

Fringe Empires of the MidEast

Preview

- Main Idea / Reading Focus
- The Hittites
- Maps: Conquering the Fertile Crescent
- The Assyrians and the Chaldeans
- Faces of History: Nebuchadnezzar II
- The Phoenicians
- Map: Phoenician Trade
- Quick Facts: Alphabet

Fertile Crescent Empires

Main Idea

Indo-European invaders introduced new technologies to the Fertile Crescent while adapting earlier technologies developed by the civilizations they encountered there.

Essential Questions

- What military advantages helped the Hittites establish an empire in Asia Minor?
- What events led to the rise and fall of the Assyrian and Chaldean empires?
- What were the main achievements of the Phoenicians?

Choose from:

Name _____

Strand _____

- 1) Assyrians
- 2) Hittites
- 3) Chaldeans
- 4) Phoenicians
- 5) Persians



Ancient Civilizations Project

Step One: Choose and research an early civilization with your group members.

Step Two: Create a Power Point document to use during your presentation. ~~RESEARCH NOTES~~

Step Three: Give a 10-15 minute presentation about your civilization to the class.

Step Four: Use the listening sheet to take notes from the presentations.

Step Five: Use the notes from your listening sheet to write the best darn essay of your life.

Step One: The Research

Together with your group members, choose an early civilization to research and present to the class. Begin looking at books in class, and doing research on the internet. We can give you some suggestions of good websites to look at.

Step Two: Power Point

As part of your presentation for the class you will create a Power Point document. It will include information on your civilization about:

* Geography

* Time Period

* Government

* Economy

* Beliefs

* Contributions

* Writing

* Slavery

* Arts

* Rise and fall

* Technology

Step Three: The Presentation

You remember the last presentations, the same rules apply.

- * Everyone in the group must speak during the presentation.
- * Stand up and speak loudly.
- * Listen to one another and help each other during the presentation.
- * Be respectful when other groups are presenting.
- * Make sure you include all the information that your classmates need to fill out their listening sheet

IMPORTANT: Do not type paragraphs of text onto each screen of your document and then read them during your presentation. As we are all learning English and practicing our speaking skills, it is important that you give your presentation in your own words. We do NOT want you to read from the document you have made.

Step Four: The Listening Sheet

You will have a large piece of paper on which you will write notes about all of the different civilizations. This is where you will get your information for writing your comparative essay. You will hand in this sheet.

Step Five: The Essay

We will give you four or five essay topics to choose from. For homework, you will write an essay comparing a few of the civilizations we have learned about.

Civilization	Geography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where were they located? • What impact did the geographic setting have on the civilization that grew there? 	Time Period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When did they emerge as a civilization? • When were they at their peak? • When did they fall? 	Economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What role did trade and commerce have in this civilization? 	Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What type of ruler ship did they have? • What type of laws?

The Hittites

Decline of Babylonian Empire

- Nomadic tribes moved into the region, drawn by wealth
- Included **Indo-Europeans**
- **Steppes**: arid grasslands north of the Black Sea

Hittite Military Might

- Hittites: warlike Indo-European tribe
- Built strong empire in Asia Minor (now Turkey) between 1600-1200 B.C. (BCE)
- Horse-drawn war chariot and new **techniques**

Hittite Culture

- Blended their culture with cultures around them
- First to make objects out of iron
- Rule reached peak in 1300s BC

