Trade:
Indus-Valley civilization invented the seal to mark goods as their own, and these goods were found in Mesopotamia. The yellow river had regular floods that provided the civilization with good agricultural preconditions.

Peace:
Almost no signs of weapons or war in general.

The great bath:
The biggest building in the cities.

Theories of going down - theories (1500 BCE):
1. conquest -> overrun by Aryans
2. environmental disaster
3. earthquake -> driver moved and area dried out

Knowledge about Mesopotamia
(They invented writing and taxes.) Elite could write and read.
The two rivers Tigris and Euphrates didn't have regular floodings. Slaves were used for agricultural work.

Uruk: Canal system and monumental temples. Priests in temples had control.
- god of arts
- Vishnu, master of past and future
- Parvati, another form of Shakti, the wife of Shiva
- Lakshmi, Hindu Goddess of wealth, prosperity (both material and spiritual), fortune
  - the embodiment of beauty
- Kali, Goddess of Time and Change
- Durga, Goddess of Victory of Good over Evil
- Ganesh, benevolent elephant-headed son of Shiva
- Hanuman, the monkey god
  - loyalty and strength

The Upanishads
The last of the Vedic texts. They focus on the meaning of the ritual rather on the ritual itself.
- Rise questions concerning the meaning of human existence
- Concepts such as karma (law of causality) and samsara (wheel of life) were used differently than in the previous Vedic texts
  -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>what</th>
<th>old meaning</th>
<th>new meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>karma</td>
<td>ritually prescribed behavior</td>
<td>cumulative causality determined by human actions</td>
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Hinduism
The assimilation of new ideas and the reformulation of traditional Vedic ideas and practices between the second century BCE and the second century CE led to the emergence of the religious tradition later known as Hinduism. The Book of Manu, composed during this era, represents the priestly tradition. It contains the instructions of the creator of the universe to the first man and king, Manu, and it explains the caste system as a consequence of karma (actions) accumulated in earlier incarnations. The book's injunction to humans is to achieve a state of being without longings or desires in order to realize the cosmic essence or the eternal truth.

Ideas about both social and spiritual life were further developed in other religious and philosophical literature, including the Sanskrit epics, the Mahabharata and Ramayana.

Mahabharata
Sanskrit Epic. Like Ramayana.

While there are many subplots and irrelevant tales, the Mahabharata is primarily the fabulous account of a dynastic struggle and great civil war in the kingdom of Kurukshetra, which in the 9th cent. BCE encompassed the region around modern Delhi.

Jainism and Buddhism
Both are movements that opposed the power of Vedic priests by the sixth century BCE. Both rejected sacrificial rituals and the caste ideology.

Jainism
- Founder: Mahavira
DEBATE ON MYTILENE.pdf

- Peloponnesian invasion, Spartan King Archidamus
- Revolution from Athens, Island Lesbos (Lesbians)
- Fleet to fight the Mytilenians during a fest, but they didn't party, they reinforced the walls and stood guard, asked them to surrender but didn't -> war
  - Mytilene and the rest of Lesbos against Athens, Methymnians, Imbrians, Lemnians and other allies
- Asopius with fleet of 30 ships to Acarnanians
  - With 12 ships and a built army from Acarnania marched against Oeniadae, Asopius killed on way back (Oeniadae didn't give in)
- Mytilenians were called by the Spartans to speak in Olympia to the other allies p.166 ..
  - "The only reason why we were left with our independence was because the Athenians used methods of policy rather than brute force." "Our alliance was based on fear." "We have a big navy, that is what you need the most to beat Athena."
- Athenians bluff with their ships and Spartans believed, Lesbians lied to them. Athenians were also dangerously close to Sparta, so they went home and sent a fleet to Lesbos later p.170..
- Mytilenians had almost all the land, then Athenians collected money from their allies for war
- Siege break: 212 Plataeans escaped the siege of the Spartans and Boeotians p.172..
- Mytilenians invaded Athens, destroyed everything, Peloponneseans were on the way to Myteline to fight the Athenians form the other side, but it took very long, much too long. The Mytilenians ran out of food and surrendered.
- Cleon spoke: Wanted to kill every man from Mytilene, that no one will ever revolt against Athens again
- Then Eucrates spoke: Don't kill them, punishments are more and more severe, but still people commit crimes, it's not about what is righteous to do, it's about what serves Athens the most. If we kill them, surrendering will not be attractive in a war against us, or at a siege. He won the debate and only 1000 men mainly responsible for the revolt were being killed

