

# DEBATE UNIT 2: CIVILIZATIONS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

## THURSDAY (OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>) & FRIDAY (OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>)

### DEBATE STRUCTURE

- Moderator introduces the debate
- Construction (present your argument)
  - Affirmative One- 1:30
  - Negative One- 1:30
  - Affirmative Two- 1:30
  - Negative Two- 1:30
- Rebuttal (Refuting your opponent)
  - Affirmative One- 0:45
  - Negative One- 0:45
  - Affirmative Two- 0:45
  - Negative Two- 0:45
- Moderator concludes debate

### DEBATE GROUPS

1. Did the Neolithic Revolution have a positive impact on humanity?
  - a. Affirmative: Kelly Zalewski, Alicja Rolek
  - b. Negative: Gevorg Arakelov, Chris Haviland
  - c. Moderator: Alisson Redhead, Melissa Belalcazar

**Suggested Research Topics:** Paleolithic nomadic hunter-gatherer lifestyle, diet, lifespan, causes of the Neolithic Revolution, domestication, effects of farming, agricultural surplus, positive/negative features of civilization(s), nomadic pastoralism, human health, human impact on the environment, technology

2. Was trade the main vehicle of cultural diffusion in the Ancient World?
  - a. Affirmative: Joanna Bartoszek, Erika Cabrera
  - b. Negative: Adam Szaniawski, Bryan Fernandez
  - c. Moderator: Sean Park, Tabrina Riquero

**Suggested Research Topics:** Silk Road, Phoenicians, Bantu Migration, Indo-Europeans, Assyrians, Hittites, Nile River, Nubia, Xiongnu/Huns, trade within and between ancient societies, warfare, technology, writing, religion, language, migration, Hinduism, Buddhism, Cuneiform

3. Were the laws of the Code of Hammurabi fair and just?
  - a. Affirmative: Ashley OConnell, Nelson Delacruz
  - b. Negative: Melody Del Villar, Charles Mercado
  - c. Moderator: Lucianna Stabile, Melanie Acaiturri

**Suggested Research Topics:** Code of Hammurabi full text, Mosaic Law (Torah Law), other ancient/modern law codes/legal systems, civil law, criminal law, death penalty, corporal punishment, retributive justice, eye for an eye, statistics on crime and punishment, criminal justice

4. Were the Emperors of China the most effective rulers in the Ancient World?
  - a. Affirmative: Camila Calistru, Alanna Katz
  - b. Negative: Veronika Papoutsas, Alen Kalenovic
  - c. Moderator: Chenfang Pan, Samantha Liu

**Suggested Research Topics:** Qin and Han dynasty, Great Wall, Chinese Civil Service, Confucianism, Legalism, Mauryan Empire, Edicts of Ashoka, Gupta Empire, (Achaemenid) Persian Empire, Satraps, Ancient Egypt, Indus Valley Civilization, Hammurabi, Bureaucracy, Economics, Criminal Justice, war/invasion, collapse of dynasty/civilization