Hittites

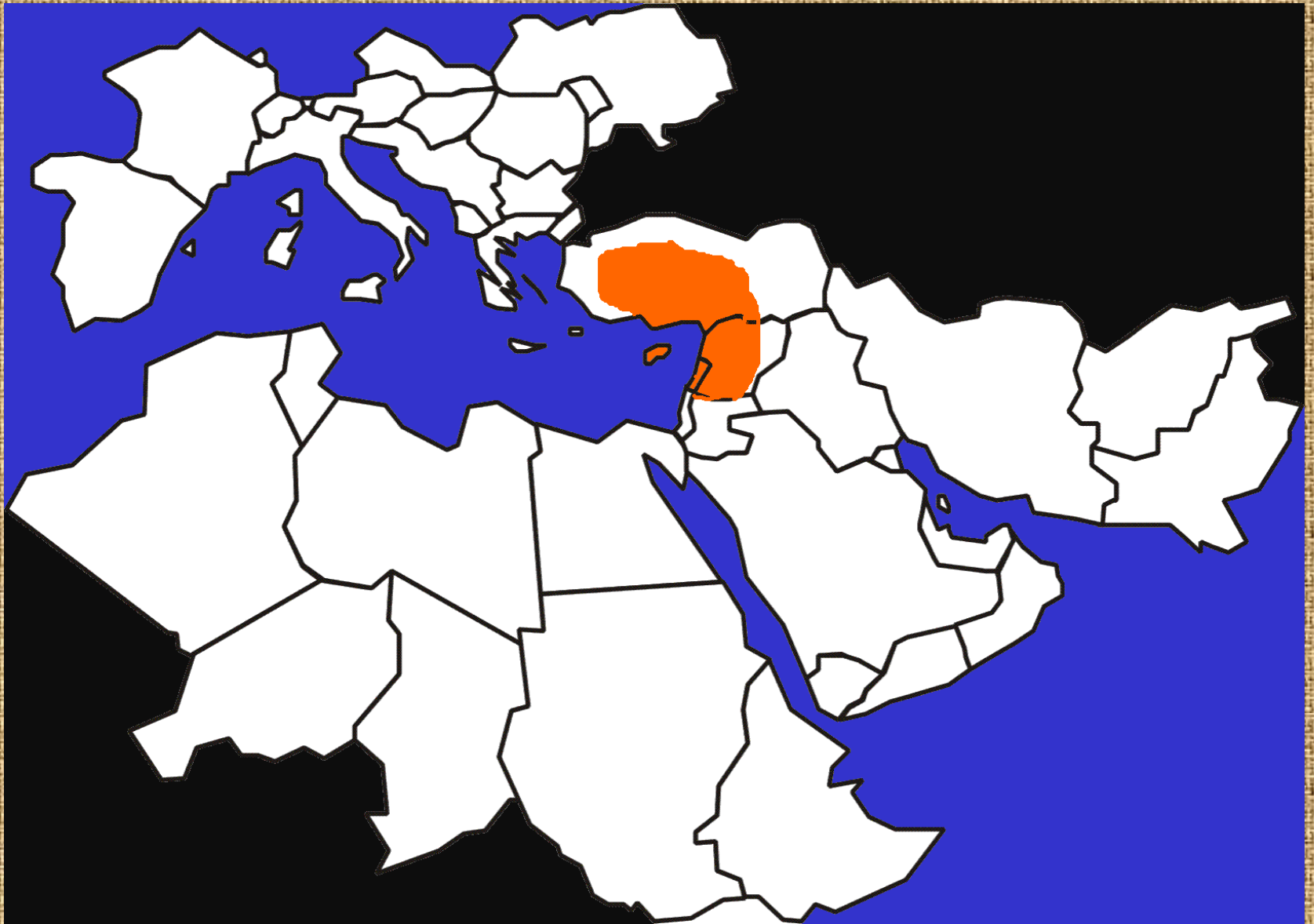
*They were the first people to learn to smelt (separate metal from ore) iron.

There were eventually weakened and defeated by the Sea Peoples.

The *Sea Peoples* is the term used for a mysterious confederacy of seafaring raiders who sailed into the eastern shores of the Mediterranean, invaded Cyprus, and the Levant, and attempted to enter Egyptian territory

The end of the Hittite kingdom allowed for the rise of other people in this region





Hittite Territory at the height of their Empire.

The Hittite capital city of *Hattusha*





HATTUSHA IN MODERN TURKEY

The ancient Hittite city of Hattusha, in Turkey.



The Hittite's Three Man Chariot. Two archers and a driver in each chariot made this a fearsome offensive weapon.

