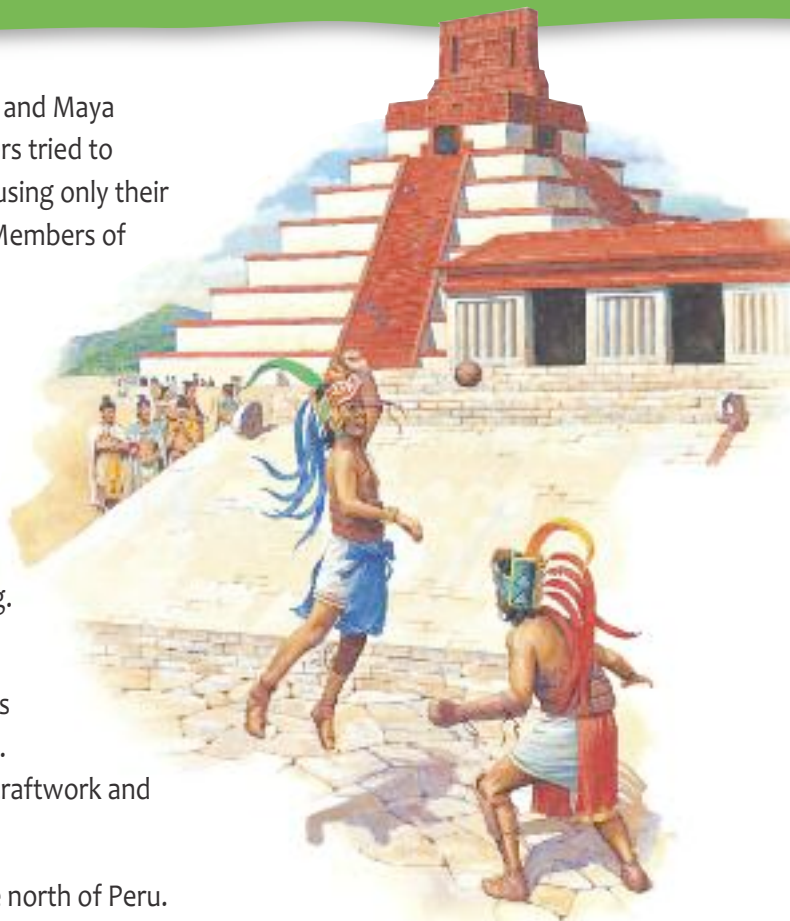
Chavin civilization A civilization that flourished in northern Peru from around 1200 BC to 200 BC. Their culture was based on fishing, farming and hunting.

Chimu civilization A civilization that ruled parts of Peru from AD 900 to 1470. The Chimu made beautiful craftwork and worshipped the Moon.

Huari A civilization from the north of Peru. It was at its height around AD 800 and was a fierce rival of the Tiahuanaco people.

Inca A formidable empire that ruled much of western South America in the 15th and 16th centuries. The Inca built up a vast empire by conquest, then governed their people firmly. They worshipped the Sun and called themselves “children of the Sun”. Many of their stone roads still exist today. The Inca Empire was defeated by the Spanish in the 16th century.

The Sapa Inca being carried by servants



Aztec ball game in front of a stepped pyramid

Jaguar knight An Aztec warrior who wore the skins, head, jaws and teeth of a jaguar and carried a wooden club edged with sharp blades called a **maquahuitl**. Only the finest warriors became jaguar knights. They were highly respected and feared.

Machu Picchu An ancient Inca fortress city high in the Andes mountains built in about the 15th century AD and not discovered by the rest of the world until 1911.

Maya civilization An advanced civilization that flourished in Central America from the 3rd century BC to the 10th century AD. As their civilization expanded they built huge temple-pyramids and palaces. The Maya became advanced in branches of astronomy and mathematics and developed a writing system.

Moche civilization A civilization that flourished in northern Peru from AD 100 to 800. The Moche were brilliant potters and metal workers with a kingdom of thousands of people. Moche rulers were rich and powerful warrior-priests, who often led their people to war.

