

Name: _____

Period: _____

Date: _____

World History: 8th Grade Archeological Dig Simulation

Scenario: In an effort to understand our local history better, archeologists on the Palouse have been searching hard for remains or evidence of early civilizations in our local area. A great break-through occurred when the archeologist team of Bailey-Haley uncovered some very peculiar artifacts here on the MMS premises. After hours of digging and excavating they were able to expose six pits filled with all different types of artifacts. Because these artifacts are so interesting/strange/weird, the Bailey-Haley team is requesting your help/expertise in making sense of these past civilizations. Use your knowledge, skills, and imagination to piece together history and help tell the story of these once great societies.

Purpose: This project is designed to allow you to create a historical analysis of an ancient civilization. You will act like archeologists/historians as you interpret/analysis artifacts, and then create a civilization history story to explain what the artifacts tell us about the civilization and how they relate to the 5 traits of a civilization.

Process:

- Your team will walk around your site.
- Each team member will use the grid sheet to sketch the pit site and noting each artifact location.
- Each team member will select at least two different artifacts (do not select the same artifacts as other team members) and complete an artifact analysis sheet for each of the artifacts.
 - Analysis sheets should be very detailed, provide several examples or suggestions of possible use/meaning of the artifact.
 - Explain how the artifact provides evidence of the 5 trait(s) of a civilization – Use Your Notes!
- Meet as a team to discuss and share your artifact findings. Add any additional ideas your partners may have about the artifacts.
- As a group, write a “historical” story to explain what occurred here at this site and the history of the “civilization” you discovered.
 - Be sure to include every artifact.
 - Be sure to use the artifacts as evidence to prove the civilization meets all 5 of the civilization traits.
- Each group member will turn in a completed packet.
- One copy of the story with all group member names will be turned in.

Due date: BEGINNING of class on September _____. Sharing of your story with the rest of the class will start on that same day and EVERYONE needs to be ready by this date.

NOTES:

- See me for more artifact analysis sheets and staple them to your packet
- I will provide your group with the “write-up” page; see me when ready.

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Plot Site Grid

Directions: Record/sketch the location of each of the artifacts in your grid plot. No one can disturb the artifacts until each group member has recorded their original location. Make sure to label each artifact with a number that corresponds with your Artifact Analysis Sheet.

	A	B	C
1			
2			
3			

1. **TYPE OF ARTIFACT:** Describe the material from which it was made: bone, pottery, metal, wood, stone, leather, glass, paper, cardboard, cotton, plastic, other material.

2. **SPECIAL QUALITIES OF THE ARTIFACT:** Describe how it looks and feels: shape, color, texture, size, weight, movable parts, anything printed, stamped, or written on it.

3. **USES OF THE ARTIFACT:** Be creative – come up with multiple options

- a. What might it have been used for?
- b. Who might have used it?
- c. Where might it have been used?
- d. When might it have been used?

4. **WHAT DOES THE ARTIFACT TELL US?**

- a. What does it tell us about technology of the time in which it was made and used?
- b. What does it tell us about the life and times of the people who made it and used it?
- c. Can you name a similar item today?

5. **FOR WHICH OF THE 5 CIVILIZATION TRAITS (CAN BE MORE THAN 1 TRAIT) DOES THIS PROVIDE EVIDENCE?** List the trait(s) and explain why the artifact is evidence of the trait(s).

6. **SKETCH THE ARTIFACT:**

7. **ADDITIONAL IDEAS FROM MY TEAM MEMBERS (Get at least 3):**

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