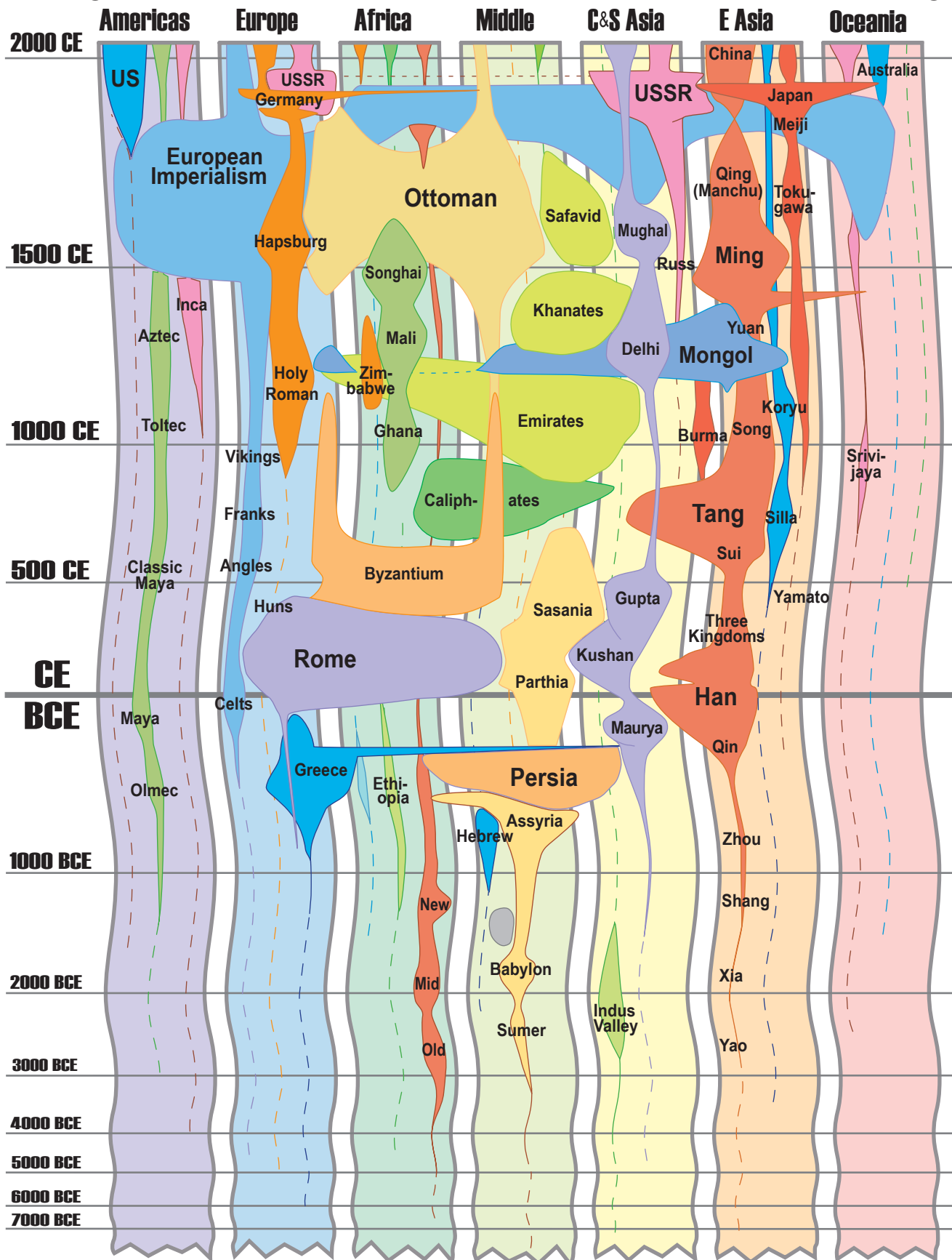
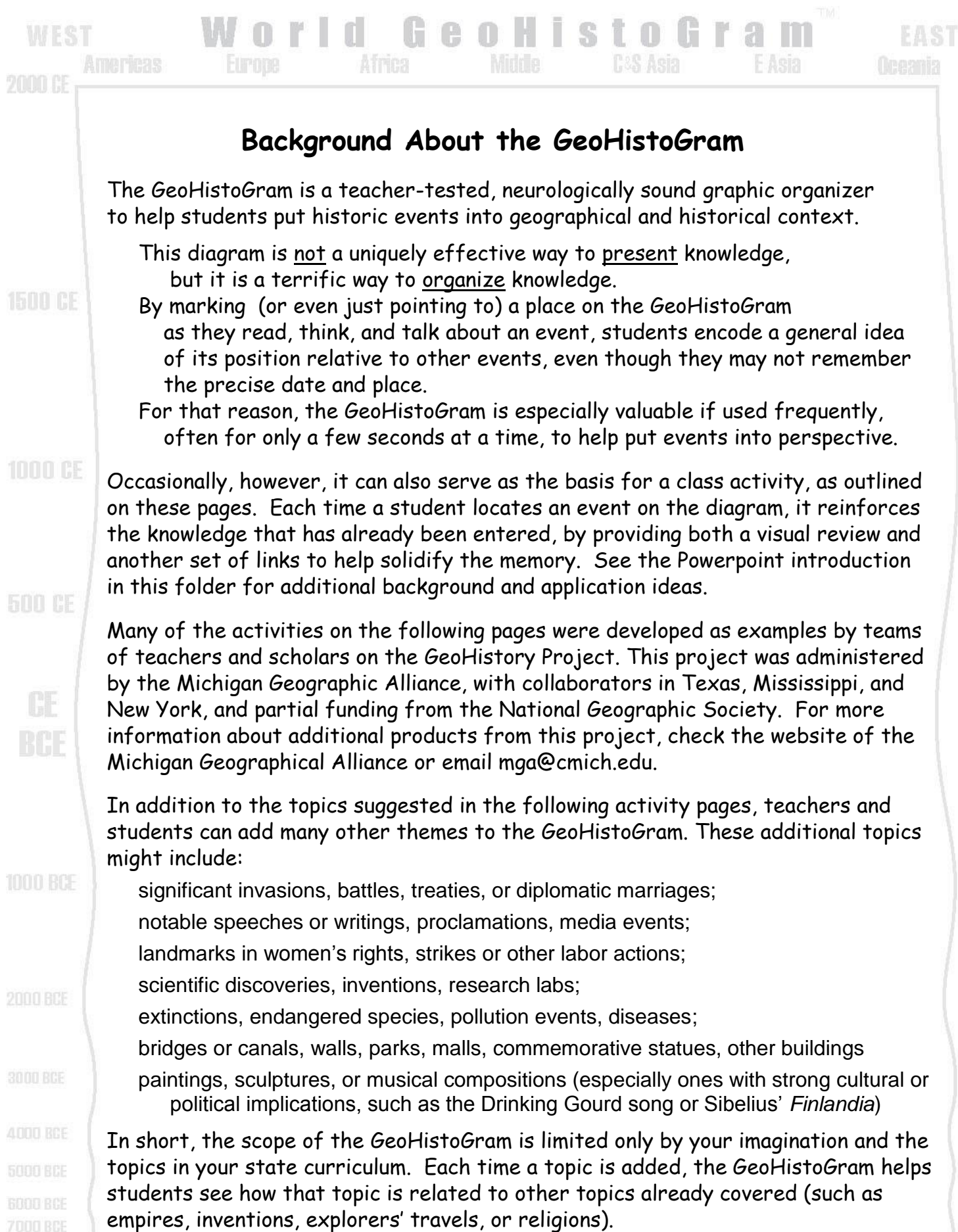


# World GeoHistogram™

WEST

EAST





## Background About the GeoHistoGram

The GeoHistoGram is a teacher-tested, neurologically sound graphic organizer to help students put historic events into geographical and historical context.

This diagram is not a uniquely effective way to present knowledge, but it is a terrific way to organize knowledge.

By marking (or even just pointing to) a place on the GeoHistoGram as they read, think, and talk about an event, students encode a general idea of its position relative to other events, even though they may not remember the precise date and place.

For that reason, the GeoHistoGram is especially valuable if used frequently, often for only a few seconds at a time, to help put events into perspective.

Occasionally, however, it can also serve as the basis for a class activity, as outlined on these pages. Each time a student locates an event on the diagram, it reinforces the knowledge that has already been entered, by providing both a visual review and another set of links to help solidify the memory. See the Powerpoint introduction in this folder for additional background and application ideas.

Many of the activities on the following pages were developed as examples by teams of teachers and scholars on the GeoHistory Project. This project was administered by the Michigan Geographic Alliance, with collaborators in Texas, Mississippi, and New York, and partial funding from the National Geographic Society. For more information about additional products from this project, check the website of the Michigan Geographical Alliance or email [mga@cmich.edu](mailto:mga@cmich.edu).

In addition to the topics suggested in the following activity pages, teachers and students can add many other themes to the GeoHistoGram. These additional topics might include:

- significant invasions, battles, treaties, or diplomatic marriages;
- notable speeches or writings, proclamations, media events;
- landmarks in women's rights, strikes or other labor actions;
- scientific discoveries, inventions, research labs;
- extinctions, endangered species, pollution events, diseases;
- bridges or canals, walls, parks, malls, commemorative statues, other buildings;
- paintings, sculptures, or musical compositions (especially ones with strong cultural or political implications, such as the Drinking Gourd song or Sibelius' *Finlandia*)

In short, the scope of the GeoHistoGram is limited only by your imagination and the topics in your state curriculum. Each time a topic is added, the GeoHistoGram helps students see how that topic is related to other topics already covered (such as empires, inventions, explorers' travels, or religions).

WEST

Americas

Europe

Africa

Middle

C&S Asia

E Asia

EAST

Oceania

2000 CE

1500 CE

1000 CE

500 CE

CE

BCE

1000 BCE

2000 BCE

3000 BCE

4000 BCE

5000 BCE

6000 BCE

7000 BCE

## Uses of the GeoHistoGram

The GeoHistoGram is a flexible graphic organizer that can be used to support many different instructional strategies and activities.

1. It can be a means of communicating content knowledge.

Give students a table or text that identifies the dates and places of key events. They plot those points of the GeoHistoGram and answer questions about them. The goal is to remember the specific events on the list.