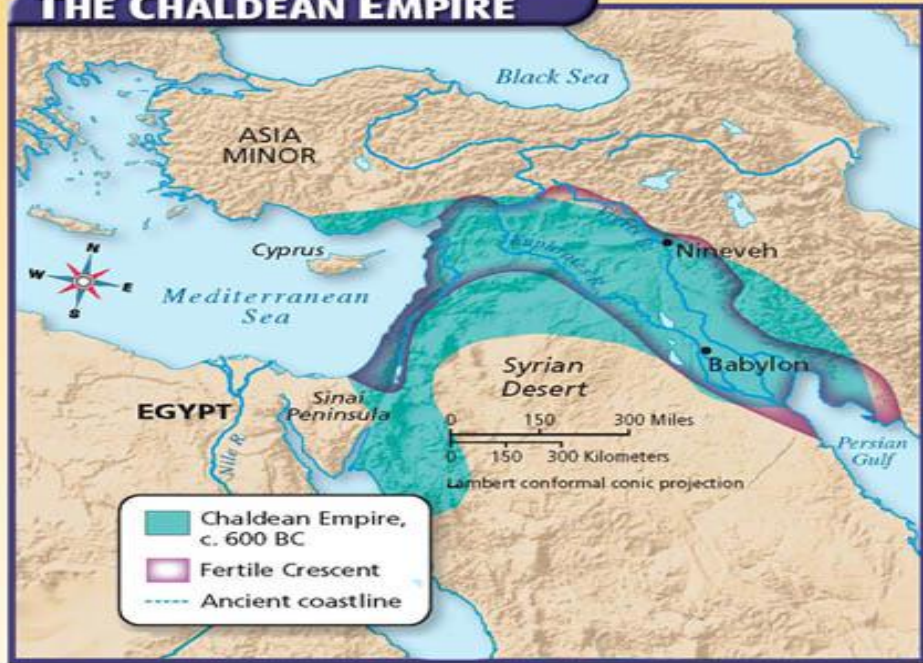
THE HITTITE EMPIRE



THE ASSYRIAN EMPIRE



THE CHALDEAN EMPIRE



Summarize

How were the Hittites able to build an empire in Asia Minor?

Answer(s): With their military advantages, they were able to conquer people in surrounding areas.

The Assyrians and the Chaldeans

After the Hittite empire fell, other peoples fought for dominance in western Asia. In time, the Assyrians became the supreme power in the region; later the Chaldeans formed their own empire.

The Assyrians

- From Northern Mesopotamia
- Barley, cattle
- Adopted Sumerian culture
- New empire in 900 BC
- Mesopotamia, Asia Minor, Egypt