DEFINITION OF CITIZEN.pdf

Aristotle
"as soon as a man becomes entitled to participate in office, deliberative or judicial, we deem him to be a citizen of that state"

LIMITS OF DEMOCRACY.pdf

Ecclesia
Was the principal assembly of the democracy of ancient Athens during its "Golden Age" (480–404 BCE).
Counted the hands rather than the actual votes, no slaves nor women were allowed to vote.

Boule
After the reforms of Ephialtes and Pericles in the mid-5th century BC, the boule took on many of the administrative and judicial functions of the Areopagus, which retained its traditional right to try homicide cases.
Membership: 1 Year, not more than once in a lifetime
SLAVERY.pdf

Aristotle’s description of the smallest parts of a household in pairs:

- master and slave
- husband and wife
- father and children

In book I of the Politics, Aristotle addresses the questions of whether slavery can be natural or whether all slavery is contrary to nature and whether it is better for some people to be slaves. He concludes that

- those who are as different [from other men] as the soul from the body or man from beast—and they are in this state if their work is the use of the body, and if this is the best that can come from them—are slaves by nature. For them it is better to be ruled in accordance with this sort of rule, if such is the case for the other things mentioned.

It is not advantageous for one to be held in slavery who is not a natural slave, Aristotle contends, claiming that such a condition is sustained solely by force and results in enmity.

SPARTA.pdf

From the moment of a Spartan girl or a boy came into the world, the military and the city state were the center of every Spartan citizen’s life. Both male and female babies were determined by city state if they were strong enough to be Spartan citizens. If the infants were too weak or sick, they were abandoned in the country side to die. This was a very common thing in the Greek world because Sparta made it an official government policy.

When a male Spartan was at the age of seven, he was taken from his mother and sent to live in special military barracks for twenty three years. In these barracks, they were taught discipline, athletics, survival skills, hunting, weapons training and how to endure the pain. At the age of twenty in the barracks the male Spartans became soldiers for the state.

The life of a Spartan soldier was with his soldiers. He ate, slept and trained with them. They were allowed to marry, but couldn’t live with their wives. Only equals were allowed to live with their wives and children. Equals were the soldiers who reached thirtieth age, but any soldier who disgraced himself in any way was risked not becoming an equal.

They were granted expanded rights and allowed to participate in politics. However equals were still soldiers. Military service was required until age sixty.

From <http://www.sparta.net/listingview.php?listingID=5>
1. Explain why "history" is always changing. What are some of the biggest problems that historians face with written sources?

History is always changing, because the knowledge about it is based on all the evidence discovered so far and the concluding combination of those facts and speculation. Whenever a new discovery is made, the facts present change and new, more precise assumptions are possible.

The writings of the Indus Valley Civilization, the earliest known civilization that lived along the Indus River, is not yet deciphered; scholars are still working on this riddle. Whereas the Vedas scriptures or Upanishads were deciphered and posed as the biggest influence to the later Hinduism, the reasons for the fall of the Indus Valley Civilization is not known for sure. From 1900-1500 BCE, a rapid decline of the population has been discovered, followed by the final fall of the civilization around 1500 BCE, when Aryans invaded India. Scholars made several assumptions about the decline in population: It could have been an environmental disaster, an earthquake or war with another civilization. Since the Indus Valley Civilization is believed to have been a civilization without warfare, it would've been severe.