Moctezuma II The last of the Aztec emperors. He was probably assassinated by the Spanish conquistador **Hernan Cortés** in 1520.

Nazca A system of valleys that runs across south Peru. The Nazca culture developed here between 300 BC and AD 800.



Nazca lines

Nazca lines A series of pictures carved into the ground in the Nazca Desert in southern Peru. Each image, usually of an animal, is of gigantic proportions and can only be seen properly from the air. No one knows what the pictures mean but they may have played a part in a Nazca religious ritual.

Olmec civilization A civilization that developed between 1200 and 300 BC. The Olmecs lived in swampy lands near the Gulf of Mexico. They did not go to war but flourished through trade. Their stepped pyramid temples were adopted by later ancient American civilizations.

Pyramid of the Sun A huge pyramid built in central Mexico in the 1st century AD. It was built over a cave where the Sun was said to have been born. The city of Teotihuacán was later built around it.

Quechua The set of languages spoken by most ancient American civilizations.

Sapa Inca The leader of the Inca people. The Sapa Inca not only ruled everything but was believed to be a descendant of the Sun god, **Inti**. *Inca* means “emperor” and *sapa* means “only”.

Tenochtitlán The most important city in the Aztec empire. Founded in AD 1325, the city covered about 15 square kilometres. It was built on an island in Lake Texcoco.

Giant stone heads like this one were carved by the Olmecs. Each head weighs up to 20 tonnes.



Teotihuacán The name of an ancient American civilization and their capital city. Teotihuacán is sometimes referred to as “the city of the gods”.

The stepped pyramids of a Maya city built in an area of cleared forest.