Examples: The origins of major religions, the dates of major voyages
2. It can help put other events into historic and geographic perspective.

When you mention an event (in a reading, with a video, in a presentation), point to its position on the GeoHistoGram. It usually helps to make at least one other comment - e.g., by naming what happened before or after it in that place, or in other places at the same time, or what it was inside.

Examples: Muhammad's trip to Medina, the Second Siege of Vienna
3. It can summarize evidence to support or reject a hypothesis.

Plot the first occurrence of something in different places. Examine the pattern to see if there were independent inventions in different places or a "flying geese" pattern that indicates spread from place to place.

Examples: the spread of iron technology, the spread of Islam
4. It can be part of a poster or presentation to show the location and time.

Copy the GeoHistoGram to the clipboard, add a symbol to mark your event, and put it in the poster or presentation to reinforce the text.

Examples: part of a biography or a report on a great invention
5. It can be quick way to situate "trivia facts" from texts or the web.

A typical regional history has hundreds of individual characters. Even with an engaging book, it can be hard to keep track of all the "players." If the book is not well written, dates and places might not be in a logical order. Briefly noting their position can help make this kind of text easier to read.

Examples: Mughals, Marathas, Afghans, Dravidians, and Sikhs in South Asia; regional kings in the history of Timbuktu
6. It can be an aid for "test prep."

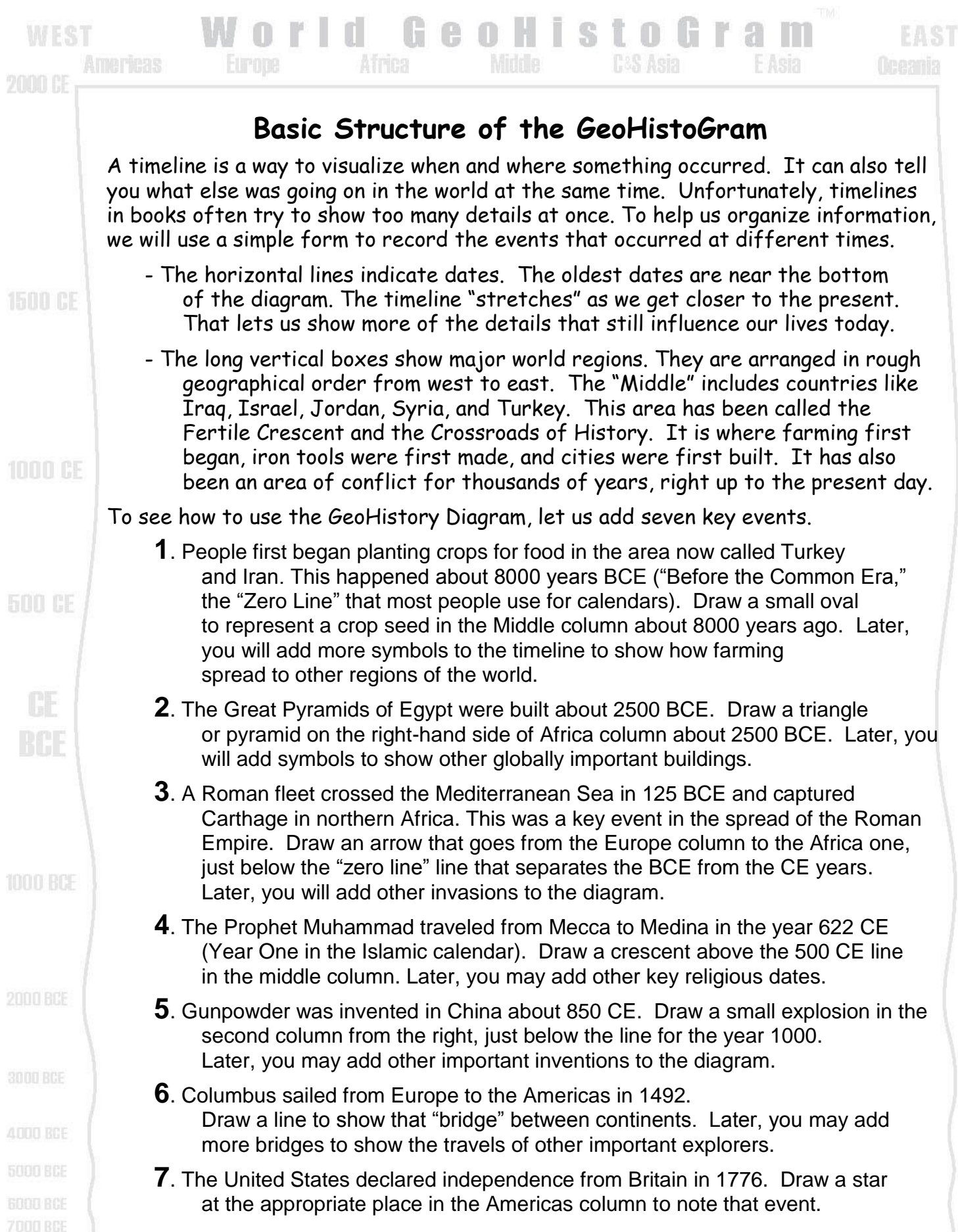
Mark the key events that you find useful in making your own mental timeline of events. Then look at other events that are mentioned in the standards and therefore are likely to be on the test. Try to describe the position of these events relative to the ones you have fixed in your head.

Examples: Using Columbus as your anchor point, put Vasco da Gama, Pizarro, Zheng He, and Leif Ericsson in relative position and state the relationship in your own words
7. It can be part of an assessment.

Make a small image of a GeoHistoGram, with or without labels. Put a symbol on the image and ask a question; or ask students to put a symbol on the image as part of their answer.

