

Name: _____

Period: _____

CLASSICAL CIVILIZATIONS

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1. One characteristic that differentiated classical civilizations from the earlier river valley societies was that
 - A) they were agricultural.
 - B) there was a higher rate of literacy.
 - C) they were more durable.
 - D) there was less warfare.
 - E) they created larger political structures capable of controlling more territory.

2. A major factor in China's development of the first elaborate classical society was
 - A) a reduction in China's population.
 - B) a stable political leadership.
 - C) its ability to remain isolated and avoid outside invasion.
 - D) a sharp increase in food production.
 - E) an absence of religious activity.

3. The Chinese view of nature stressed
 - A) harmony and balance.
 - B) a mystical belief that humans and nature were one.
 - C) the scientific control and domination of nature.
 - D) nature must be ignored.
 - E) nature was determined by God.

4. Classical Chinese civilization was ruled by all of these EXCEPT
 - A) the Shang dynasty.
 - B) the Zhou dynasty.
 - C) the Qin dynasty.
 - D) the Han dynasty.
 - E) the Tang dynasty

5. A distinguishing feature of the classical Chinese economy was
 - A) very little social stratification.
 - B) a series of international trading networks.
 - C) high social status for active merchants.
 - D) state support for merchant and artisan classes.
 - E) a high level of technology.

6. The Qin and Han dynasties were both characterized by
- A) the formation of popular political parties.
 - B) increasing trade with the rest of the world.
 - C) a disdain for science and art.
 - D) powerful centralized governance.
 - E) building of massive public works.
7. The Qin dynasty was marked by all of the following EXCEPT
- A) the decrease in power held by regional rulers and independent armies.
 - B) the building of the Great Wall of China.
 - C) an increase in the economic status of the peasant communities.
 - D) the incorporation of Hong Kong into the Chinese Empire.
 - E) a national census.
8. China's classical period gave rise to all of the following intellectual traditions EXCEPT
- A) Buddhism.
 - B) Daoism.
 - C) Legalism.
 - D) Five Classics.
 - E) Confucianism.
9. Besides the "mean people," which of the following groups was considered to have the least status in classical China?
- A) Students
 - B) Merchants
 - C) Peasants
 - D) Philosophers
 - E) Artisans
10. All of the following constituted a function of the state in Han China EXCEPT
- A) attack on local warrior landlords.
 - B) civil service examinations.
 - C) promoting Confucian philosophy.
 - D) detachment from the lives of the Chinese masses.
 - E) encouraging equitable treatment of peasants.

SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

1. Families of kings, called _____, ruled over China during the classical period.
2. The Great Wall of China was built during the rule of the first emperor, _____.
3. The most famous ruler of the Han dynasty was _____.
4. Wu Ti set up a(n) _____ for all those who took exams to join the state bureaucracy.
5. The period when the Zhou dynasty disintegrated is called the _____.
6. During the Zhou dynasty, _____ traveled to many parts of China, preaching political virtue.
7. Confucian doctrine was recorded in a book called _____.
8. During the Qin and Han periods, an alternate system of political thought called _____ developed in China.
9. Daoism was spread in 5th-century China by the author _____.
10. Chinese art during the classical period stressed careful detail and _____.

TRUE/FALSE. Write "T" if the statement is true and "F" if the statement is false.

1. Of all societies today, China has held the clearest links to its classical past.
2. During the Zhou dynasty China extended its territory to include the "Middle Kingdom."
3. The Zhou was the most centralized and bureaucratic of the classical Chinese dynasties.
4. Wu Ti and other Han rulers generated peace throughout Asia by halting Chinese expansion.
5. The decline of the Han dynasty was due solely to internal domestic unrest.
6. Despite China's centralization of government in the classical era, strong local units never totally disappeared.
7. Classical Chinese government did not interfere in intellectual matters.

8. Classical China produced only one major belief system.
9. The Chinese social structure was composed of two classes: the land-owning aristocracy and the laboring masses.
10. Both trade and technology progressed during the classical Chinese period.