Socrates is a legend, because the only written source that describes his life and character was written by Plato. If there were another source, it would state more information about him or even facts that differ from Plato's description, the history would change. What often is the problem in history are the few sources that speak about a certain area at time or a specific event or person. Often, historians have to rely on archeology and the information gained by scientific research around astrological discoveries.

If a team of scholars suddenly found a way to decipher the language of the Indus Valley Civilization, for example by finding something like a second Rosetta Stone for the Indus Language, our understanding this ancient civilization could change dramatically. If suddenly a scripture was found, written by the famous Socrates, certainly our way of understanding the Greeks or the citizens of Athens in specific would be more precise.

2. Describe the relationship between religion and political ideals in the Ancient Near East. How was this relationship different among these civilizations?

Joker

3. Compare and contrast views of the afterlife in ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, and India.

Religion in ancient India

Not much is known about the religion: No temples found, only one possible next to the great bath. An ancient figure "Pashupati" was found in Mohenjo-Daro, that later became the Hindu god Shiva. It's unclear if the two gods have the same meaning.

Vedic culture: Believed in a life after death. Good people went to the World of the Fathers, bad people went to the house of clay (Ton, Lehm).

The most common religion after the Vedic culture was Hinduism. It is a set of philosophical and
An eloquent and politically astute bishop of Milan


Quiz 5  Islam and its Frontiers
Tuesday, November 5, 2013
12:06 PM
THE CIVILIZATION OF MEDIEVAL ISLAM.pdf
by J. J. SAUNDERS

| p.1 | 800 CE - 1200 CE Arabs conquered lands and brilliant civilizations grew |
| p.2 | The invaders were Arabic (used arabic writing). They were Islamic, Muslim, Christians and from different ethnic groups. German invasions in the 5th century were followed by a dark age and barbarism while the Arab invasions of the 7th century were followed by a general rise in the cultural level of the countries due to certain favourable conditions to the growth of the arts and sciences that were present in latter. In specific:
1. Political unification (from Spain to India)
2. Spreading of the Arabic language for it was regarded as the tongue of God and many learned it. This helped in politics and in general for communication
3. The officials were often left at their positions, the Arabs treated the Jacobite and Nestorian Christians well and learned from their philosophy and science they had from the Greeks. This region was the birthplace of the Arabic civilization |
| p.3 | 4. After the invasion and resettlement, there was almost no war until 1050, when nomads begun to attack the empire
5. A great free-trade area was created and promoted safe and rapid travel
6. Use of paper |
| p.4 | Causes of the rise of the Arabic civilization:
1. It wasn't specifically Muslim
2. The biggest single influence was Greek science and philosophy
3. Persians influenced it with Sanskrit writings: medical and specific books like Siddhanta, Fables of Bidpai (Indian collection of animal stories). Greek and Indian influence helped the Arabic world a lot. |
| p.5 | 4. Baghdas replaced Iraq as the intellectual home of culture. The Bait al-Hikma (House of Wisdom) was at once a library, observatory and a scientific academy where men from many races and faiths contributed to the fame of Baghdad. Jews, Zoroastrians, Nestorians, Monophysies and Greek orthodox christians, Gnostics and Manichaeans, the pagans of Harran and the strange baptist sect of the Mandeans lived together in peace
5. The culture was multiracial: Arabs, Syrians, Jews, Persians, Turks, Egyptians, Berbers and |
Political organization: Caliph / Caliphate

Caliph: Leaders
- Abu Bakr, Omar, Othman

Civil war (656-661)
Abu Bakr (632 - 634); Omar (634-644); Othman (644 - 656) Civil War (656-661)
(Ali ibn Abi Talib, d. 661); Sunni; Shi'at Ah (Shi'a, or Shi'ites)

