

AP World History
Second Wave Civilizations

The Development of States and Empires

As early states and empires grew in number, size, and population, they frequently competed for resources and came into conflict with one another. In quest of land, wealth, and security, some empires expanded dramatically. In doing so, they built powerful military machines and administrative institutions that were capable of organizing human activities over long distances, and they created new groups of military and political elites to manage their affairs. As these empires expanded their boundaries, they also faced the need to develop policies and procedures to govern their relationships with ethnically and culturally diverse populations, sometimes to integrate them within an imperial society and sometimes to exclude them. In some cases, these empires became victims of their own successes. By expanding their boundaries too far, they created political, cultural, and administrative difficulties that they could not manage. They also experienced environmental, social and economic problems when they overexploited their lands and subjects and permitted excessive wealth to be concentrated in the hands of privileged classes.

Second Wave Civilizations span from approx 500 BCE to approx 500 CE. The civilizations we will be focusing on today are China's Han Dynasty (206 BCE - 220 AD.), Ancient Greek (12th Century BCE - 600 AD), the Roman Empire (27 BCE - 395 AD).

1. Look at the amphoras and the wine urns. What can you learn about the following themes in Greek society from the artifacts: **leisure, art, religion, culture?** Also consider the excerpt from *A History of World in 6 Glasses* and the Labor and Leisure article. Pick two pieces in this gallery that reflect any of these themes and take some notes below about what you learn.

2. Consider the Forbes article: *Whitewashing Ancient Statues*. What do you notice about the Roman sculptures and their display? How is the Roman collection featured in the gallery?
 3. How do the Roman statues relate to Greek art? ***Hint: Look for a specific information panel that talks about the relationship between Greek and Roman sculptures.** Choose two pieces to explore that relationship.
 4. Looking at the Han era artifacts, what do the pieces tell you about society and their hierarchies in their civilization? How does it relate to the reading on the *Chinese Han Lacquer Cup*?

5. What was your favorite piece from one of the exhibits? Why?
 6. Bonus question: What can you infer about the artist or the materials used based on the color of the Han Chinese artifacts? **hint*: Think about the Forbes article as a frame for this.**