

Midterm: The Objective Exam

This exam requires students to both answer a series of typical objective questions like matching, multiple choice, multiple correct, etc. but also unconventional questions like synectical multiple choice (see below)

Synectical multiple choice questions require students to identify a relationship or some quality/trait shared in common between two things, people, events or concepts. See example below:

Ex. 1. Jesus is to Christianity what _____ is to Buddhism.

- a). Siddhartha
- b). Abraham
- c). Muhammed
- d). Zoroaster

Answer: Paul is to Christianity what **Siddhartha** is to Buddhism. The relationship or connection Paul and Siddhârta share is they were both responsible for founding their respective worldviews or religious systems.

You do not need to know every person, place or thing we have studied; rather, a short list of what you must know is presented on the next page in a chart organized by unit. Also, use the various Midterm related games, activities and videos, etc. found on the course website to prepare for this test.

Units of Study	Documents, Events, People, Places
Peopling of the World	Culture, Mary Leakey, Hominids, Lucy, Paleolithic Age, <i>Homo sapiens</i> , Nomads, Neolithic Revolution, Domestication, Civilization, Specialization, Bronze Age.
Early River Valley Civilizations	Fertile Crescent, Mesopotamia, City-state, Cultural Diffusion, Polytheism, Sargon of Akkad, Hammurabi, Theocracy, Harappan Civilization, Middle Kingdom, Mandate of Heaven, Dynastic Struggle, Feudalism.
Ideas and People on the Move	Indo-Europeans, Hittites, Aryans, Vedas, Castes, Siddhartha Gautama, Nirvana, Minoans, Phoenicians, Palestine, Torah, Monotheism, Covenant, Israel.

The First Empires	Hatshepsut, Ramses II, Meroe, Assyria, Cyrus, Darius, Zoroaster, Confucius, Laozi, Daoism, Qin Dynasty, Autocracy.
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Part 2: Short Answer Questions

Below are a series of questions which *might* appear on the exam. Each question requires students to write about a single topic while making reference to knowledge from two or more units.

1. Identify two technologies and/or ideas exchanged between two different civilizations we've studied.
2. What are three difficulties or problems—natural and/or human made—the Egyptians, Sumerians and Chinese had to overcome to build their civilizations?
3. In what sense is *moksha* for Hindus and *nirvana* for the Buddhists similar?
4. Throughout human history, trade between nations has been a powerful force for the spread of ideas. Explain.
5. Describe the view of the world that Zoroastrianism, Christianity, Islam and Judaism share in common.
6. Compare and contrast the approach the Assyrians and Persians took to governing their respective empires.
7. Pick two of the empires we have looked at over the course of the semester—Egyptian, Nubian, Sumerian, Babylonian, Assyrian, Persian, Indian or Chinese—and explain how they differ and/or are similar in a couple different ways.
8. In what fundamental sense is Judaism a *religion* while Daoism is a *philosophy* of life?
9. Pick any two rulers we've studied and explain what made the one was successful while the other either failed or was less successful by comparison.
10. Why do some empires and dynasties only last a short time while other empires and dynasties last centuries?