War Machine

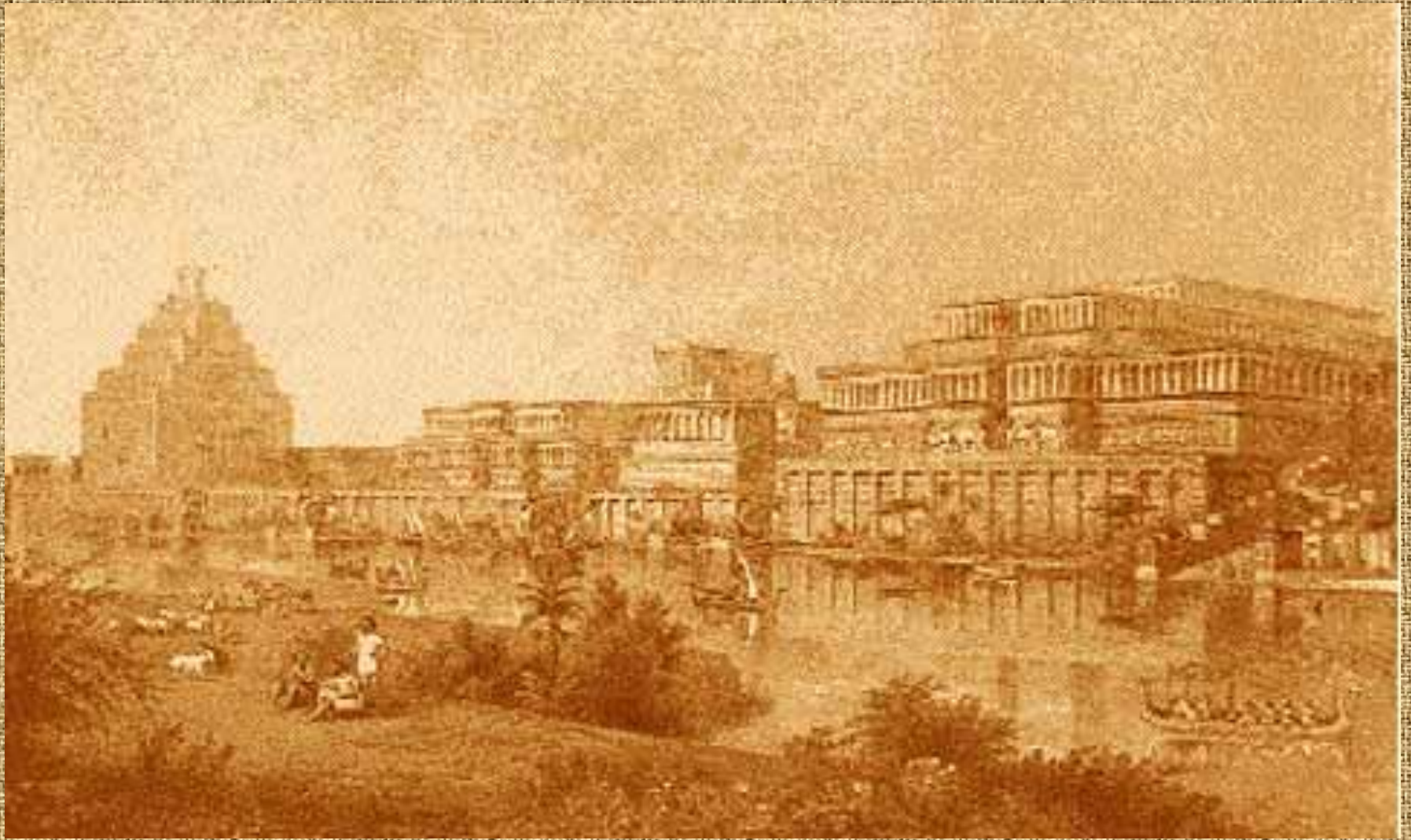
- Fierce warrior society
- War chariots, foot soldiers, cavalry
- Masters of siege warfare
- Terror

Assyrian Rule

- Efficient system
- Local leaders
- System of roads
- Brutal with opposition
- Cultural achievements, library



A stone carving of the Assyrians conquering an Egyptian town in their war on Egypt.



A drawing of the Assyrian capitol of Nineveh.

The Chaldeans

As Assyria began to decline, the Chaldeans swooped in.

- Babylon, capital of their new empire
- **Nebuchadnezzar II**
 - Warrior and builder
 - Hanging Gardens of Babylon
- Chaldean culture
 - Admired ancient Sumerian culture
 - Developed calendar; advances in astronomy



FACES OF HISTORY

Nebuchadnezzar II

c. 630–562 BC

When he took the throne, Nebuchadnezzar II ordered the complete rebuilding of

Babylon. Among its greatest structures was the Hanging Gardens. According to legend, he built this magnificent structure for his wife, who missed the mountains and forests of her birthplace.

Make Inferences Why might a ruler rebuild his capital city?



Nineveh under siege by the Babylonians and Medes.



The ruins of Nineveh.



NINEVEH, IRAQ: MASQAH GATE

The Masqah (Maas-KAH) Gate of Nineveh.



A mythological beast called a Lammasu, from the gates of Nineveh.

Compare and Contrast

How were the Hittite, Assyrian, and Chaldean empires similar and different?

Answer(s): All made cultural and technological advances. Hittites—known for military power, efficient government; Chaldeans—developed calendar, Hanging Gardens of Babylon, short-lived empire; Phoenicians—not an empire, built wealthy trading society, developed alphabet.

The Phoenicians

In an area of western Asia called Phoenicia, city-states emerged as trading centers, and Phoenicians built a wealthy trading society.

