

# TRAITS OF CIVILIZATION

## ADVANCED CITIES

1. Storing surplus
2. Large buildings (storage, temples, complex housing, etc.)
3. Trade
4. Offers many types of work (specialization)
5. Large populations
6. Infrastructure (transportation systems (roads), communication systems (post office, telephone lines))
7. "Center"
8. Expressions of culture (art, music, dance, etc.)

## SPECIALIZED WORKERS

1. Goods & Services improved [standard of living]
2. Working together
3. Organization
4. Education/training

## COMPLEX INSTITUTIONS

1. Definition of institution: a group of people with a specific purpose usually to serve the public/society/community
2. Examples: schools, military, (hospitals), government, religion, post office, police/firefighters

## RECORD-KEEPING

1. Counting (inventories)
2. Writing (pictographs → symbols)
3. Recording of events
4. Materials for that purpose

## ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

1. Learning better ways to do things
2. New tools
3. New materials
4. New methods
5. Increases standard of living

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Eight Features of Civilization Chart***

<b>Features</b>	<b>Elaboration</b>
<b>Cities</b>	As farmers settled in fertile river valleys, they began to grow surplus or extra food. This extra food increased the population of the settlements. In time, the settlements grew into cities, such as Ur in Sumner or Babylon in Mesopotamia.
<b>Centralized Government</b>	As cities developed and expanded, the food supply and irrigation systems needed to be built and maintained. Governments, with kings, councils, and religious leaders, began to oversee the business of constructing and maintaining cities. Governments also came to make and enforce laws and to collect taxes.
<b>Complex religions</b>	Religious leaders would conduct elaborate ceremonies to appease the gods ( <i>polytheism</i> ) and insure a bountiful harvest. Floods and droughts were blamed on the gods' anger so rituals were conducted in the temples to keep the gods happy and prove the loyalty of the people.
<b>Job specialization</b>	As civilizations became more complex, <i>artisans</i> and <i>craftsmen</i> were needed to make and maintain specific items and to perform specific tasks. No longer could single individuals do all the work. Now some people concentrated on teaching, <i>scribing</i> , stone-cutting, and so forth. Governments also employed bureaucrats with specific skills and responsibilities.
<b>Social Classes</b>	As jobs became specialized so did the status and needs of certain individuals. Leaders and educated religious figures were more respected than an unskilled worker. Herders were needed and respected for the food, while masons were needed for building. The slave was on the lowest rung of the social ladder; warriors and kings were on top.
<b>Writing</b>	Records were needed to keep accounts on production of goods, trade, and food storage. Writing was needed because the amount of information became too great. In addition, people needed to express more complex ideas such as "belief" and "social order" where pictures and words <b>simply</b> would not suffice.
<b>Art and Architecture</b>	This expressed the beliefs and values of a civilization. Different styles were developed and copied by societies. Often the art was used to impress visitors and people about the beauty and power of a king or a community.
<b>Public Works/Infrastructure</b>	The government would undertake construction projects that, although costly, served to benefit the community. Such things as a wall to protect from attack or a canal to aid in irrigation would help insure the survival and prosperity of a people.