Examples: Hammurabi's Code, Luther's role in the Reformation

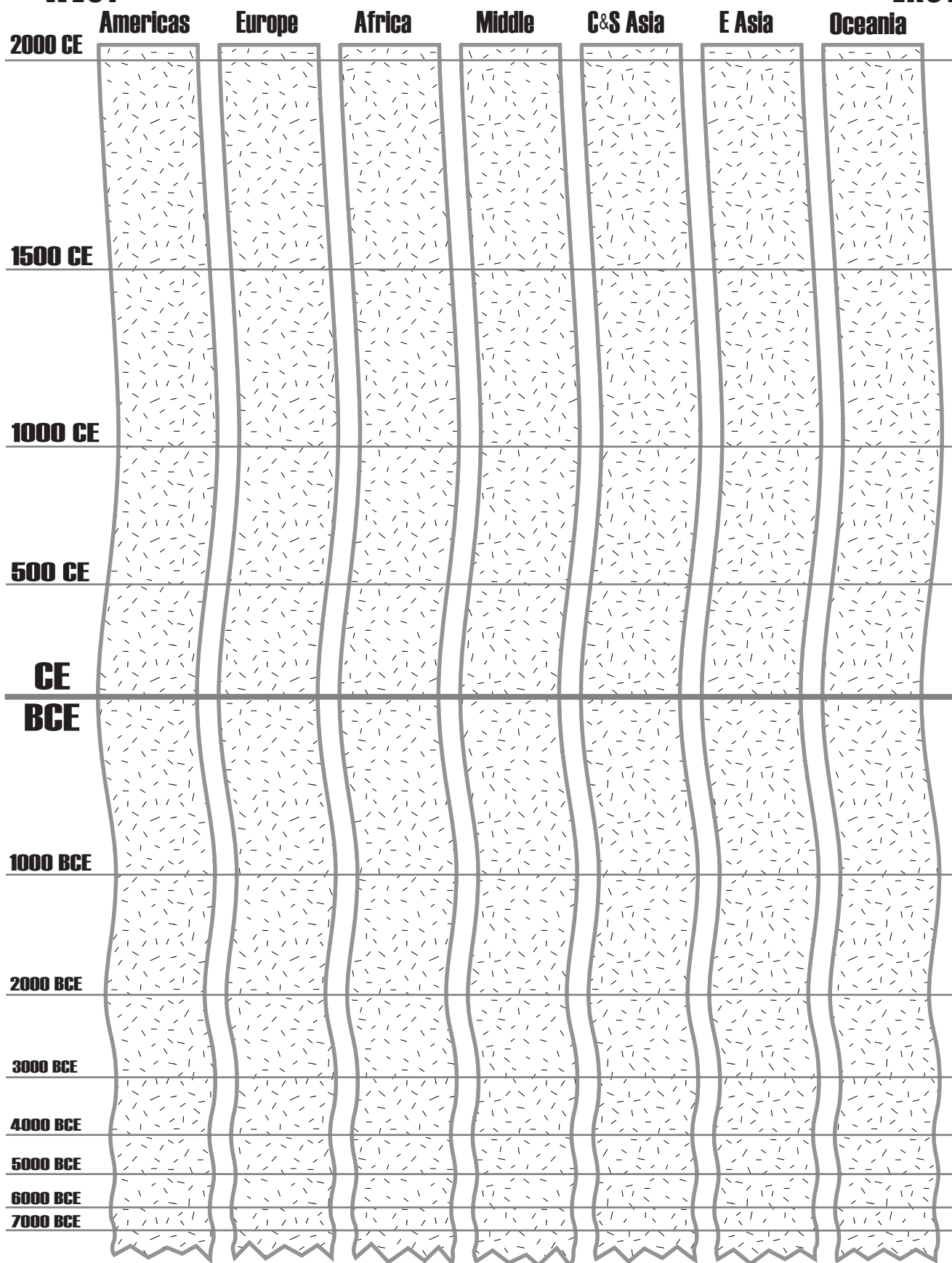




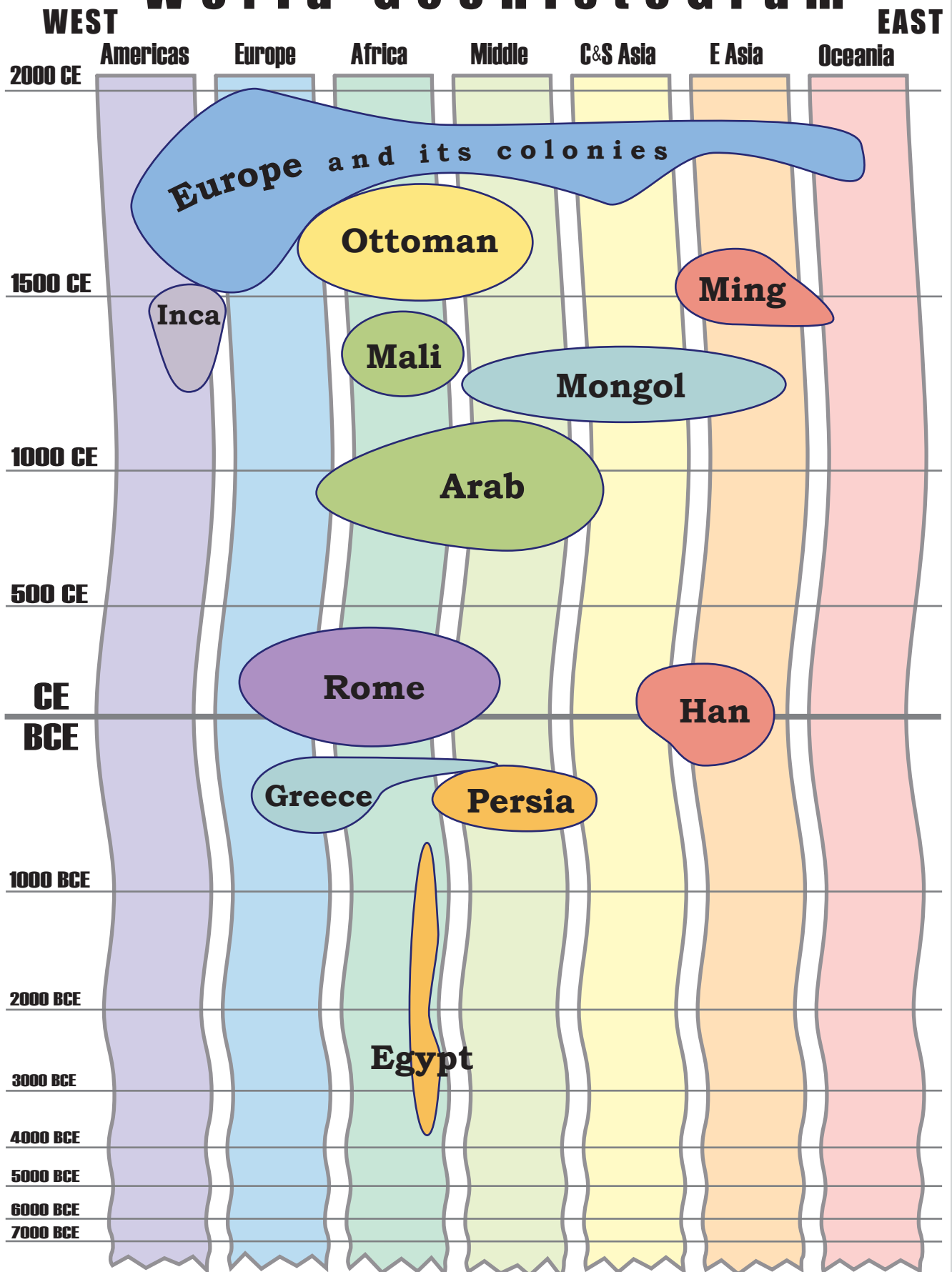
# World GeoHistogram™

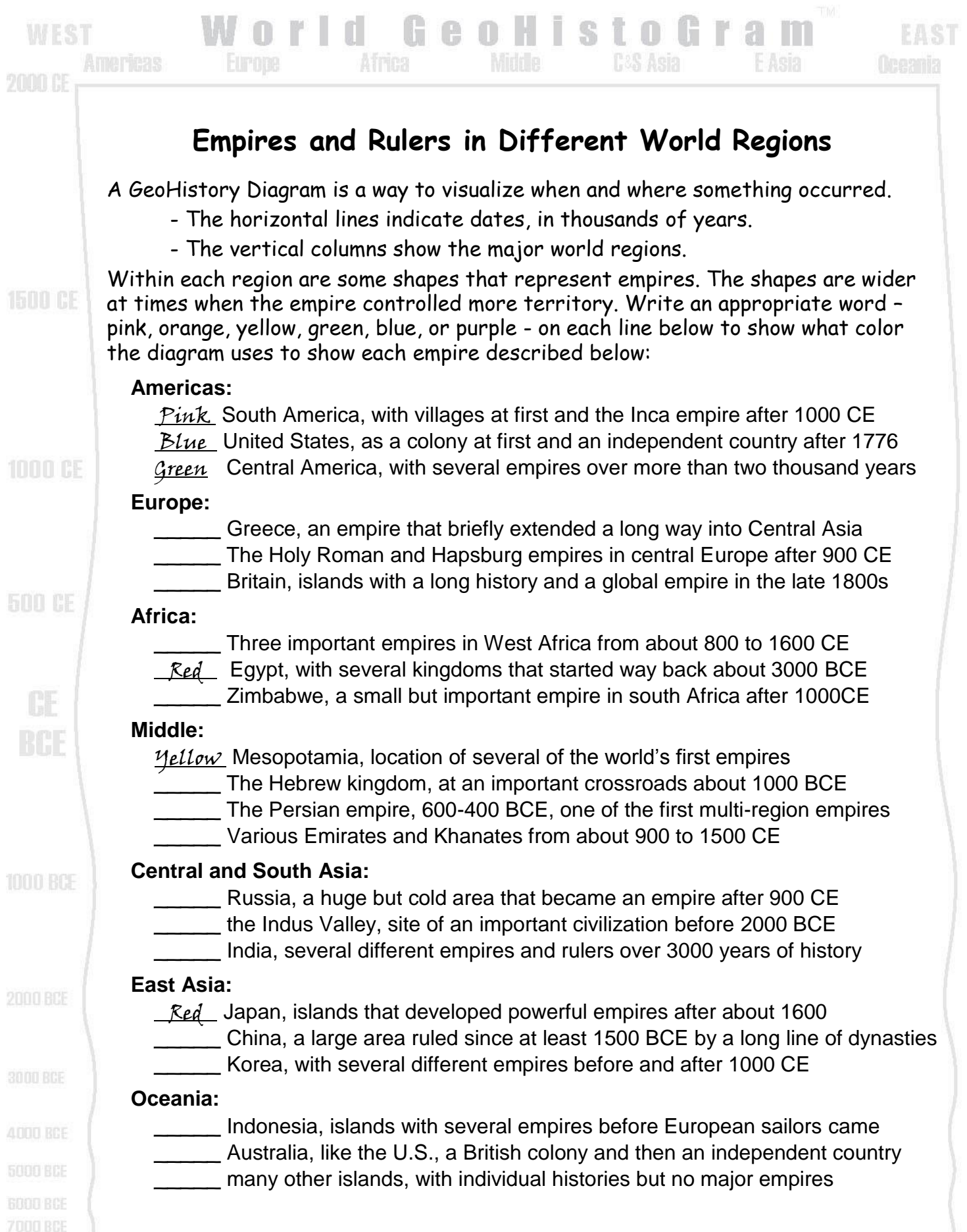
**WEST**

**EAST**



# World GeoHistogram







WEST

Americas

World GeoHistoGram™

Europe

Africa

Middle

C&S Asia

E Asia

EAST

Oceania

2000 CE

1500 CE

1000 CE

500 CE

CE

BCE

1000 BCE

2000 BCE

3000 BCE

4000 BCE

5000 BCE

6000 BCE

7000 BCE

Key Reference Points on the GeoHistoGram

A GeoHistory Diagram is a way to visualize when and where something occurred. It can also tell you what else was going on in the world at the same time. Unfortunately, timelines in books often try to show too many details at once. Worse, they do not always show things we already know. This is unfortunate, because we need this background knowledge to put new information in perspective. In this activity, you will add some key "anchor points" to the diagram. Remember:

- The horizontal lines indicate dates. The oldest dates are near the bottom. The timeline gradually "stretches" as it gets closer to the present. This allows it to show more of the recent details that still influence our lives.
- The vertical columns show the major world regions. They are arranged in rough geographical order from west to east. In the middle is the area where farming first began, iron was first made, and cities were first built. It also has been an area of conflict for many thousands of years, right up to the present day.

Here are five key events that can serve as "anchor points":

What Happened	When It Happened	Where It Happened
Code of Hammurabi	about 1750 BCE	Babylon ("the Middle")
Caesar Augustus rules in Rome	"the zero line"	Rome, in Italy, in Europe
Muhammad conquers Mecca	630 CE	western Arabia (Middle)
Mongols conquer Xia (China)	1207	China (East Asia)
Columbus sails to America	1492	the Americas

Put a letter or symbol at the appropriate place on your GeoHistoGram to indicate each of those events. Think of several ways to describe where each one is.