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1. All of the following defined the Vedic and Epic ages in India EXCEPT
 - A) the development of Sanskrit.
 - B) an early form of a caste system.
 - C) consistently high levels of agricultural output.
 - D) creation of literary epics.
 - E) the rise of Buddhism.

2. The first ruler of the Maurya dynasty was
 - A) Ashoka.
 - B) Alexander the Great.
 - C) Chandragupta.
 - D) Kanishka.
 - E) Gautama.

3. The Maurya dynasty differed from the Gupta dynasty in that
 - A) it was imposed by Aryan conquerors.
 - B) it ruled a larger territory.
 - C) it had a greater effect later in Indian history.
 - D) it attacked Buddhist beliefs.
 - E) it refused to develop a strong army.

4. Classical India's political climate was characterized most by
 - A) a politically astute population.
 - B) an array of regional political cultures.
 - C) well-elaborated political theory.
 - D) a highly-centralized government.
 - E) democratic institutions.

5. The Indian caste system influenced the Indian governmental system by
 - A) enforcing rules about social behavior.
 - B) serving as a guide for legal judgments.
 - C) unifying the subcontinent under a single government.
 - D) creating a widespread interest in constitutional issues.
 - E) promoting a belief in individual rights.

6. Hinduism was defined by all of the following EXCEPT
- A) it was the religion of India's majority.
 - B) it lacked a central deity.
 - C) it tolerated increasing wealth.
 - D) it held a belief in reincarnation.
 - E) it excluded all other religions.
7. Buddhism differs from Hinduism by not believing in
- A) a caste system.
 - B) holy leaders.
 - C) nirvana.
 - D) the importance of moral obligations.
 - E) using missionaries.
8. Indian trading networks expanded to include all of the following EXCEPT
- A) southeast Asia.
 - B) the Middle East.
 - C) China.
 - D) Sri Lanka.
 - E) Russia.
9. In contrast to China, India
- A) had more direct contact with other societies and civilizations.
 - B) demonstrated a restrained artistic style.
 - C) lacked regional diversity.
 - D) had a more flexible social order.
 - E) was more secular in outlook.
10. In contrast to those in China, the values developed in classical India
- A) promoted considerable equality between men and women.
 - B) led to the evolution and prominence of several distinct religions.
 - C) urged that children not be required to work.
 - D) discouraged scientific research.
 - E) encouraged greater emotional spontaneity.

SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

1. The vast Indian subcontinent is partially separated from the rest of Asia by northern mountain ranges, most notably the _____.
2. During the Vedic and Epic ages, the _____ conquerors impressed their stamp on Indian society.
3. Early literary epics developed by the Aryans were passed on orally and written down in the language called _____.
4. The Indian emperor _____ was the best-known Mauryan leader.
5. The dynasty that followed the Maurya, the _____, featured a long era of political stability.
6. The priestly caste, or _____, stood at the top of India's caste system.
7. Unlike other major world religions, _____ had no single founder or central holy figure.
8. The Hindu ethical code, or _____, was far less detailed than the ethical codes of other major religions.
9. These southern Indians, the _____, were active in trading networks all over Asia.
10. Toward the end of the Epic Age, _____ built on the foundation of Hinduism to create another major world religion.

TRUE/FALSE. Write "T" if the statement is true and "F" if the statement is false.

1. Classical Indian civilization represented a clear break from earlier Indian history.
2. The Epic Age saw the creation of the Upanishads, a distinctly secular literature.
3. In 322 B.C.E. Ashoka seized power and became the first leader of the Maurya dynasty.
4. The Maurya dynasty controlled more territory than the Gupta dynasty.
5. Classical Indian civilization was defined by its centralized state administration.

6. Sanskrit never gained popularity among India's educated elite.
7. Indian social structure was characterized by its rigidity and lack of interaction across several classes.
8. Classical Indian civilization was able to accommodate a number of religious belief systems.
9. India's religious traditions ruled out the emergence of other forms of cultural production.
10. Classical India was similar to classical China in that it remained relatively isolated in its development.

