

THE PHOENICIANS

Directions: Work as a group to examine the documents and answer the related questions below.

Phoenician Trade

1. What made Phoenician ship design useful for trade?
2. What natural resource available in Phoenicia made it possible for such ships to be built?
3. Examine the flag of the modern country of Lebanon, where Phoenicia was once located. Why do you think this design was chosen?

Phoenician Colonies

4. Which cities were actually located in Phoenicia?
5. How did setting up colonies around the Mediterranean Sea benefit Phoenician trade?
6. The Phoenician homeland on the Eastern Mediterranean coast was eventually conquered by the Assyrians, and later the Persians. Do you think that led to the end of Phoenician power? Why or why not?

Phoenician Alphabet

7. Look at the first chart. It shows how the Phoenician alphabet developed, and what other alphabets developed from the Phoenician. From what writing system did the Phoenician alphabet ultimately originate? Explain how.

8. The first and second charts show four modern alphabets that evolved from Phoenician. Name at least three.

9. Many different peoples adapted the Phoenician alphabet for their own languages. How do you think these different peoples were exposed to the alphabet in the first place?

10. The Phoenician Alphabet, like modern Hebrew and Arabic, has no short vowels, just consonants and long vowels (eg. Y = ee, W = oo). Using the first chart on the back of the book, try to spell your name using the Phoenician letters in the space below. Remember, Phoenician is written RIGHT TO LEFT, and you will have to spell by how your name sounds. So, for example, "Peter" would be written as PYTR or...

4 X 3 2

SUMMARY *Answer the following questions using specific examples from the BOTH civilizations*

1. In what ways did the Minoans and the Phoenicians fulfill a similar role in the Mediterranean at different points in history?

2. In what ways did the two civilizations pass on their influence to future civilizations?