**In order to understand a civilization you need to be able to identify the following:

GEOGRAPHY - where is it located?  -does the size or location have any effect on the way of life?  -what is the climate and weather like?  -what are some major landforms or geographical regions like deserts, mountains, river systems, or lakes?

RELIGION - what did the people believe?  -did they worship one god or many gods?  -was religion a big part of daily life?

ACHIEVEMENTS - what types of buildings or structures did they make?  what were some inventions?  -what are they known for?  -what did they study?  -did they have written language and could everyone read it?

POLITICS - how was the civilization governed?  -by an emperor, a king, a Ghana, the Sapa Inca?  -what were some of the laws?  -did they fight or go to war?  -did they take over other lands?

ECONOMICS - was it a major center of trade?  -were there taxes or tributes? -how did they trade?  -who did they trade with?  -where did the money go?  -was money spent on the people/public works or did it make the ruler richer?

SOCIAL STRUCTURE - who was at the top/highest class with the most power?  -were there slaves or poor people?  -what was life like?  -could a person change between levels or classes?**



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