

# **Third Grade History Review Questions**

## **1. Mycenaean Culture (c. 1450-1200 B.C.)**

- The Mycenaeans defeated the Minoans who had suffered from a major volcanic eruption and gained control of the lands from Thessaly to the southern Peloponnesus by 1450 B.C. They were a militaristic and commercial people who exported pottery and bronze weapons. They used citadels to house the ruling family and armies. They were defeated by the Dorians around 1200 B.C. The Lion Gate is a primary source for the Mycenaean Culture.
  - a. What are some of the items the Mycenaeans made and exported?
  - b. What type of people were the Mycenaeans?
  - c. What is a primary source for the Mycenaean Culture?

## **2. Trojan War (c. 1250 B.C.)**

- The Greek poet Homer wrote *The Iliad*, which is a story about the Trojan War. *The Iliad* cannot be considered a primary source for the Trojan War, even though some believe it's true, because it's not proven. The Trojan War is a Greek legend about an epic and long battle between the Trojans and the Greeks. The Greeks hid inside a wooden horse to get into Troy. The Greeks won.
  - a. Who wrote *The Iliad* and what it is about?
  - b. Could *The Iliad* be considered a primary source for the Trojan War? Why or why not?
  - c. Tell how the Greeks defeated the Trojans.

## **3. Phoenician Civilization and the Alphabet (c. 1200-1000 B.C.)**

- The Phoenicians were the Canaanites of the Bible. Their most important contribution to civilization was their 30-consonant alphabet. They were great seafarers and shipbuilders. A primary source for the Phoenician Culture is the Phoenician Obelisk from Cyprus.
  - a. What was the most important contribution of the Phoenicians to civilization?
  - b. Who are the Phoenicians known as in the Bible?
  - c. What is a primary source for the Phoenician Culture?

## **4. Homer and Greek Mythology (c. 900 B.C.)**

- Homer was a Greek bard who wrote *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. He also

wrote many other epic poems. During this time, the ancient Greeks told myths, which were told in order to explain how the world worked. *The Book of Greek Myths* is a primary source for Homer and Greek mythology. It proves that the myths existed, but not that the myths were true.

- a. Who was Homer and what are two famous poems he wrote?
- b. What is a myth?
- c. Is there a primary source for Homer and Greek Mythology? If so, what is it and how is it a primary source?

### **5. The Olympics (c. 776 B.C.)**

- The ancient Greeks held the first Olympic around 776 B.C. Only pure-blooded Greek males could participate. The main purpose of the Olympics was to hold a sacred festival to Zeus and for athletic competitions. The Panathenaic Stadium is a primary source for the Olympics.
  - a. Who could participate in the Olympics?
  - b. What was the purpose of the Olympics?
  - c. What is a primary source for the Olympics?

### **6. Founding of Rome (c. 753 B.C.)**

- There is a legend about the founding of Rome. The story is about Romulus and Remus, twin brothers, who were raised by a she-wolf. Romulus killed Remus and started the city of Rome. This legend cannot be considered a primary source because a legend is not a document, picture, or artifact that gives an eye-witness account of an event. There's no proof to show it's true. Actually, the Etruscans founded Rome, and the first citizens were the Etruscans and the Latins.
  - a. Tell the story of Romulus and Remus.
  - b. Can a legend be considered a primary source? Why or why not?
  - c. Who actually started the city of Rome?

### **7. Greece Colonized and Democracy (c. 750-508 B.C.)**

- Greece began its colonization when it became overpopulated and food became scarce. The people migrated to the west coasts of Asia Minor, which was later composed of city-states. Because the poor fought with the rich in ancient Greece, Cleisthenes introduced *demokratia*, a system of government where every citizen had a right to vote. The Pnyx, the hill that was the official meeting place of the Athenian

democratic assembly (ekklesia) is a primary source for the beginning of democracy.

- a. Why did ancient Greece begin colonization?
- b. What is *demokratia*?
- c. What is a primary source for the beginning of democracy?

### **8. Roman Republic Developed (c. 509-366 B.C.)**

- When the Romans broke away from the Etruscan king, they developed a republic, which is a form of government led by consuls and a Senate. Unfortunately, there were still two conflicting classes of people called the rich Patrician nobility and the more humble Plebeians (farmers, peasants, traders). A primary source for the “Roman Republic Developed” is the Arch of Septimius Severus with the Senate Inscription in the Forum. This is a primary source because it’s an artifact that gives an eye-witness account of the “Roman Republic Developed.”
  - a. Who leads a republic?
  - b. What were the two social classes of Romans called during this time?
  - c. What is a primary source for the “Roman Republic Developed?”

### **9. Persian Wars (c. 500-480 B.C.)**

- The Persian Wars were between the Greeks and the Persians. The Greeks rebelled against the more powerful Persians who occupied modern-day Iran. The Greeks were made up primarily of Spartans and Athenians. The Greeks eventually won at Salamis. Later, the Persians were defeated again by Alexander the Great. Herodotus’ history account is a primary source for the Persian Wars because it’s a document that gives an eye-witness account of the events.
  - a. Who fought during the Persian Wars?
  - b. Who eventually won?
  - c. What is a primary source for the Persian Wars?

### **10. Pericles and the Peloponnesian War (461-404 B.C.)**

- The Peloponnesian War occurred during Greece's Golden Age or Classical Period. Pericles was the beloved leader in Athens during that time and he led the Athenians in the fight against the jealous Spartans. Pericles’ Funeral Oration is a primary source for Pericles and the Peloponnesian War, which was a civil war that lasted for 30 years! Sparta won.
  - a. Who was Pericles?
  - b. Who won the Peloponnesian War?
  - c. What is a primary source for Pericles and the Peloponnesian War?