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1. The Greek genius was in democracy; the Roman genius was in
 - A) engineering.
 - B) politics.
 - C) science.
 - D) democracy.
 - E) philosophy.

2. The quintessential Greek political institution was
 - A) imperial rule
 - B) monarchy.
 - C) the democratic city-state.
 - D) a feudal social order.
 - E) repressive tyrannies.

3. The Roman Empire
 - A) disallowed the use of slaves.
 - B) insisted that all inhabitants become Roman citizens.
 - C) prevented foreigners from trading within the empire.
 - D) set up a military draft to supply the army.
 - E) generally tolerated local politicians and religions.

4. The senate of republican Rome consisted of what group?
 - A) Landed aristocracy
 - B) Emperors
 - C) Urban workers
 - D) Merchants and businessmen
 - E) Citizens elected by the general male population

5. The most characteristic political form in the classical Mediterranean world was
 - A) tyranny.
 - B) direct democracy.
 - C) representative democracy.
 - D) aristocratic democracy.
 - E) monarchy.

6. Classical Mediterranean society differed from classical China in all of the following ways EXCEPT that the Mediterranean society used
- A) a more elaborate legal framework.
 - B) the idea of active citizenship.
 - C) the same trade routes.
 - D) a diversity of political systems.
 - E) religion in political life.
7. This Greek philosopher believed humans could approach an understanding of the perfect forms of the absolute true, good, and beautiful.
- A) Socrates
 - B) Plato
 - C) Aristotle
 - D) Ptolemy
 - E) Pericles
8. The Greeks made especially notable advances in
- A) science.
 - B) literature.
 - C) weaponry.
 - D) religious thought.
 - E) practical technology.
9. From a Confucian viewpoint, the Roman Empire might have been criticized for placing too much confidence in
- A) divine backing for the emperor.
 - B) public works functions for the masses.
 - C) education of leaders.
 - D) harsh punishment of criminals.
 - E) laws rather than trained officials.
10. Roman slaves were used in all of the following EXCEPT
- A) work in the mines.
 - B) agricultural labor.
 - C) household care.
 - D) military service.
 - E) tutoring.

SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

1. Athens and _____ emerged as the two leading city-states in classical Greece.
2. _____ created an empire based on Greek culture through the Middle East into India, setting the stage for the Hellenistic era.
3. Roman conquest spread to north Africa after defeating Carthage in the _____ Wars.
4. The word “politics” comes from the Greek word for city-state, _____.
5. The best-known law code of the Roman republic was the _____.
6. The Athenian philosopher _____ encouraged his students to question conventional wisdom and was put to death for this teaching.
7. Greek mathematicians made especially groundbreaking advances in the field of _____.
8. The Athenian dramatist _____ wrote plays like *Oedipus Rex* that revealed the psychological flaws of the principal character.
9. The two leaders of the executive branch of Rome’s republic were called _____.
10. _____ gained control of Rome and effectively ended the republic era.

TRUE/FALSE. Write “T” if the statement is true and “F” if the statement is false.

1. Augustus was the first Roman emperor.
2. Pericles rose slowly from poverty to become a leading Athenian politician.
3. During the entire era of the Roman Empire, internal politics was generally stable.
4. Both classical Mediterranean civilizations experienced diverse political forms, which ranged from tyranny to democracy.
5. Greece and Rome regulated their societies within an elaborate legal framework but without a strong centralized bureaucratic state.
6. The Greeks did not develop a major world religion.
7. Greek interest in rationality translated into the study of the physical environment.

8. Greek, but not Roman, architecture has been known in the West as “classical” for centuries.
9. The rise of commercial agriculture in the Roman world was one of the prime forces that led to the establishment of the empire.
10. The Mediterranean civilization lagged behind both India and China in the production of agricultural technology.

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1. Civilizations developed independently from the three classical civilizations in
 - A) northeast Africa.
 - B) Japan.
 - C) the Americas.
 - D) Korea.
 - E) northern Europe.

