

What makes a Civilization?

By definition: **A Civilization is a complex structure in which are numbers of people share a number of common elements.**



http://anthro.palomar.edu/political/pol_3.htm

Cities are one of the main features of a civilization. Surrounding these areas is large-scale agriculture (farming), needed to feed the growing populations.

In the first civilizations governments were formed to maintain law and order for the people. Many were led by rulers, usually **monarchs** (kings and queens) who organized armies to protect the people and made laws to regulate their subjects' lives.

Many history books state that there are six different features to a civilization but to completely understand a civilization, there are **nine (9)** key features to any early civilization.

NINE COMMON FEATURES TO EARLY CIVILIZATIONS

CITIES	ORGANIZED GOVERNMENT	SOCIAL CLASSES
DIFFERENT JOBS	ORGANIZED RELIGION	INFRASTRUCTURE (Roads, Bridges, Temples etc.)
ART AND ARCHITECTURE	SYSTEMS OF WRITING	TRADE

Not every early civilization has every one of these features and each have different aspects of the above chart but for the majority, they are evident in every early society.

STANDARDS

AP® World History

I Historical Thinking Skills

Skill Type I – Chronological Reasoning

Skill Type II – Comparison and Contextualization

Skill Type III – Crafting Historical Arguments from Historical Evidence

Skill Type IV – Historical Interpretation and Synthesis

II Thematic Learning Objectives

Theme I – Interaction between Humans and the Environment

Theme II – Development and Interaction of Cultures

Theme III – State Building, Expansion and Conflict

Theme IV – Creation, Expansion and Interaction of Economic Systems

Theme V – Development and Transformation of Social Structures

III Geographical Coverage

IV Concept Outline

Period 1: Technological and Environmental Transformations c. to 600 B.C.E.

Period 2: Organization and Reorganization of Human Societies, c. 600 B.C.E. to 600 C.E.

New York State Regents

Standard 3 – Geography

Standard 4 – Economics

Standard 5 – Civics, Citizenship and Government