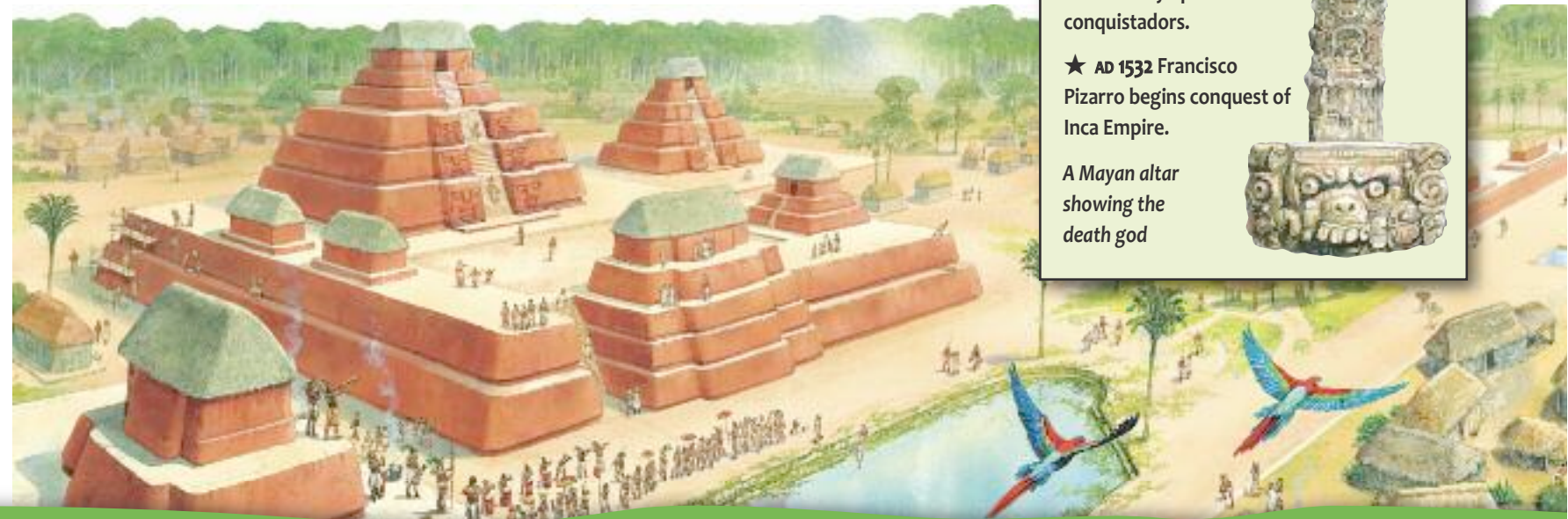
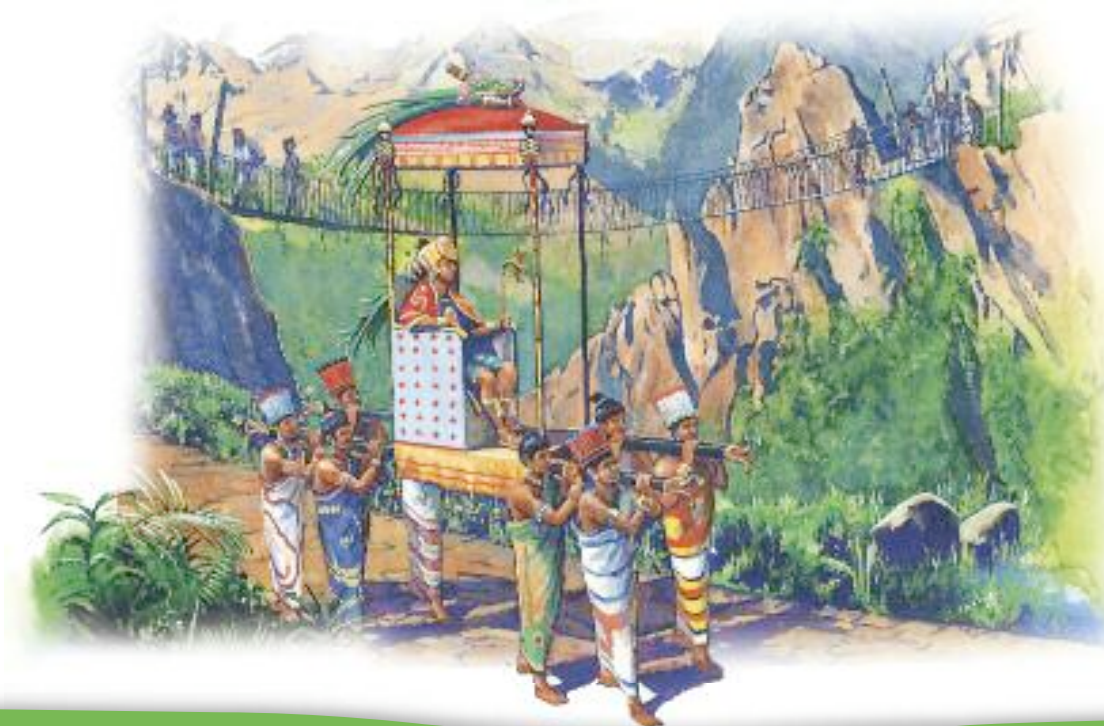
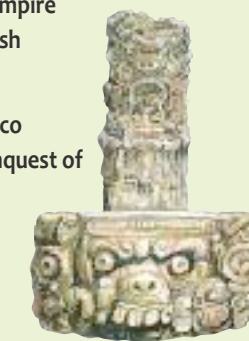
Jaguar knight

Tiahuanaco civilization A civilization that was based near Lake Titicaca, high in the Andes. It was at its most powerful between AD 500 and 1000.

A BRIEF HISTORY

- ★ **c.12,000 BC** The Olmec civilization begins.
- ★ **900-200 BC** The Chavin flourish.
- ★ **300 BC** Rise of the Nazca culture.
- ★ **AD 100** The Moche civilization begins.
- ★ **AD 300** The rise of the Mayan civilization.
- ★ **AD 500-1000** Tiahuanaco civilization.
- ★ **AD 600-900** Huari civilization.
- ★ **AD 1200** Aztec Empire established.
- ★ **AD 100-1470** Chimu civilization.
- ★ **AD 1438** Inca Empire established.
- ★ **AD 1521** Aztec Empire defeated by Spanish conquistadors.
- ★ **AD 1532** Francisco Pizarro begins conquest of Inca Empire.

A Mayan altar showing the death god



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