RESEARCH UNIT STUDY GUIDE - VOCABULARY

Basic Needs - food / water / salt, clothing and shelter

Research - systematic investigation and study of materials (artifacts and fossils) and sources (primary and secondary) in order to establish facts and advance knowledge

Archaeology - The Science of Historical Research - recovery through excavation of artifacts and fossils for study and analysis. An archaeologist is a scientist who practices archaeology.

Classical Archaeology - archaeology interested in the discovery of treasure of a past people

Modern Archaeology - archaeology interested in discovery of "kitchen midden" or everyday artifacts of a past people

Archaeological Record - all of the artifacts and fossils found by archaeologists at an archaeological site and cataloged

Artifacts & Fossils through HISTORICAL ANALYSIS help reveal CULTURE and also allow us to know their PRIMES.

Historical Analysis - to examine artifacts & fossils carefully in detail as to identify key factors, causes, possible results

Forms of Historical Analysis: See Artifact Analysis Sheet shown below
  Artifact Analysis
  Written Document Analysis
  Picture / Photo / Painting Analysis
  Music Document Analysis
  Oral History Analysis
  Skeletal Analysis

Culture - a way of life a people lead including their customs, traditions, language, behavior, religion, food, etc.

PRIMES
P - POLITICAL: How did these people govern themselves? (Chieftain, Monarchy, Tyranny, Democracy, Republic?)
R - RELIGION: What was their religion? (Polytheistic, Henotheistic, Monotheistic, Shamanistic / Ancestor worship?)
I - INVENTION / INNOVATIONS: (What did they invent or what did they innovate?)
M - MILITARY: Where these past people's military offensive or defensive?
E - ECONOMIC: Did these past people trade and how did they buy and sell what they needed to survive?
S - SOCIAL: What were their customs? How were they organized? Social Levels? How did they spend free time?

Primary Source - a source of information from a witness of an event
Secondary Source - a source of information from a person who heard or read about an event

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Technology - the advancement and sophistication of tools in order to improve the quality of human life

Independent Invention - the creation of technology without outside influences or cultural diffusion
Cultural Diffusion - the spread of information, technology, ideas, language, culture, immunities etc., through the movement of people. Movement can be due to migration, invasion, exploration or trade.

**Dating of Artifacts & Fossils**

**Scientific Dating** - is determining the age of an artifact or fossil in a scientific laboratory

1. **Radio-Carbon Dating** - determining the age of an artifact based upon the level or amount of carbon remaining in an artifact or fossil

2. **Dendrochronology** - determining the age of a wooden artifact by the counting of tree-rings

**Cultural Dating** - is determining the age of an artifact based upon where it is found and what is found with it

1. **Absolute Dating** - form of cultural dating when archaeologists can determine the age of an artifact

2. **Relative Dating** - form of cultural dating when archaeologists can not determine the age of an artifact, but can determine whether it is older or newer than other artifacts

**Shards (Ostraca)** - broken pieces of pottery can help archaeologists determine the relative age of when it was made

**Stratigraphy** - type of cultural dating that determines the age of an artifact or fossil based upon what "layer" of earth it is found in