

## **Topic C: Society & Everyday Life**

### Introductory lesson – Many Different Societies

#### **Slide 1**

This is the introductory lesson for the Society & Everyday Life topic. Since this is a very broad topic area, this lesson starts off by introducing three distinct societies from the ancient world and encourages students to see what is similar and what is different about them. In addition, this lesson also introduces some aspects of everyday life (e.g. role of women, role of the army, systems of government) that students can explore in greater depth both in the Student Research Packs or in their independent research.

#### **Slide 2**

This animated slide demonstrates that the 'Ancient World' is not homogeneous but composed of different societies and cultures over time. On mouse-click, these societies' dates and geographical footprints will appear. Then over the course of the next three slides, we'll explore the worlds of Sparta, Athens and Rome in more detail. You may want to drop a hint to your students at this point that a quiz will follow, so they should try to remember as much of the following information as possible.

#### **Slide 3**

Sparta is a fascinating culture, and one very alien to the way we live today. To many it seems brutal, with such a focus on military excellence that boys were taken from their homes for military training from the age of seven. Most brutal of all, Spartans practiced 'exposure', the custom of leaving babies out on the hillside to weed out the weaklings. However, this approach did result in a strong and stable society.

#### **Slide 4**

The city state of Athens is the ancient culture that has received much modern attention for its incubation of democracy and its artistic, philosophical and architectural output. However, access to democracy was very limited. The lives of women were especially restricted.

#### **Slide 5**

Rome is possibly the most famous ancient culture, given its size, longevity and impact on Europe and North Africa. It is interesting to note how Rome's system of government went from a monarchy to a form of democracy (the Republic), finally settling on rule by an emperor – a monarchy in all but name as the emperor would name his own successor. Remnants of Republican democracy persisted in the Empire (e.g., in local elections), but the emperor wielded ultimate power.

#### **Slides 6–14**



Nine questions will appear based on the information just given. As each question appears, students can discuss their answers in teams and record them on their quiz sheets. The last question also encourages a personal response and perhaps a debate.

#### **Slides 15-23**

...will give the answers.