Trading Society

- Western end of Fertile Crescent
- Farming difficult
- Trade and sea for livelihood
- Expert sailors
- Founded colonies on routes
- Trade brought great wealth
- Invented glassblowing
- Exports: ivory, silver, slaves

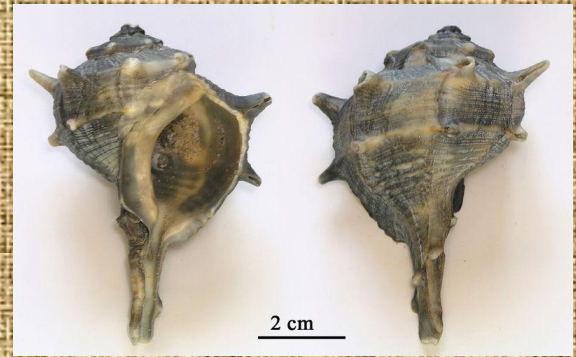
Alphabet

- Greatest achievement
- Invented by traders to record activities
- Adopted by many, including the Greeks
- Ancestor of the English language alphabet

Phoenicians

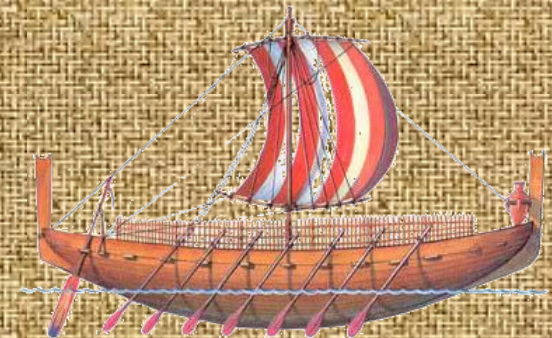
And Trade

Lived: The Phoenicians established a trade empire, and colonies, throughout the Mediterranean.



Murex snail

Made Living: They traded several goods including glass and lumber.