### **11. Alexander the Great (356-323 B.C.)**

- Alexander the Great's father was Phillip, Greek king of Macedon. His teacher was the famous philosopher, Aristotle. Alexander became king when he was 20 after his father died. He had great military success and defeated Persia, Egypt, and even parts of India. He died of a fever when he was 33, and his conquered lands were divided between 4 generals. It can be difficult to research a primary source for Alexander the Great due to the many myths written about his life. One primary source for Alexander the Great is the Portrait Sculpture created by Lysippos in 320 B.C., which was made out of parian marble.
  - a. Why was Alexander the Great called great? Name at least two nations he defeated.
  - b. How old was Alexander when he died?
  - c. What is a primary source for Alexander the Great? Describe it.

### **12. Architectural Advances in Rome (c. 250 B.C.)**

- Rome was built on 7 hills. In 600 B.C., the first forum was built, as well as basilicas (public buildings) and temples. In 378, a wall was built around Rome. They also built many roads to organize the city. One of their greatest accomplishments was the building of aqueducts, which brought fresh water into the city. The Roman Forum, which was an open square where business was carried out, is a primary source for the architectural advances in Rome.
  - a. Name some structures that the Romans built in Rome.
  - b. What was the purpose of the aqueducts in Rome?
  - c. What is a primary source for the architectural advances in Rome? Describe it.

### **13. Rome Rises to World Power (by 146 B.C.)**

- Book VI by Polybius is a primary source for Rome rising to world power because it's a document that gives an eye-witness account of the event. This document includes Rome conquering the last of the civilized world in the third Punic War; therefore, Rome rises to world power. In the third Punic War, Rome destroyed mighty Carthage. Rome was seen as the capital of the world because of its control of Egypt and Greece and because of the great art and culture it had adopted from Greece. The Romans were in a class by themselves due to their strong army and leadership in addition to their superior technology of roads and aqueducts.

- a. What is a primary source for Rome rising to world power? How so?
- b. Who did Rome defeat in the last Punic War?
- c. What were some reasons why Rome was considered to be the strongest nation in the world at that time?

#### **14. Reign of Julius Caesar (59-44 B.C.)**

- Julius Caesar was born in 100 B.C. He was a Patrician and studied Latin, Greek, literature, math, music, rhetoric, astronomy. After he conquered Gaul in 58 B.C., he marched into Rome and declared himself Caesar. He greatly improved Rome by making good laws, changing the calendar, making taxes more fair, and by building. He was murdered by a group of Senators, including his best friend Brutus, on March 15, 44 B.C. because they did not want an emperor. The Julius Caesar coin is a primary source for the Reign of Julius Caesar. Julius Caesar had this coin to show all his subjects that he was the absolute ruler of Rome. Money thus became an instrument of political propaganda.
  - a. How did Julius Caesar become Rome's first Caesar?
  - b. How did Julius Caesar die?
  - c. What is a primary source for the Reign of Julius Caesar? Describe its purpose.

#### **15. Reign of Caesar Augustus (27 B.C. - 14 A.D.)**

- After Julius Caesar's death, his adopted heir, Octavian, became Caesar. He changed his name to Caesar Augustus. He brought the *Pax Romana* ("Roman peace") to Rome, and re-established himself as emperor of Rome. He greatly improved the government and leadership of Rome, and Augustus reigned for 45 years. Jesus Christ was born during Caesar Augustus' rule. The statue from 1 A.D. known as Augustus of Prima Porta is a primary source for the Reign of Caesar Augustus because it's an artifact that provides an eye-witness account of his reign.
  - a. What was the *Pax Romana* during Caesar Augustus' reign?
  - b. How long did Augustus rule and what important historical figure was born during his reign?
  - c. What is a primary source for the Reign of Caesar Augustus? How so?

#### **16. Birth of Christ (c. 3 B.C.)**

- In Matthew 1 and Luke 2, the Bible tells of how the angel Gabriel was sent by God to tell Mary that she would give birth to Jesus, the Messiah. Caesar Augustus was the emperor of Rome during that time. Mary gave

birth to Jesus in a manger in the town of Bethlehem, and the angels in the sky announced his birth. The Bible is a primary source for Jesus' birth because it's a document that contains several eye-witness accounts of Jesus' birth. The Bible is proven true by textual criticism and 2 Timothy 3:16 confirms that all Scripture is God-breathed.

- a. Who was emperor of Rome when Jesus was born?
- b. Where was Jesus born?
- c. What is a primary source for Jesus' birth? How so?

### **17. Rome Burns, Nero Persecutes Christians (64 A.D.)**

- Nero was 16 when he became emperor of Rome. A fire burned Rome down while he was emperor, and Nero blamed the Christians. He persecuted them by burning them at the stake and throwing them to wild animals. The Catacombs of Rome are a primary source for the first major persecutions of Christians. The apostles Peter and Paul were also martyred during this time. Eventually, Nero's troops rebelled against him and he committed suicide.
  - a. What happened to Rome in 64 A.D.?
  - b. What infamous acts toward Christians is Nero known for?
  - c. What is a primary source for the first major persecutions of Christians?

### **18. End of the Western Roman Empire (476 A.D.)**

- During this time, many barbarian tribes like the Visigoths, Vandals, and Huns were successful in attacking the Western part of the Roman empire. In 455, the Vandals attacked the city of Rome and destroyed it. Then, in 476, Odoacer, a German, declared himself king of Italy. The Roman empire then broke up into smaller countries.
  - a. Which part of the Roman empire fell first?
  - b. Who are the barbarians that attacked and succeeded in defeating the Western Roman empire?