SIX ERAS OF WORLD HISTORY:

Core Knowledge for World History 1
HUNTER AND GATHERER ERA
200,000 – 10,000 BC
The map illustrates the present area of San habitation, which primarily covers the Kalahari Desert. This region encompasses parts of Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa, and is located near the Atlantic Ocean.
NEOLITHIC ERA
10,000 – 3,500 BC
RISE OF CIVILIZATION
3,500 – 500 BC
Cities
Monumental Architecture
Metallurgy
Metallurgy
Permanent Military
Empire
Complex Spiritual Beliefs
Patriarchy
Complex Trade
Travels on the Silk Road
CLASSICAL ERA
500 BC – 500 AD

A time of larger empires, accelerating trade, and refinement and deepening of spiritual beliefs
During the Classical era people sought to deepen their spirituality and reflected on how to better get along with each other. Prior to the Classical Era superstition, human and animal sacrifice, aggression, violence, warfare, destruction, and cruelty were part of life in civilizations. In reaction to their realization they could do better, civilizations, unbeknownst to the others, founded new belief systems and new religions.
Confucianism
Hinduism
Buddhism
Greek Rationalism
ERA OF ZONES OF CULTURAL EXPANSION
500-1500 AD
During this era the large civilizations spread out and greatly influenced neighboring cultures.

• Chinese civilization spread to Japan, Korea, and Vietnam.
• Indian Civilization spread to Southeast Asia,
• Roman Civilization spread to Europe, and
• Islamic Civilization spread from Spain to Indonesia.
Sui, Tang, and Song China (589-1279) restored imperial unity and Confucian tradition and ushered in a golden age of Chinese achievement when Chinese Civilization spread to Japan, Korea, and Vietnam.

Vietnamese Trung sisters resist Chinese
Srivijaya in Sumatra, a Malay kingdom, with gold and spices levied taxes on passing ships, dominated the choke point of Indian Ocean trade from 670-1025. That kingdom and the Khmer Empire in Cambodia were greatly influenced by Hindu-Buddhist culture.
Buddhist Temple at Borobudur built in 800’s in Java, Indonesia
Although the western Roman Empire collapsed around 500 AD, Roman Civilization lived on in Europe through its language Latin, its architecture, and its military, legal, and administrative traditions.
In the aftermath of Muhammad's life, Islam spread from Spain to India, to Indonesia from 600-1,000 AD.
Africa developed trans-Saharan trade routes, called sand routes, trading gold, salt and slaves and built large kingdoms and empires by 1500 AD.
The Gold of Mali
From 500 to 1500 AD the Bantu people migrated to southern Africa in one of the world’s great mass migrations.
Swahili culture in East Africa developed into 30 independent city states ruled by kings and class stratified with a mercantile elite engaged in Indian Ocean trade and commoners. Swahili is a Bantu language written in Arabic script.
North and South America from 500-1500 AD
North American centers of culture and trade, a chiefdom at Cahokia (today St. Louis) flourished from 900-1200. Shells, copper, buffalo hides, mica and obsidian were traded.
The collapse of the Mayan civilization and the city state of Teotihuacán by 900 AD allowed for the rise of the Aztecs and Mexica who formed a powerful state.
The Incas incorporated several previous Andean cultures shown here into a huge empire. Trade was state run, in contrast to trade in Mexico which was privately run.
Caravans of human transporters and llamas transported goods along some 20,000 miles of roads traversing the coastal plain and the high Andes in a north-south direction.
Global Era
1500 - Present

This era is subdivided into:
• Early Modern - 1500-1750
• Modern – 1750-Present