

# You Be the Social Studies Teacher!

An international textbook publishing company has spoken to the Surrey School District to ask if they have a teacher who is an expert with ancient civilization. The publishing company wants someone who can write a chapter about an ancient civilization in a new social studies textbook for the next year.

Naturally, the school district has chosen you for your social studies expertise. Your job is to write a chapter on an ancient civilization in order to teach a classroom of Grade 6 and 7's. The format of the chapter will be on 8.5 by 11 paper. Furthermore, you will provide coloured illustrations and type-written compositions unless otherwise noted.

Please follow the steps below to create your ancient civilization textbook chapter.

## Step 1: Choose one ancient civilization

Choose either Egypt, India, China, Greece, or Rome as one of your civilizations to write about.

## Step 2: Cover page illustration

You must create an introductory illustration for your social studies chapter. Your illustration must have,

- The chapter title that says,

Ancient <your chosen civilization>

For example, *Ancient China*

- Your name.

- A famous landmark of your ancient civilization.

For example, the *Great Wall of China*

- The text can be written by hand but must be fine-lined.

- Both text and illustration must be coloured.

## Step 3: Introduction to your civilization, its geography and climate

In this chapter section, you will introduce your ancient civilization to the student reader. You will include,

- The years when your ancient civilization existed. For example, Canada existed from 1867 - Present
- A description of where your ancient civilization was located. What bodies of water are contained within or surrounding it? Where is it located on planet Earth? Where are its borders? etc.
- A description of your ancient civilization's geography and climate.
- A map of your ancient civilization. You do not have to draw one. Look for a map online and print it. Label your map with the name of your ancient civilization. For example, "Map of ancient <your civilization>".

**You may write in point form.**

**IMPORTANT: Describe how the geography and the climate affected how and where the people lived. You must provide examples and explain how geography and/or the climate influenced the examples you provided.**

**Hint: Where did the settlements occur and why...? How were the people's daily lives affected by their environment...?**

**You may write in point form. A minimum of three points must be written to sufficiently answer each question.**

## Step 4: What makes your ancient civilization a civilization?

In this section of your chapter you will discuss the reasons why your civilization is considered a civilization! The following questions will help you guide your research.

- Did it have a set of rules or laws that everyone followed? If so, can you give examples of some of these laws?
- How did people live in relation to one another? Did they live in close proximity such as in towns, cities, or villages? Did they live apart in rural areas such as farms?
- How were the people in your civilization organized? Were there elected officials? Was there royalty? Is there a system to categorize people based on their importance?
- Did your civilization have an economy? That is, were there businesses or specialized/skilled services in your civilization? Did people use currency? Was there trading of goods?
- How did your civilization support itself? Food, shelter, etc.
- Are there aspects of your ancient civilization that still exist today? That is, how has your ancient civilization contributed to modern society?

**You may write in point form.**

## Step 5: Technology, technology, technology!

What technologies did your civilization use? In this section you are going to explore how technology has helped the people in your ancient civilization.

**IMPORTANT: You will choose a minimum of three technological inventions to answer ALL of the following questions,**

- How did the technological invention help the ancient people to adapt and modify their environment?
- How did the technological invention help the ancient people to satisfy their needs?
- How did the technological invention help the ancient people to increase exploration and trade?
- How did the technological invention help the ancient people to develop their cultures?

**You do not have to answer the questions above for each technology you have chosen. Choose a technology that best fits the answer to one of the questions. Be mindful to clearly state with evidence from your readings how the technology was useful for a specific task...**

- Of the technologies you have chosen, choose one for creating a coloured illustration. The illustration must be coloured with a title including the name of the technology. The components of the technology must be labeled. You must have a caption at the bottom of your illustration describing the purpose of the technology, how it was used and how it helped those who used it. The text on the illustration can be written by hand but must be fine-lined.

## Step 6: Cite your references

When doing research, researchers like yourself read, watch, and/or listen to other sources of information. The information you have gathered is then used by yourself in your own work, in this case your ancient civilization chapter. To give credit to those who have given you this knowledge towards your project, you must list where you retrieved your information. The reference must adhere to the following format,

### Reference Format

<web address> (if you found your resource online)  
<title of book> (if you found your resource in a book)  
author  
title of article copyright date (if there is one)  
information about the author(s)/website (look for 'about us')  
why you believe this is a reliable site

You must use at least three resources to complete the written component of your project. Furthermore, it would be a good idea to give credit to those whom you have used to create the illustrations for your ancient civilization map and technological innovations...