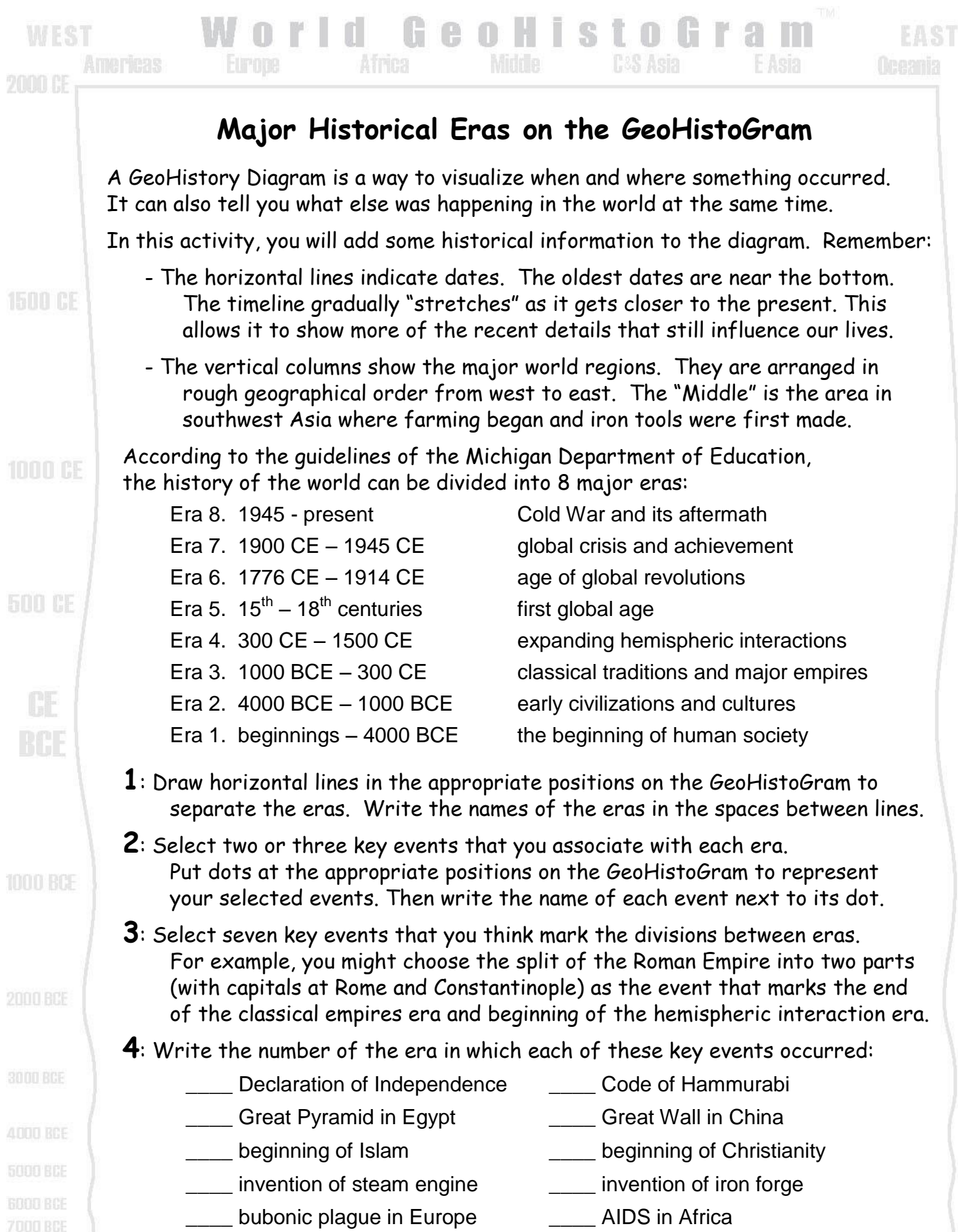
Now pick 3-5 more events to put in some of the "empty" parts of your space-time form. For example, gunpowder was invented in China about 850 CE. To show that, draw a small explosion below the 1000 CE line in the second column from the right.

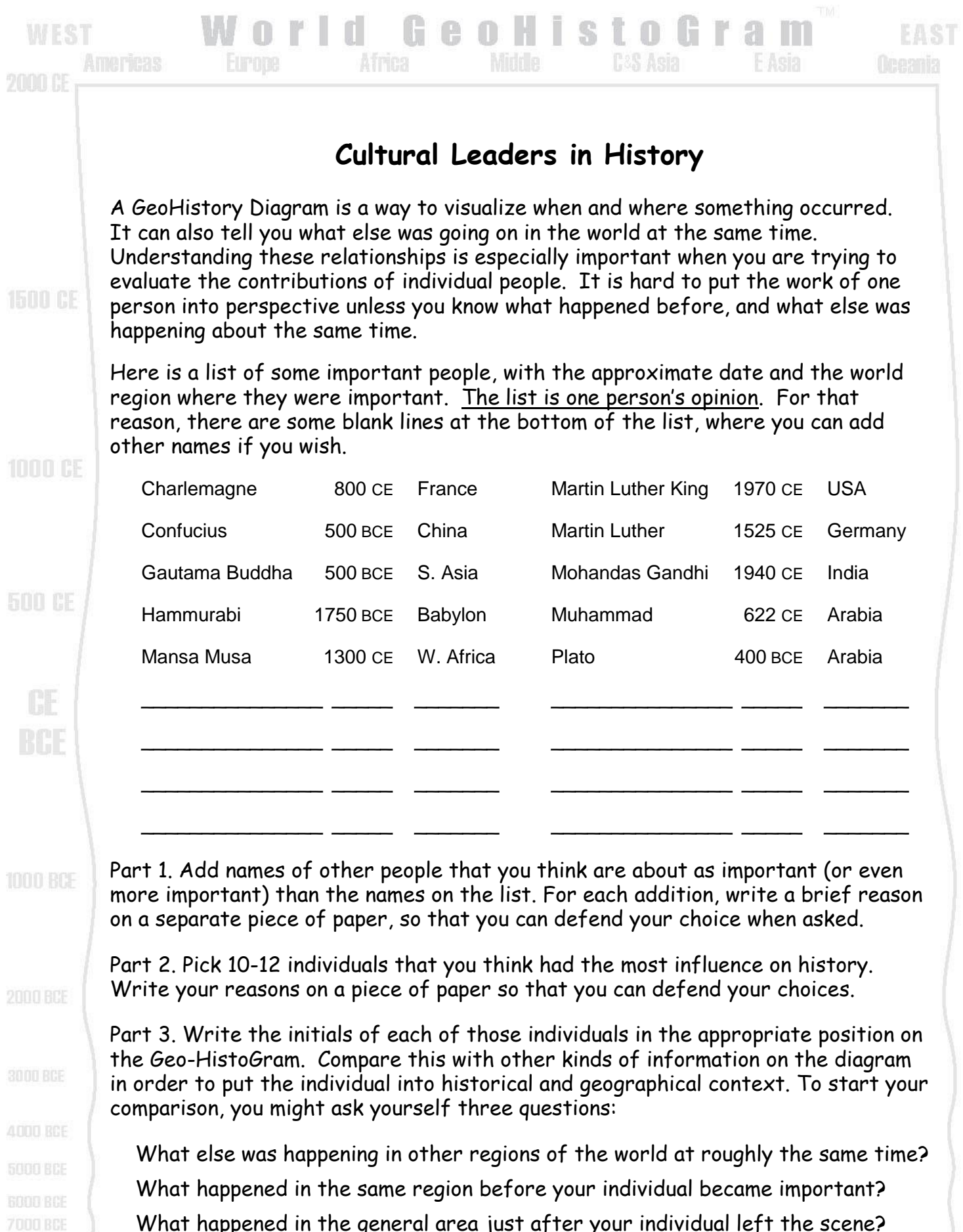
The graph can now help you remember other facts about East Asia, because they will be earlier than gunpowder, later than the Mongols, or between those events.

What Happened	When It Happened	Where It Happened

Your goal is to have 8-10 well-scattered space-time points always in your mind to help you organize new information in a way that makes it easier to remember.

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WEST

Americas

World GeoHistoGram™

Europe

Africa

Middle

C&S Asia

E Asia

EAST

Oceania

2000 CE

1500 CE

1000 CE

500 CE

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BCE

1000 BCE

2000 BCE

3000 BCE

4000 BCE

5000 BCE

6000 BCE

7000 BCE

## Inter-regional "Bridges" in History

At several key moments in history, people made journeys that linked major world regions in new ways. Depending on the circumstances, the links could lead to the spread of ideas, trade in food or other goods, and/or movement of people. Often, they made people richer at both ends of the connection. On the other hand, new links between world regions could also lead to war, disease, and death.

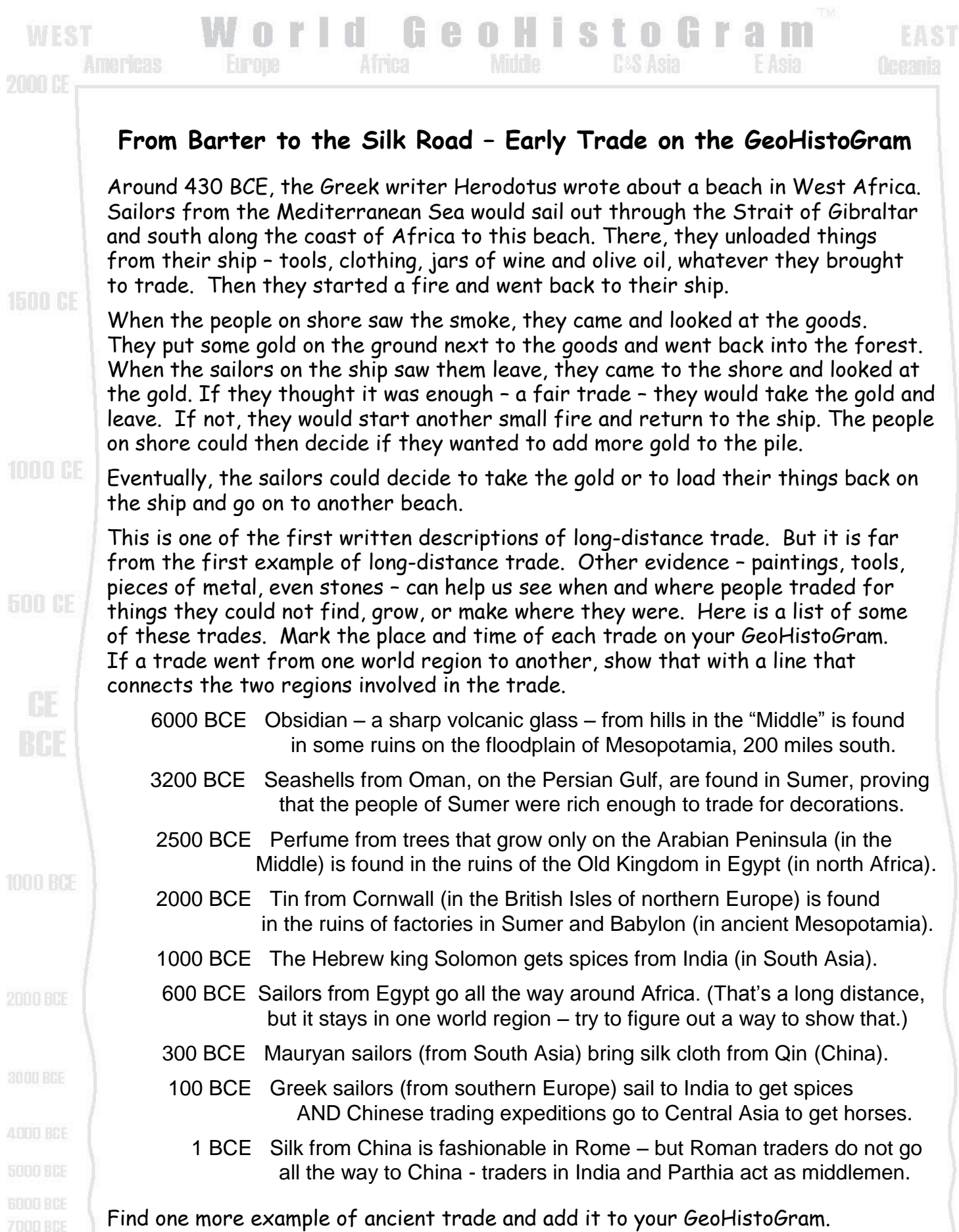
In short, you have to know something about conditions at both ends of a new connection in order to understand the consequences of the connection.

