

# 7th Grade History

Lesson #44 : May 21, 2020



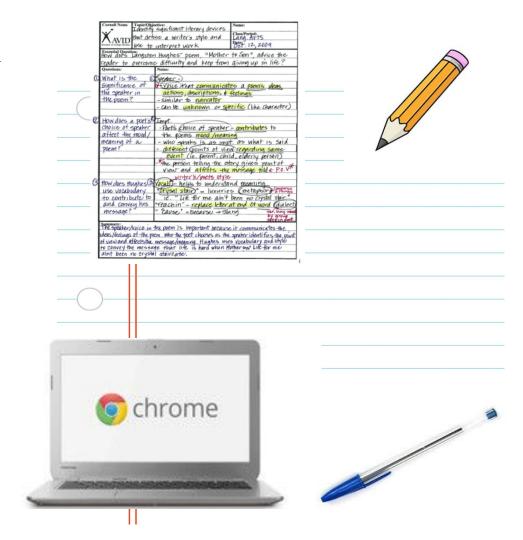
# Learning Target:

I can identify and discuss the parts of a location that can help a civilization grow and be successful.

#### Lesson #44, Materials Needed

For this lesson you're going to need the following materials:

- ☐ Chromebook
- ☐ Pen or pencil
- Paper
- Cornell Notes



To begin today's lesson, I want you to list some of the civilizations that we have covered this year. Write down 2-3 on your own piece of paper.

After you have recorded your civilizations, I would like for you to brainstorm what you think helped these civilizations grow and expand. Jot down as many ideas as you can.





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The civilizations that come to my mind are Ancient Greece, Ancient Egypt, and the Inca.

For these civilizations to grow and expand, they would have needed to have access to plenty of food, resources, and land. I also think that their ability to trade and defend themselves is important for their growth and expansion.



Earlier this week we discussed how geography impacted Ancient Greece and allowed it to expand its influence more easily than the Aztec Empire could.

Do you remember what some of these geographic features were?

• If you would like to revisit the lesson, it is the lesson under May 18, 2020.

On your own sheet of paper write down the features that were discussed.





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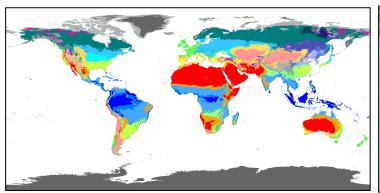


Ancient Greece's had mountains that acted as a natural barrier against invaders. Ancient Greece was also able to become good at sea travel because of its location on the Mediterranean Sea, which helped them trade with different cultures. The Mediterranean climate was also good for growing food. All of these geographical features were important in helping Ancient Greece expand.

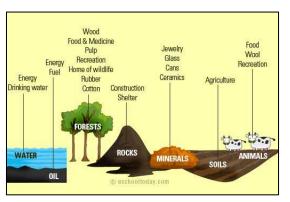
#### Lesson:

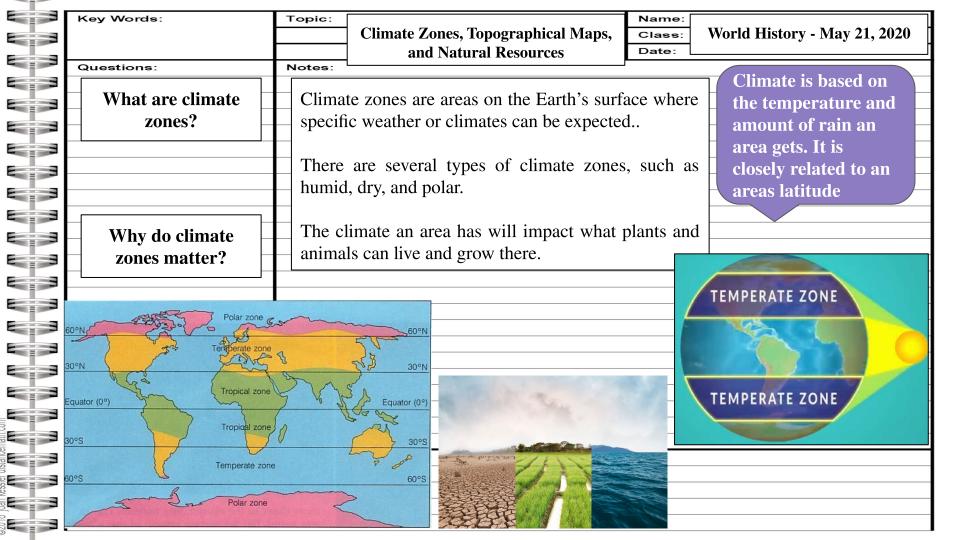
The third geographical feature - climate - is one of the topics that we will be discussing today. The other two geographical features that we will talk about are topography and natural resources.

