

ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN CIVILIZATIONS

Comparative Study Reference

CIVILIZATION	TIME PERIOD	KEY CHARACTERISTICS	MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS
Mesopotamia	4000 - 539 BCE	Sumerian, Akkadian, Babylonian, and Assyrian empires; City-states.	Cuneiform writing, Code of Hammurabi, the wheel, irrigation.
Ancient Egypt	3100 - 30 BCE	Pharaonic rule, Nile-centered society, highly stratified.	Hieroglyphics, pyramids, papyrus, solar calendar.
Phoenicia	1500 - 300 BCE	Maritime trading culture, city-states (Tyre, Sidon).	Phonetic alphabet, purple dye, advanced shipbuilding.
Ancient Greece	800 - 146 BCE	Independent poleis (Athens, Sparta), Hellenistic expansion.	Democracy, philosophy, Western theater, Olympics.
Ancient Rome	753 BCE - 476 CE	Republic to Empire; vast administrative bureaucracy.	Roman law, concrete,

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			arches/aqueducts, Latin language.
Carthage	814 - 146 BCE	North African commercial power, Punic influence.	Advanced naval tactics, widespread trade networks.

Historical Reference Guide – Template Example