Here is some background information about 12 important "inter-regional bridges":

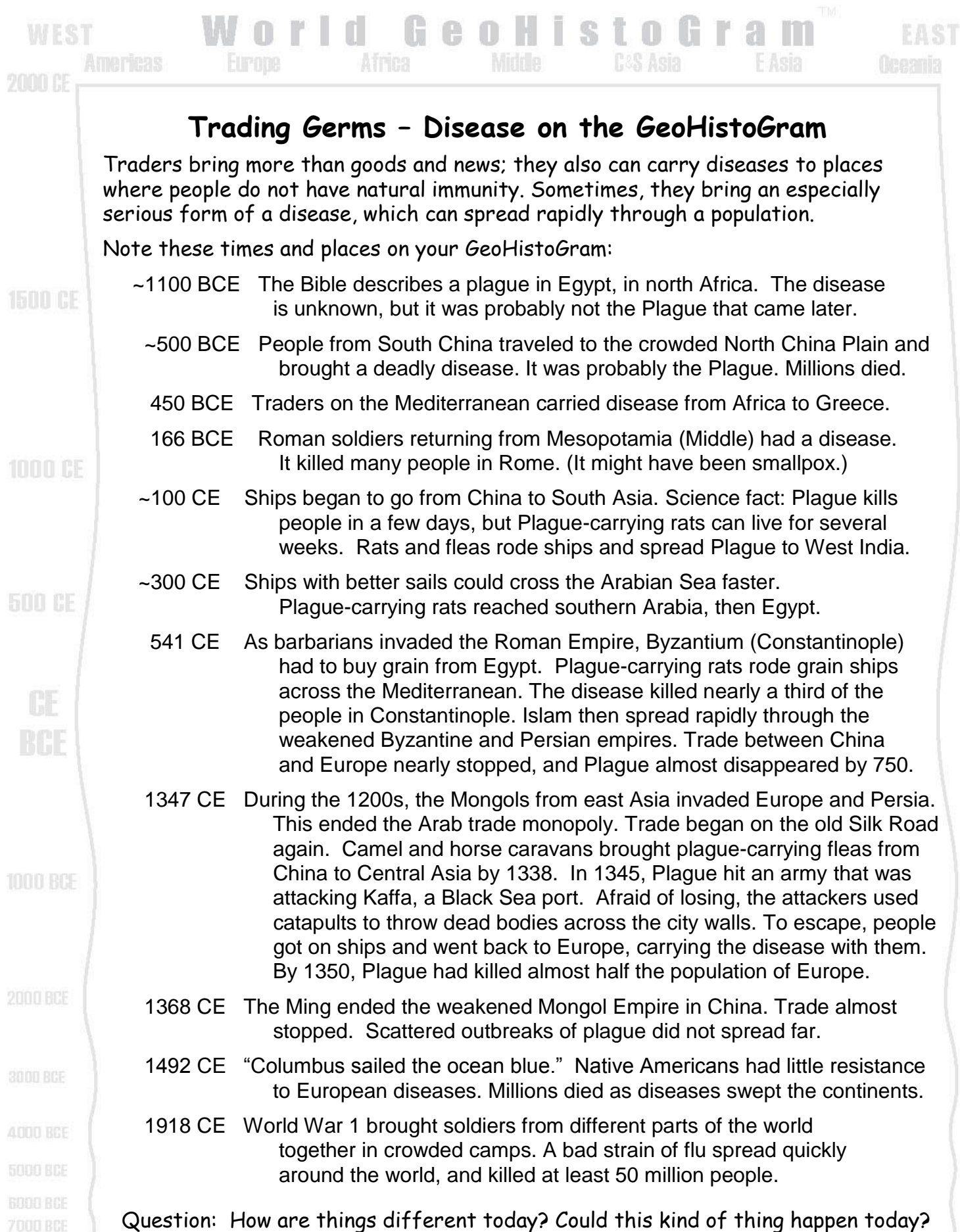
1300 BCE	Hebrews moved from Egypt to Palestine (the "Exodus")
325 BCE	Alexander led an army from Greece to South Asia
200 BCE	Polynesian people sailed from East Asia to Tahiti in the Pacific Ocean
125 BCE	Romans crossed the Mediterranean Sea and conquered Carthage
150 CE	Sea traders traveled from India (in South Asia) to east Africa
400 CE	Huns came from central Asia and attacked Rome
711 CE	Moors from Morocco in north Africa invaded Spain
1099 CE	Crusaders from Europe went to Palestine (also called Canaan, Israel)
1225 CE	Genghis Khan led an army from Mongolia across Asia to Europe
1300 CE	Marco Polo traveled from Venice (in Europe) to China
1492 CE	Columbus sailed across the Atlantic from Europe to the Americas
1673 CE	Ottoman Turks advanced into Europe as far as Vienna

- For each inter-regional "bridge," look at the map and identify:
  - the source area - the region where the movement began
  - the destination - the region where the movement ended
  - the date - the approximate time of the movement

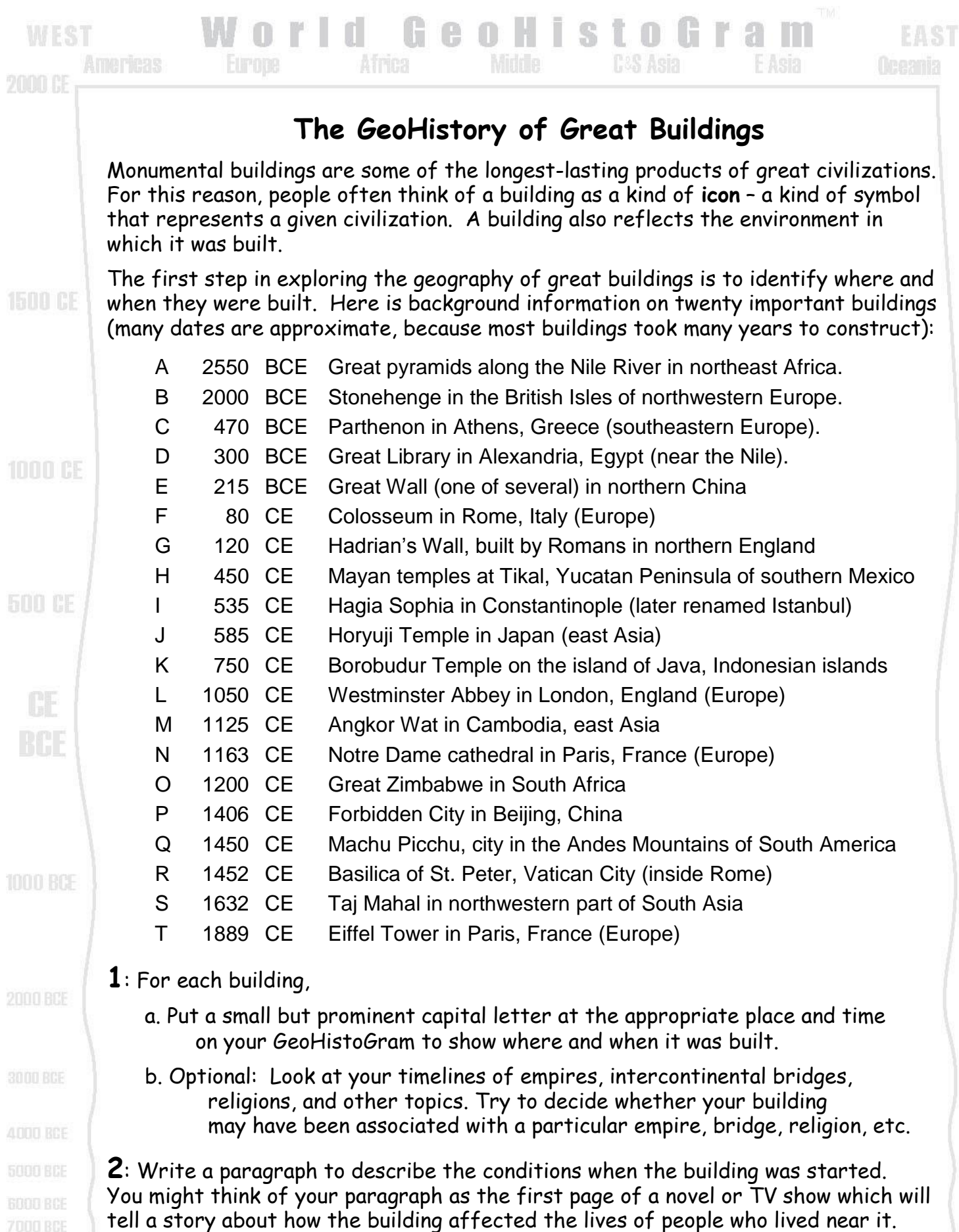
(You may need to use an atlas or the internet to find some of the places.)
- Go to the GeoHistoGram. For each "bridge" on the list:
  - put letter **S** at the place and time of the source.
  - put a letter **D** at the place and time of the destination
  - draw a curved line (like a bridge) to connect the source and destination
  - write the name of the leader or group of people who made that link
- Write a paragraph to describe the general conditions before the connection occurred, in both the source and the destination areas. You might think of your paragraph as the first pages of a novel or TV show which will go on to tell the story about how some people tried to cope with the changes that occurred as a result of the new connection.

