

SPICE CHARTS

Spice is an acronym for the following categories of categorizing civilizations that we will be studying in this course: Social, Political, Interaction between humans and the environment, Cultural and Economic. We will be covering a lot of information so it is essential that you have tools to use to help you organize the information. When completing a SPICE chart, you should not be copying down the entire content from the textbook. This chart is designed to give you a snapshot of each civilization. You should have 3-5 bullet points for each section. However, not every civilization will have information for each section. In general, you will be answering the following questions in your SPICE charts:

1. **Social** - How do the members of this group relate to one another? How do the members of this group communicate with each other? What do they do together? How is this group organized? How do members of families relate to each other within their families and with other families? How do men and women relate to each other? Are there social classes? How do they live? Are there inequalities?
2. **Political** - How do the members of this group see the meaning of life? What are the life goals of this group? Where did this group originate? What is the predominant government structure? Are there any significant wars, treaties, courts or laws?
3. **Interaction between humans and the environment**-Did this society migrate from somewhere else or is it an indigenous population? Where did this society settle? Why did it choose to settle where it did? How did this society use its environment to its advantage? How was the environment a disadvantage to this society? What type of improvements did this society make? Did those improvements involve the invention or use of technology? What type of technology? What type of diseases did this society face?
4. **Cultural**- Who are the predominant thinkers of this group? What groups are allowed to learn? How do people in this group learn? Where does the knowledge come from? How would you describe this group's art, philosophy and How do the individual people or societies as a whole apply knowledge to solve problems? What are the major innovations of this society? What are the resources of this society? How do they use or adapt those resources? What types of things did this society create that didn't exist before? education? Did this group contribute any significant ideas to the study of math or science? How does the group define the meaning of life? What is/are the life goal(s) of the group? Where and how did this group originate? What do they believe happens when they die? How do they spend their daily lives? Who is permitted to speak with God? What are their basic beliefs? Are there leaders or core documents that define and set forth their beliefs? What are their formal religious practices? Are there conversations? If so, how?
5. **Economic** – How do people obtain their food? Is it based on agriculture, commerce, small trades, professions or industry like manufacturing and technology? Does the society have money? How did it originate? From where did it originate? What are the valued and traded commodities? What technologies, industries or trades define this culture?