Umasyad Dynasty (661-750) Pamsacus

Frontiers of Islam by the time of Ibn Battuta (1304-1368)
Berbers; Swahili, Mogadishu, Kilwa
Great Zimbabwe (1300-1450) Zambesi River
Ghana (400s- 1100s); Mali (1300s) Mansa Musa (1312-1337) Al-Uman (1301-1344)
India: al-Biruni (973 - c. 1050)

#8 Medieval China, Japan and Southeast Asia
Monday, November 18, 2013
9:36 PM
**Iroquois Religious Society**
- Combination of hunting, gathering, fishing and agriculture
- 500CE
- Women were important in culture and religion
- Believed in spirits
- They abandoned used agricultural land every ~20 years
- By **1000CE** they figured out the beans-maize-squash rhythm, resulting in population growth and dependency on agriculture
- Multifamily longhouses, Mohawk village
- *council of women, they had the authority in the household*

**Northwest coast**
- 1000CE, large permanent settlements of several 100 people
- No agriculture till 1000
- Every community developed its own language
- Animistic and shamanistic beliefs, shamans were important
- Longhouse life - about 30 people per house - headed by the owners "chiefs"
- Each house had its totem, e.g. bear, whale, raven, ..

**The Peoples of the plains**
- Grass
- Fruits, great plains
- Gatherers and hunters
- By 900, mainly hunting bison
- Social ties to family and clan
- Moved frequently with their awesome tepees
- Totemism

**Trade**
Probably took place between all Mesoamerican societies as well as North and South America. Incas' and Aztecs' empires:
The Roman Empire was at a critical state when St. Paul spread Christianity across the Roman Empire and founded churches. Romans didn’t have faith in their gods anymore. Eventually, Saul also went to Rome. Early converts were usually slaves and the poor. Once caught, they were usually killed. Sometimes Emperors used Christianity as the black sheep when something went wrong; the emperor Nero for example blamed the Christians for the fire in Rome. Many Christians were crucified and fed to lions as entertainment in the Colosseum.

In 313, the Emperor Constantine then allowed the Worship of Jesus and eventually converted to Christianity himself, when the Roman Empire was at its worst point, turning it into the state religion.

2. What do you think were the reasons for Islam's political and religious successes from the time of Muhammad to the age of Ibn Battuta?

3. Describe the exam system in medieval China. What was its purpose and how well did it achieve that purpose?

The Chinese exam system “Keju” was a civil service examination system designed to select the best potential candidates to serve as administrative officials, for the purpose of recruiting them for the state's bureaucracy.

The civil service was only open to men. The system wanted to bring Confucian values into society. Vietnam, Korea and Japan copied parts of it. There were different degrees; in order to take the test of the second degree, you had to pass the first one, and so on. Higher degrees resulted in higher ranks in the office.

Theoretically testing and selecting candidates based on merit, this system had a huge influence on both society and culture in imperial China: farmers could help leading a country.

The imperial examinations comprised two parts namely an arts exam and the Wushu Exam. The arts examination included composition, study of books, laws, calligraphy, paintings and so on, while the Wushu examination was used for selecting military officials but was not subject to the same degree of importance as the arts examination.

The benefits for society: In the ancient society, class consciousness was strong and many men from lower classes would have had little chance to reach high office or having any position in the official court. But once the ‘Keju’ evaluation system was introduced, men from poor families had opportunities to attend the government exams, and this enabled them to bring honor to their families.

Instituted during the Sui Dynasty (605 CE), the Imperial examination served to stop the hereditary aristocracy from having all the power and introducing the simple men to the office. By Song dynasty (960-1279), the system was almost perfected, and it was the most democratic system prior to the development of representative democracy. End: Qing dynasty 1905 -> 1300 years with brief interruptions.

(Despite the significant effect of promoting Confucian culture and education, it also influenced education systems in many other countries like Korea, Japan, and Vietnam, and similarities can be found in the personnel selection methods employed in France, America and Britain. Today's education system is surely its successor.)