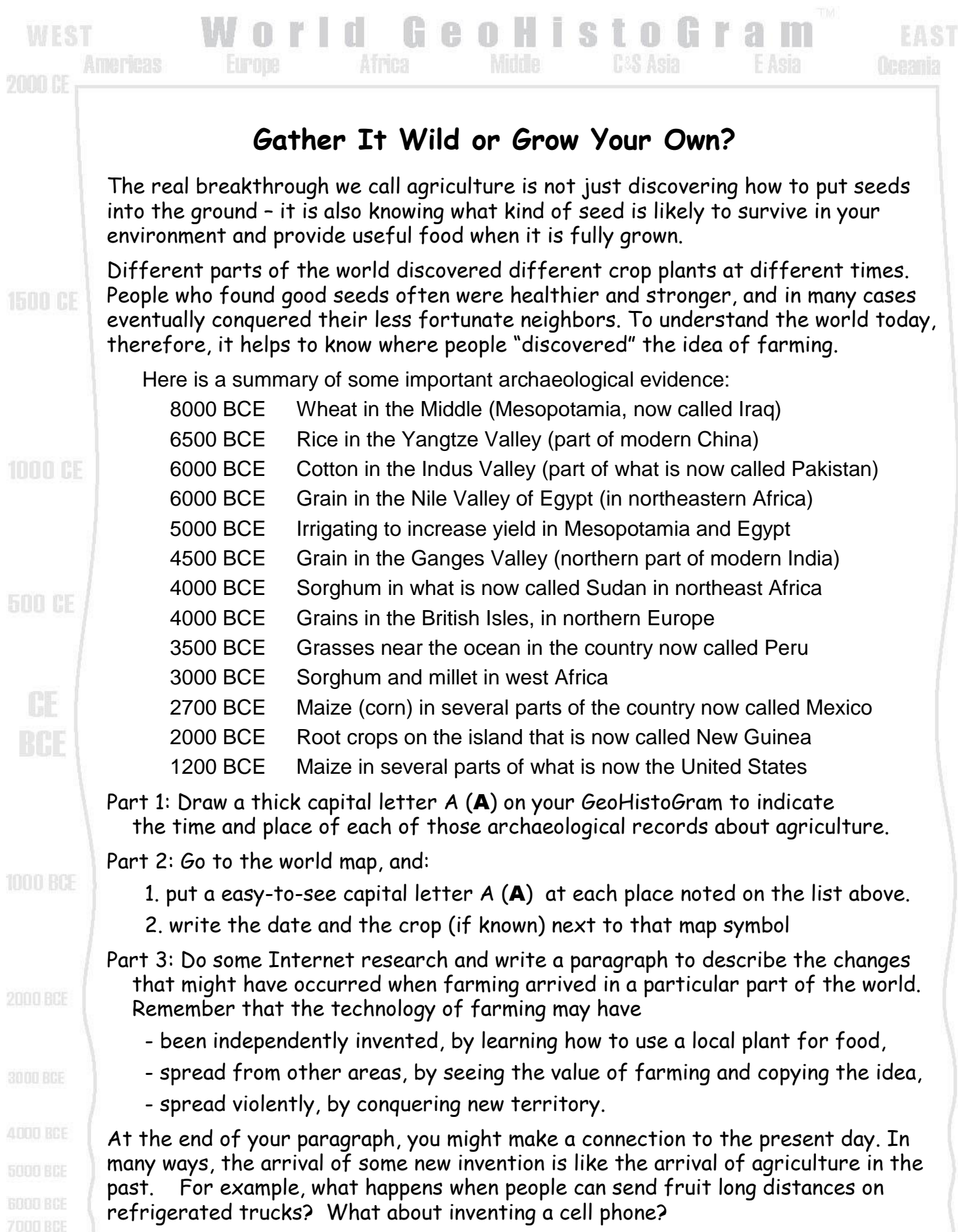




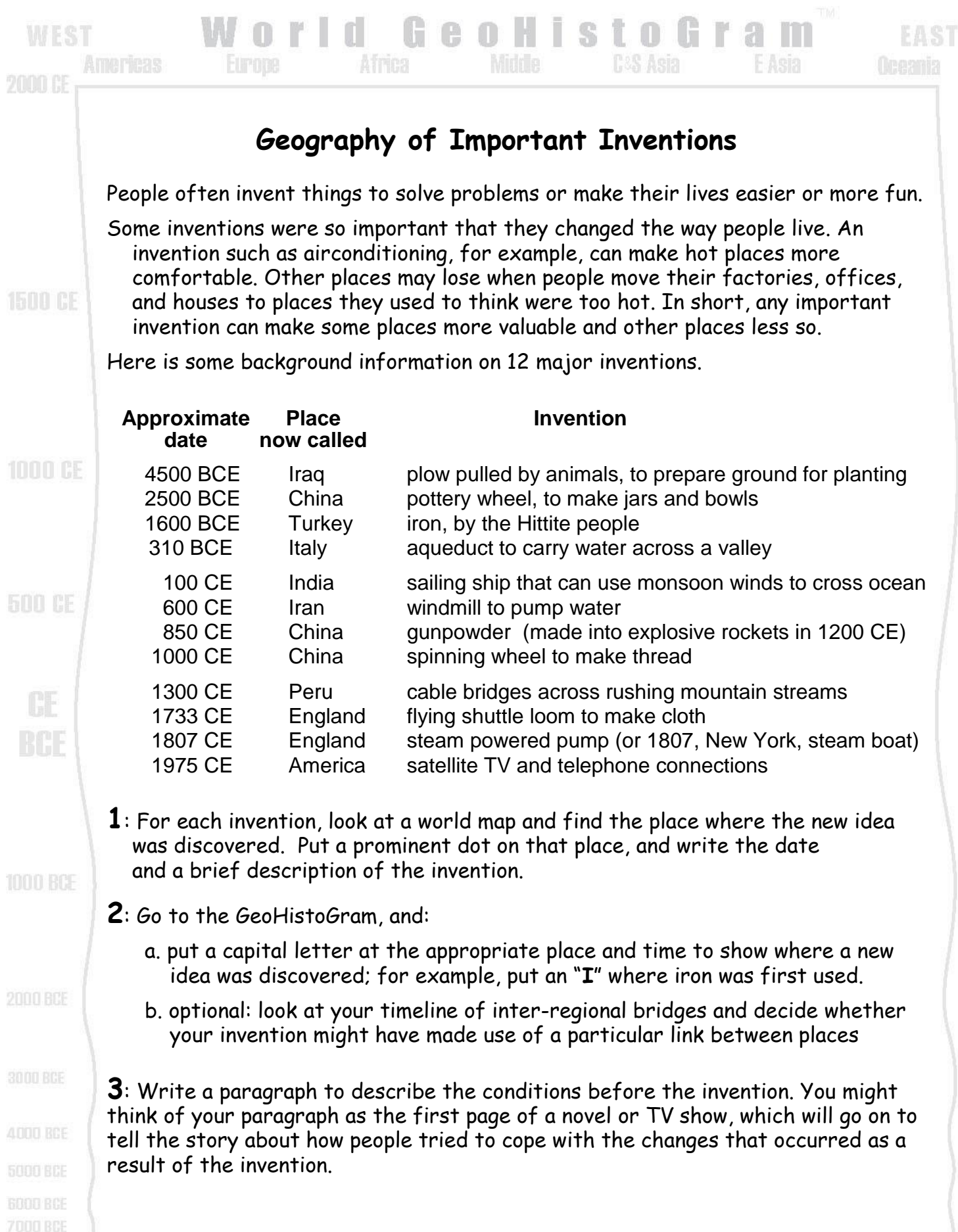


Religion has been a powerful force in human history. At different times and places, religion helped unify or divide large numbers of people. The history of religion is complicated, because different religions started in different parts of the world.













WEST

Americas

World GeoHistoGram™

Europe

Africa

Middle

C&S Asia

E Asia

EAST

Oceania

2000 CE

1500 CE

1000 CE

500 CE

CE

BCE

1000 BCE

2000 BCE

3000 BCE

4000 BCE

5000 BCE

6000 BCE

7000 BCE

## Revolutions and Rebellions on the GeoHistoGram

News flash: the American Declaration of Independence did not start the first revolution in history. Note these times and places on your GeoHistoGram (your teacher will say how many):

- A.** c2700 BC Seth Peribsen fought rebels during his reign as Pharaoh in Egypt. Hieroglyphics on his tomb may be the first complete written sentence.
- B.** c2380 Urukagina led revolt to depose corrupt King Lugulanda of Sumer. A cuneiform tablet has what may be the first written legal code.
- C.** c615 BC: Nabopolassar led Babylonian revolt against the Assyrian Empire. This rebellion encouraged others in many different parts of the empire.
- D.** 499 BC: Greek cities in Ionia (modern Turkey) revolted against Persian rulers. These former Greek colonies rebelled to rejoin their old Greek rulers.
- E.** 206 BC: Liu Bang led a revolt against Qin in China and started the Han dynasty.
- F.** 167 BC: Judah of Maccabi led a Jewish revolt against the Persian Empire.
- G.** 73 BC: Spartacus led a slave rebellion against Roman rule. It eventually failed.
- H.** 40: The Trưng Sisters led a Vietnamese uprising against Chinese domination.
- I.** 60: Queen Boudica led a Celtic revolt against Roman occupied Britain.
- J.** c500: King Gudfred built the Danevirke wall to protect Danes against Saxons. This helped the Vikings create an independent country on the peninsula.
- K.** 541: Lý Nam Đế led a Vietnamese uprising against Chinese domination.
- L.** 713: Mai Thúc Loan led a Vietnamese uprising against Chinese domination.
- M.** 740: Maysara al-Matghari led the Great Berber Revolt in northwest Africa. This was the first successful secession from the Islamic caliphate.
- N.** 747: The Abbasid Revolution overthrows the Umayyad Islamic caliphate.
- O.** 755: General An Lushan led a rebellion against the T'ang dynasty in China. More than 30 million die in the second bloodiest revolution in history.
- P.** 791: Phùng Hưng led a Vietnamese uprising against Chinese domination.
- Q.** 821: Thomas the Slav led a rebellion against the Byzantine Empire.
- R.** 869: Alī bin Muhammad led Zanj revolt of African slaves against the caliphate.
- S.** 1034: Vojislav of Duklja led two Serbian revolts against the Byzantine Empire.
- T.** 1296: William Wallace and others started rebellion that became known as the First Wars of Scottish Independence.
- U.** 1418: Lê Lợi led a Vietnamese uprising against Chinese occupation.
- V.** 1644: General Li Zicheng led a rebellion against the Ming dynasty.
- W.** 1672: Khushal Khan Khattak of Kabul led Afghan revolt against Mughal Empire.
- X.** 1776: British colonists in North America declare independence from England.
- Y.** 1789: former slaves in Haiti start an anti-slavery and anti-colonial revolution.
- Z.** 1791: Revolutionaries overthrow the Bourbon monarchy in France.