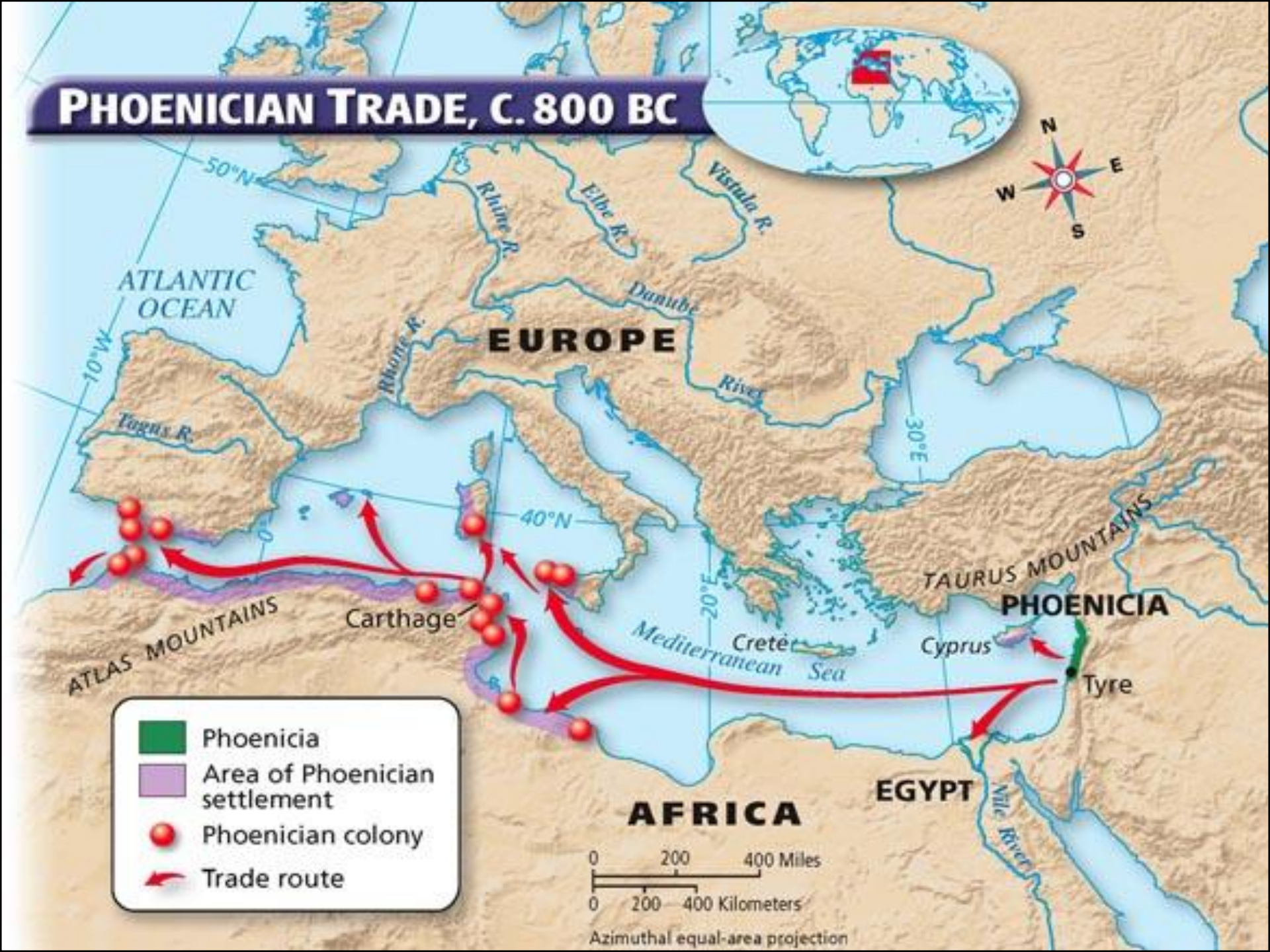


Goods: Their most important product was Tyrian purple, a dye made from boiling the Murex snail.

This purple dye was very difficult and expensive to produce. It was very valuable to the rich.



PHOENICIAN TRADE, C. 800 BC





The Ruins of Ancient Tyre, a Phoenician trading port.



A Phoenician-style vessel.























Phoenician Artifacts





The Phoenicians

Greatest achievement?

							
Z Zayin Weapon	W Waw Hook	H He Window	D Daleth Door	G Gimel Camel	B Beth House	' Aleph Ox	
							
N Nun Fish	M Mem Water	L Lamedh Ox-Goad	K Kaph Palm of Hand	Y Yodh Hand	T Teth Unknown	H Heth Fence	
							
T Taw Mark	SH Shin Tooth	R Resh Head	Q Qoph Monkey	S Sadhe Fishhook	P Peh Mouth	' Ayin Eye	S Samekh Support

The Phoenicians spread their alphabet throughout the Mediterranean

Their alphabet consisted of 22 letters, it did not have vowels.

Unlike many early alphabets which were made of pictograms, the Phoenician alphabet was phonic (based on sound). These sounds could be assembled to make words.

The Greeks eventually adopted this alphabet, which influenced the Latin Alphabet which we use today.

ALPHABET

QUICK
FACTS

The Phoenician alphabet, adopted and modified by the Greeks and then the Romans, developed into our modern alphabet.

What similarities and differences can you see between the three sets of letters shown here?