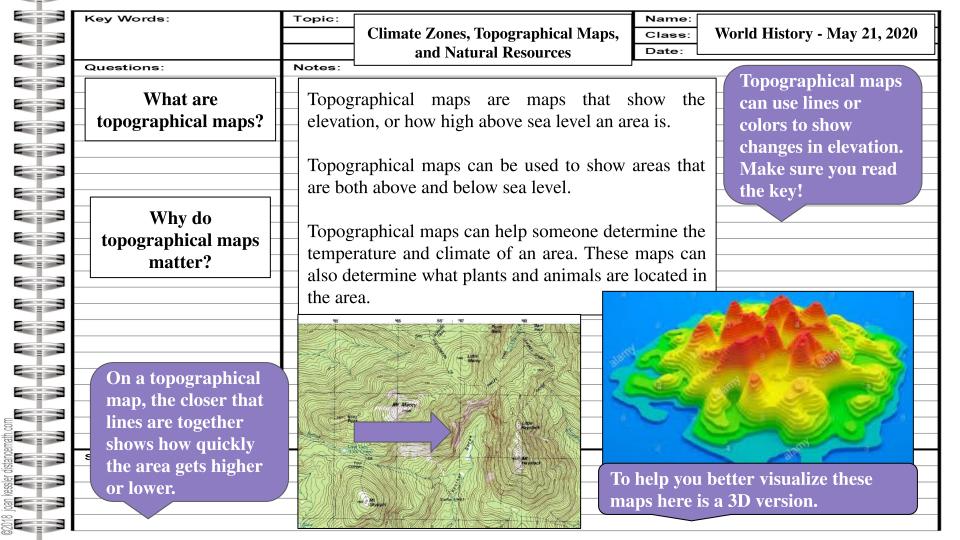
All three of these features are important for civilizations to grow and expand. After today's activity you will be more familiar with the terms and understand their importance. You may already know what these features are and why they are important, but before you get started on the activity let's review.

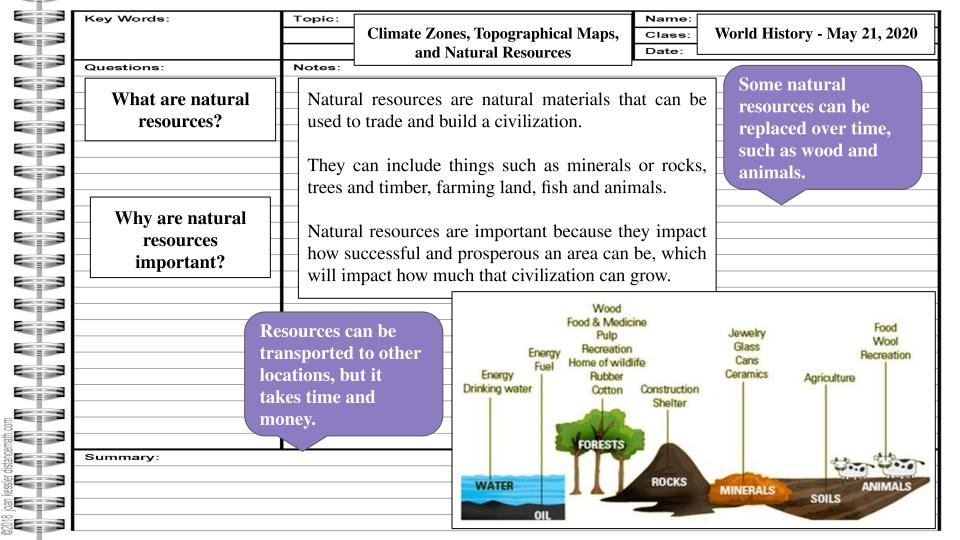












## Activity:

For today's activity I would like for you to pretend that you are on the market looking for a good place to start your own ancient civilization.

You will want to expand and grow your influence much like ancient civilizations did in the past.

Use the linked resources on the following slide and information that we have covered in this lesson and over the school year to find a location within your desired topography and climate zone, and natural resources that you think will help your civilization grow.

After you have picked your location, write a brief paragraph explaining why you think it is the best location and provide examples to defend your decision.





# Activity:

#### Maps of the World

- Available maps through link:
  - Natural Resource Map
  - Freshwater Resource Map
  - Natural Vegetation Map
  - Mineral Map
- Article covering how to read a Resource Map
- Example of an Ancient Egypt Resource Map
- What are Natural Resources?



#### Climate Zone World Map

#### Alternative Climate Zone Map

#### Topographical World Map

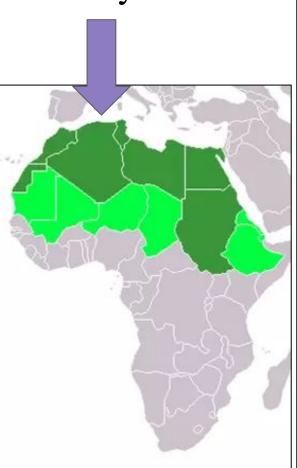
• How to read a Topographic Map

Some of the links are interactive so once you let them load you will be able to explore and investigate the entire planet. Make sure to follow the directions.

In order to help you read the maps, make sure that you select the option to see the legend in the upper right hand corner.

If there are any other resources you would like to use you are more than welcome to do so!

Activity:



If I got to choose a place to to begin a civilization, I would select the Northern coast of Africa on the Mediterranean Sea. Based on information from the resources, this area has plenty of natural resource deposits in iron, coal, lead, zinc, and oil, which would be useful in building my civilization and trading with other civilizations. Also, the area has access to animals and is close to the Mediterranean so that my people could fish and have access to water for trade and travel. There is not much forest cover, but it is an area with Mediterranean plants that could be good for farming. With respect to the climate and topography, it is dry in the summer and semi-arid with a variety of elevations, however it is not enough to restrict movement.

I believe that this location is the best because it would allow for me to trade with other civilizations in Europe and in East Africa, and there is plenty of room to grow my civilization. If I were in Europe I would have to constantly deal with wars, which would drain my resources and population, and prevent my civilization from expanding and reaching its full potential. Overall, I see this area as being the best place to start my own ancient civilization. It is far enough away from the wars, but close enough to stay in the loop and interact with the other growing civilizations around me.

#### Reflection:

Now that you have gotten more familiar with some of the geographical features that impact the success of civilizations. I would like for you to take your understanding a step further.

I would like for you to think about building a civilization on Mars.

- 1. What do you think it would take?
- 2. What natural resources would you have/need?
- 3. What climate zone or topography do you think would be the most beneficial?