Then look at the GeoHistoGram carefully. Note what happened just before, just after, and around this revolution. Ask yourself three questions:

Did the revolution end a dynasty or kingdom? Did it start one?

What else was happening about the same time in other parts of the world?

## Climate on the GeoHistoGram

**Weather** happens day to day - **Climate** is the average over a long period of time.

"You dress for the weather - you buy clothes for the climate."

Climate changes, for a variety of reasons - changes in earth orbit or solar intensity, eruptions by volcanoes, and human activity, starting with the discovery that fire could be "harnessed" to change ecosystems and make hunting better.

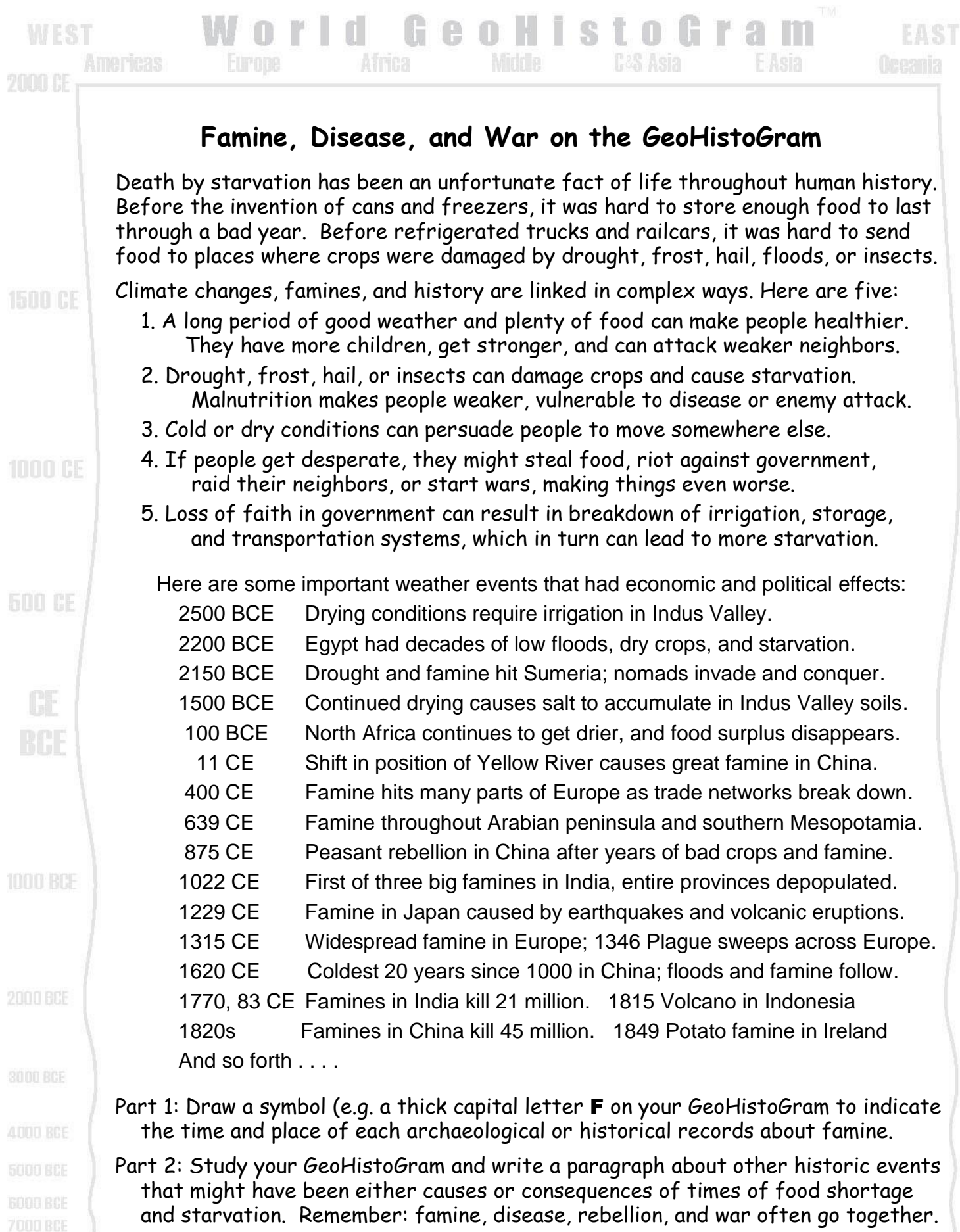
Fossils and tree-rings suggest that the earth has had several distinct periods of time when temperatures were generally warmer or cooler than the long-term average. Use color or thin lines to mark these times on your GeoHistoGram:

7000-6000 BCE	Temperatures generally level after centuries of increase after the glaciers melted. Human populations grow; agriculture starts in several places around the world.
6000-4500 BCE	Post-glacial Warm Era – several degrees warmer; humans spread northward in Eurasia and America.
3900-3200 BCE	Cooler and rainier climate – several valley civilizations begin.
2800-2200 BCE	Indus Warm Time – monsoons are stronger in South Asia.
1500-1300 BCE	Hittite Cool Time – after several centuries of gradual cooling
1200-900 BCE	Warm time puts more water in rivers that get rain from the Equatorial Rainy Zone – e.g. Nile, Niger, Indus, Yangtze.
500-200 BCE	Greek Minimum – cool time makes more rain in dry-summer Mediterranean climates (about 35 degrees N&S).
100 BCE-300CE	Roman Optimum – warm weather encourages empires to expand north, e.g. in Europe (Roman) and China (Han).
400-800 CE	Dark Ages – generally cooler climate encourages nomads to migrate south in Europe, Asia, and North America.
950-1250 CE	Medieval Warm Period – peaking between 1050 and 1150, this is warmer than "normal" (as its name implies).
1350-1850 CE	Little Ice Age – time of relative cool, with especially cold weather between 1450-1500 and 1640-1700.
1880-now	Modern time – average temperatures rise, with considerable year-to-year variation (a fact that is easier to show now, because people have accurate thermometers).

**1:** Examine your modified GeoHistoGram and **make 3-5 statements** about how climate could have influenced history (for example, cool weather about 400 CE might have encouraged "barbarians" from central Europe to attack Rome).

**2:** Looking at the influence of climate in history, we should try to avoid falling into a trap called **determinism** - thinking that climate determines history.

**Rank your statements** according to your confidence. Put the generalization that you think is **most** likely to be true at the top of your list. Mark those that you think might be more questionable. Be prepared to discuss your ranking.





WEST

Americas

World GeoHistoGram™

Europe

Africa

Middle

C&S Asia

E Asia

EAST

Oceania

2000 CE

1500 CE

1000 CE

500 CE

CE

BCE

1000 BCE

2000 BCE

3000 BCE

4000 BCE

5000 BCE

6000 BCE

7000 BCE

### Turning Points in History

In 1683, the Ottoman army tried to take Vienna, a city-fort that was located in a narrow gap where the Danube River (the largest river in Europe) goes between the Alps and the Carpathian Mountains. For several centuries, the Ottoman Empire had been expanding, capturing more and more land in Europe. Armies from Poland and France came to help defend Vienna. After they defeated the Ottoman army, they began pushing the other Ottoman forces back out of Europe.

Historians call the failed Siege of Vienna a major turning point in history.

Here is a list of 15 events that some people have called turning points in history. Study the GeoHistoGram that has **T** symbols drawn on it to mark turning points. Write the approximate date and general location on the lines after each event.

Event	Date	General Location
A. Alexander's Greek army defeats Persian army	_____	_____
B. British East India Company ends Mughal rule	_____	_____
C. Communist Revolutionaries kill Russian Czar	_____	_____
D. Crusaders capture Holy City of Jerusalem	_____	_____
E. Ghana empire begins to trade across Sahara	_____	_____
F. Islamic invaders start Delhi sultanate in India	_____	_____
G. Meiji Restoration begins Japanese expansion	_____	_____
H. Ming dynasty turns inward, stops exploration	_____	_____
I. Mongols start to build world's largest empire	_____	_____
J. Muhammad's army captures Mecca in Arabia	_____	_____
K. Protestant Reformation against Catholic Church	_____	_____
L. Spanish Armada fails to destroy British fleet	_____	_____
M. Spanish army under Cortez defeats Aztecs	_____	_____
N. 13 British colonies declare independence	_____	_____
O. Vikings attack monastery in British islands	_____	_____