Phoenician



Greek

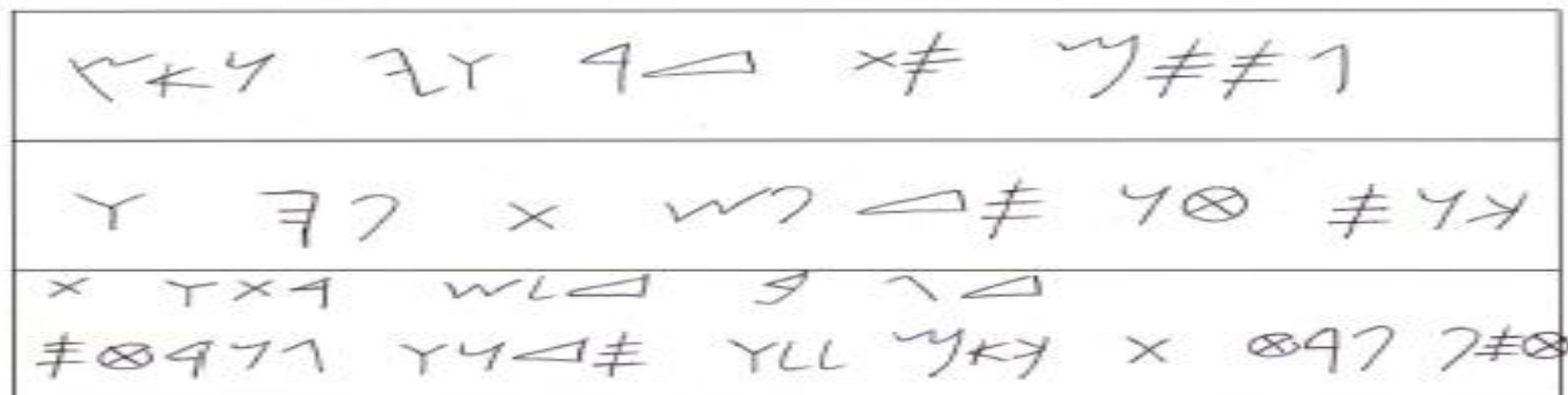


Latin



The Phoenician Alphabet

The Phoenicians wrote from right to left. Some letters were used to represent more than one sound. They did not have the vowels in the same way that we do, but some letters were used to give the idea of the vowel sounds. To make this activity easier, read the messages from left to right. Some of the letters have been changed slightly to help you understand the meaning.



𐤀	A
𐤁	B
𐤂	G
𐤃	D
𐤄	H
𐤅	W
𐤆	Z
𐤇	Ch

𐤈	T
𐤉	Y
𐤊	K
𐤋	L
𐤌	M
𐤍	N
𐤎	S
𐤏	'

𐤐	P, Ph
𐤑	C
𐤒	Q
𐤓	R
𐤔	Sh
𐤕	Th

ANSWERS:

- Messages on worksheet above can be translated as:
- Can you read this message
- We hope the ship does not sink
- The weather should be good. Strong winds will make the trip fast

Video: “THE QUEST FOR THE PHOENICIANS” (60 MINUTES)

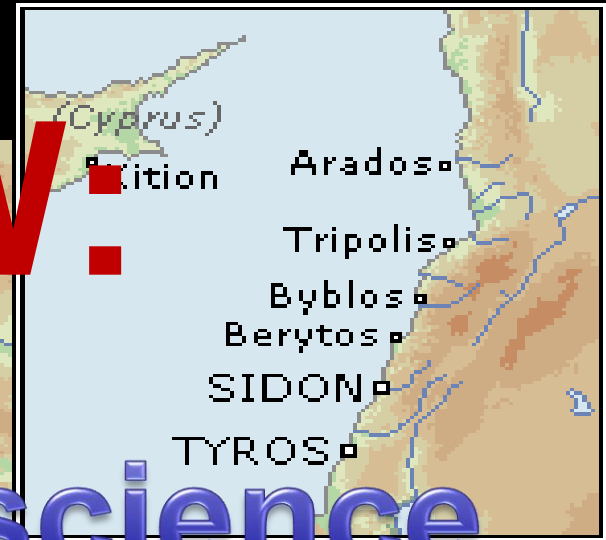


- **PROMPT:** WHO WERE THE PHOENICIANS? WHAT WAS THEIR GENETIC MAKEUP? WHY WERE THEY SUCH GREAT SHIPBUILDERS AND SEAFARERS? WHO ARE THEIR DESCENDENTS AND HOW MIGHT THIS CHANGE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN MODERN-DAY LEBANON?



REVIEW:

Why is modern science so important in the study of the ancient Phoenicians?



Mother city in main Phoenicia

Important colony developing into an independent trade centre

Colony city

Find the Main Idea

What were the Phoenicians' most significant achievements?

Answer(s): purple dye, glassblowing, alphabet