

EMPIRE TASKS



Centralized Government

What functions did ancient governments perform?

1. Write a diary entry for an ancient ruler. Describe what your day was like. (Describe the various functions you had to perform as the head of the government).
2. Create a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting the functions of ancient governments with the government of the United States.
3. Create a cartoon strip (four or more panels) which shows the functions of ancient governments.
4. Create a diorama that displays the functions of ancient governments.
5. An idea of your choice (per instructor approval)

Organized Religion

What kinds of functions did priests in ancient civilizations perform?

1. Have a priest write a letter home explaining why he or she too busy to visit parents as often as they would like.
2. Create a Venn Diagram comparing and contrasting the duties of a priest/priestess in Mesopotamia with the duties of a pastor/priest today.
3. Illustrate a training manual describing to a new priest the types of tasks he or she will perform. (Fold a paper in half and complete all four sides.)
4. Create a model showing the duties of ancient priests.
5. An idea of your choice (per instructor approval)

Job Specialization and Social Classes

Describe slavery in ancient civilizations.

1. Write a letter that you hope to have smuggled to your family describing your life as a slave.
2. Create a Venn Diagram comparing slavery and the treatment of slaves in the ancient world with any other form of slavery in any period of history (e.g., forced labor by adults or children in modern times).
3. Draw a warning poster illustrating the two main ways that people were enslaved in the ancient world.
4. Create a memorial for the slaves who contributed much of the physical labor in early civilizations.
5. An idea of your choice (per instructor approval)

Art, Architecture, and Public Works

What kinds of public works were used to ensure the defense of the city?

1. Write a letter to the editor that describes how you feel about the money spent by the government to build a massive wall around the city.
3. Create a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting the development of public works projects in the Fertile Crescent with public works projects in the United States.
3. Draw a poster that shows the citizens of the city-state the benefits of building of a defensive wall around the city.
4. Build a model of a defensive wall around an ancient city.
5. An idea of your choice (per instructor approval)

Writing

What types of functions did scribes perform for ancient civilizations?

1. As a scribe, write a diary entry that describes a typical day at work for you.
2. Create a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting the functions scribes performed in the ancient world with the job of a reporter today.
3. Draw a cartoon strip (at least four panels) showing a typical day in the life of a scribe.
4. Create a product produced by a scribe (contract, treaty, laws, etc.)
5. An idea of your choice (per instructor approval)