2. Which of these belief systems saw a change in the perception of its founder from a teacher of ethics into a messiah?
 - A) Hinduism
 - B) Buddhism
 - C) Christianity
 - D) Daoism
 - E) Zoroastrianism

3. The decline of the three classical civilizations between 200 and 600 C.E. were all characterized by
 - A) outside invasions.
 - B) spread of disease.
 - C) rise of Christianity.
 - D) retained strength of governments.
 - E) A and B only.

4. One important early symptom of Rome's decline was
 - A) individuals' lack of interest in being emperor.
 - B) the use of slave labor.
 - C) the replacement of republican rule by empire.
 - D) the drop in population.
 - E) the weakness of the eastern portion of the empire compared with the western.

5. The first kingdoms in Africa below the Sahara showed the influence of
 - A) Egypt and Hellenism.
 - B) Rome and Phoenicia.
 - C) Indian merchants.
 - D) the flight of Jews from Israel.
 - E) east Asia.

6. The end of the Gupta Empire differed from the decline of Rome in that it did NOT involve
- A) a change in political institutions.
 - B) outside invasion.
 - C) the introduction of a new religion.
 - D) the weakening of central government.
 - E) a weakening economy.
7. Despite major differences, Christianity, Hinduism, and Buddhism all emphasized
- A) a strong priesthood.
 - B) clearly organized church structures.
 - C) hostility to worship of religious images.
 - D) life after death.
 - E) mixing political and religious institutions.
8. Compared with Hinduism, Christianity is more likely to
- A) disapprove of other belief systems.
 - B) have a disorganized church structure.
 - C) see nature as superior to humans.
 - D) approve of sexual pleasure.
 - E) believe women are morally superior to men.
9. The eastern portion of the Roman Empire experienced less decline than the West for all the following reasons EXCEPT
- A) the eastern portion had older traditions of civilization.
 - B) many of the symptoms of decline were in the West.
 - C) the East faced less pressure from barbarian invasions.
 - D) the East had more active trade.
 - E) the East resisted the spread of Christianity.
10. Which of these was NOT a domesticated animal in the Americas in this era?
- A) The turkey
 - B) The horse
 - C) The guinea pig
 - D) The llama
 - E) The dog

SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

1. By about 1000 B.C.E., the kingdom of _____ existed along the upper Nile, possessed a form of writing adapted from hieroglyphics, and mastered the use of iron.
2. Japan's prominent religion, _____, provided for worship of political rulers and the spirits of nature.
3. The first civilization in Central America, the _____, passed on many of its features to its successor civilizations.
4. Attacks by the _____ from central Asia led to the decline of classical civilizations.
5. During the decline of the Han dynasty, Daoist leaders called the _____ promised a golden age to be brought by divine magic.
6. The eastern part of the Roman Empire was based in the city of _____.
7. The last effort to restore Mediterranean unity came under the Byzantine emperor _____.
8. Centuries after the Buddha's death, the doctrine of _____ arose, claiming that some people could gain nirvana through their own meditation.
9. An east Asian form of Buddhism, _____, or the Mahayana, retained basic Buddhist beliefs.
10. The Christian institution of organized monasticism was first developed by _____.

TRUE/FALSE. Write "T" if the statement is true and "F" if the statement is false.

1. All three classical civilizations originally stressed equality of the sexes.
2. Civilization in the Americas initially developed entirely without influence from Europe, India, or China.
3. The only reason for the decline of the classical civilizations was the invasions by nomadic tribes.
4. The fall of classical China resulted in a collapse of its social structure as well.
5. India's fragmented political system allowed its culture to continue after the decline of the Gupta Empire.
6. Indian military and political forces successfully rebuffed Muslim invaders.

7. Rome's decline can be attributed to a combination of internal and external forces.
8. The Byzantine Empire effectively controlled the entire Middle East.
9. Buddhism was more popular outside India than within.
10. Islam, begun in the 7th century C.E., became Christianity's chief rival.