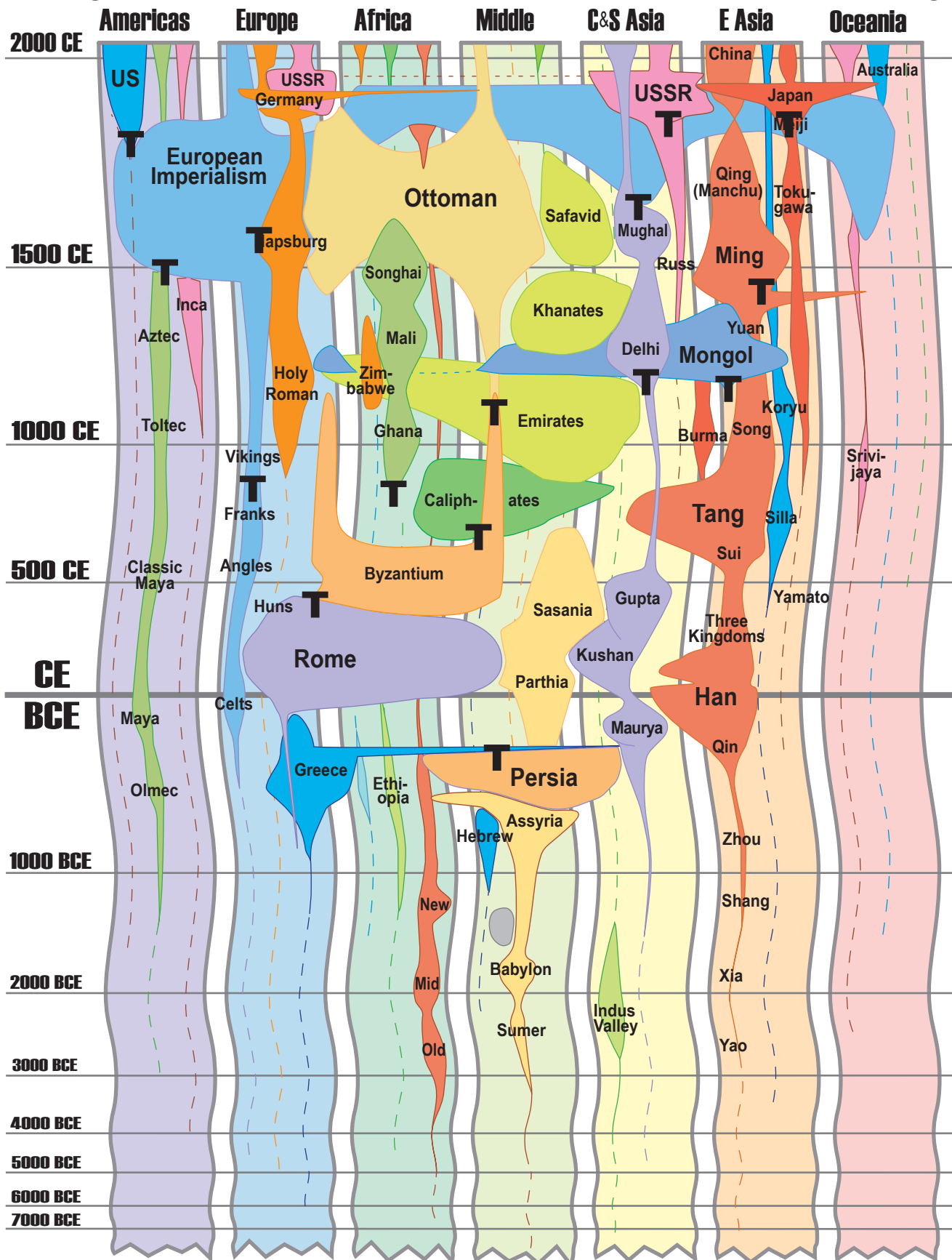
**Poster or essay.** Choose one of these turning points. Do some research. Then write a paragraph (or design a poster) to describe what life was like in the place where the turning point occurred. Think about how people might have tried to cope with the changes that occurred around the time of the turning point.

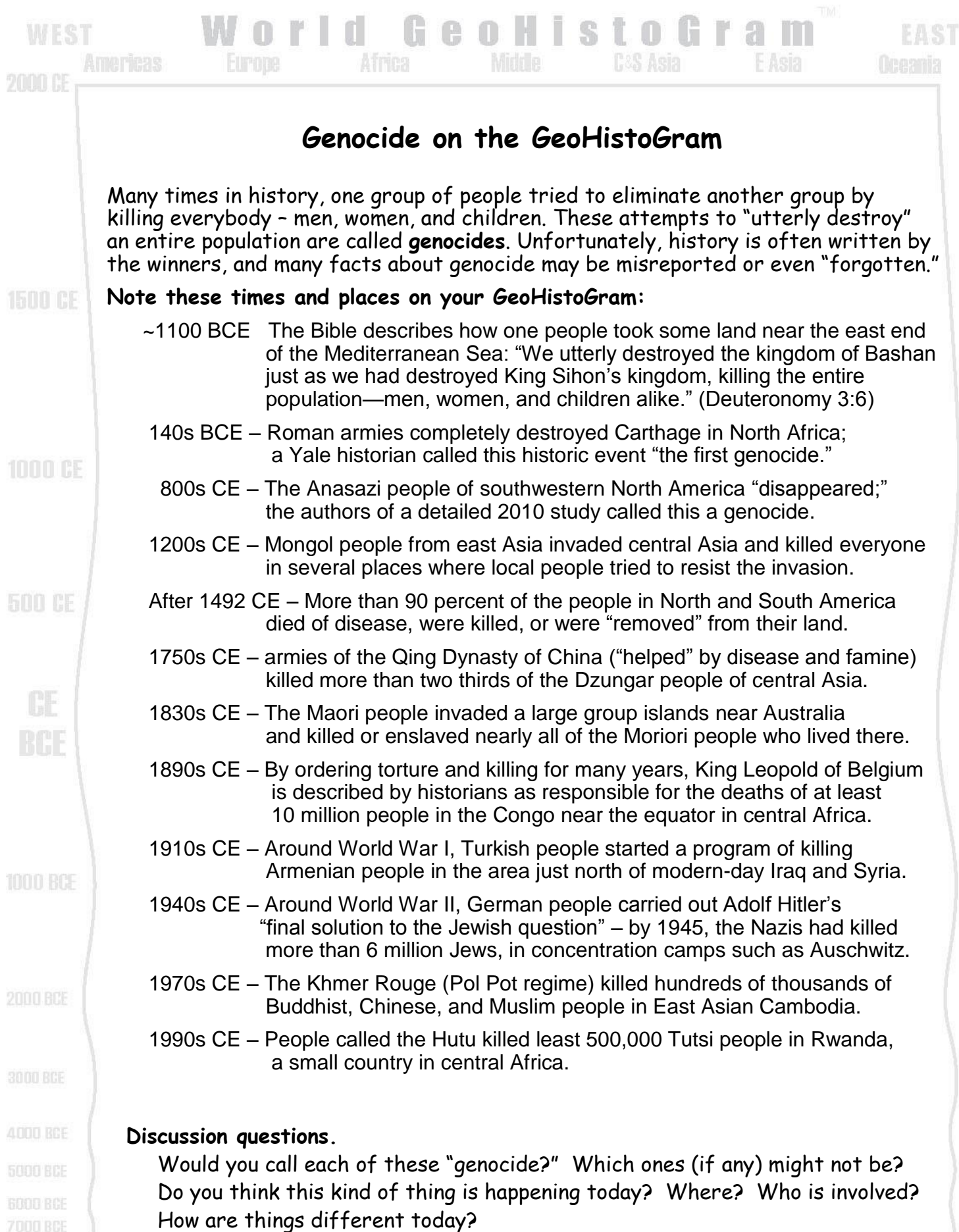


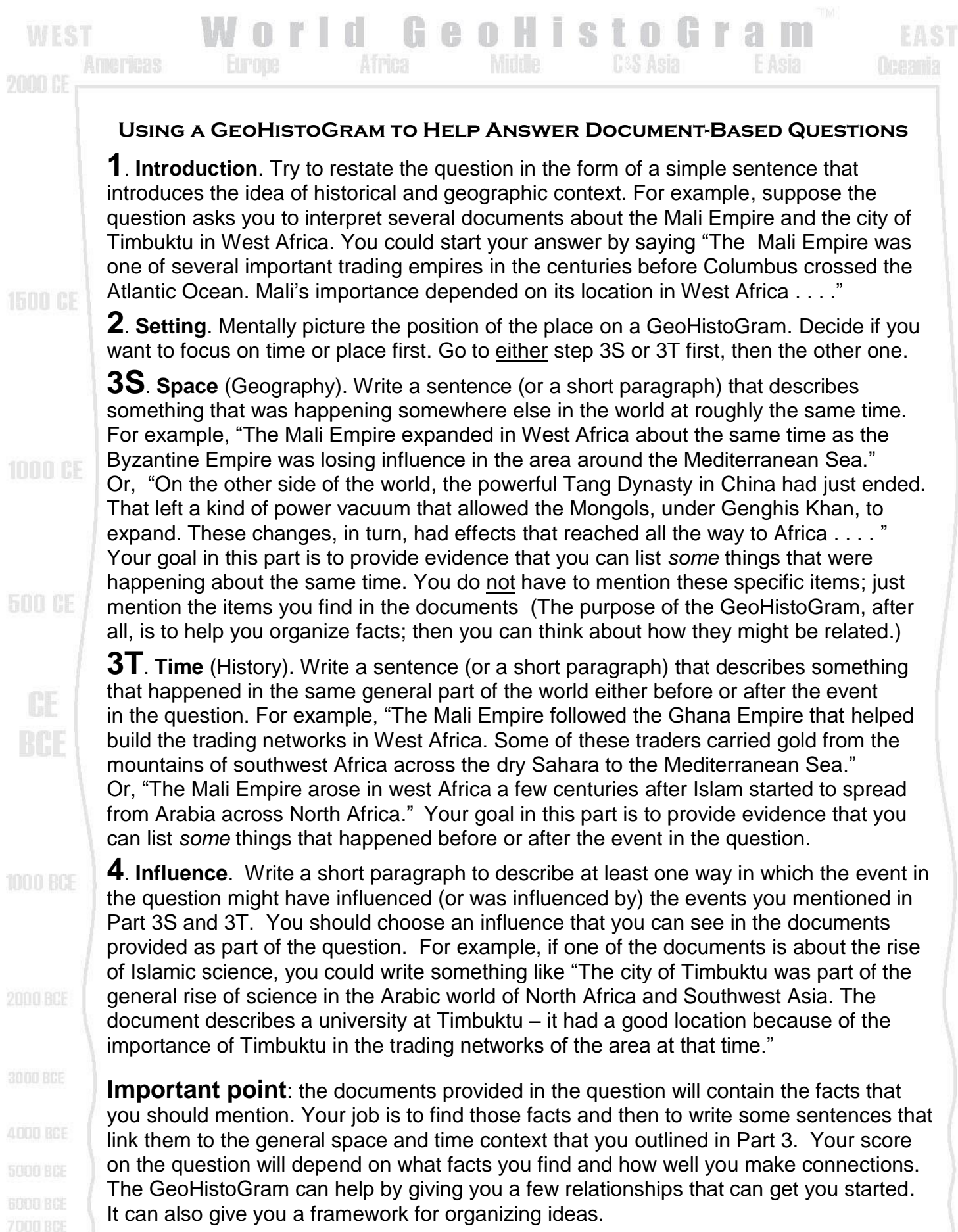
# World GeoHistogram™

WEST

EAST







# GeoHistogram Bingo

1. The reader will read the name of a major person or event in history.
2. Place a marker in the space-time box (the world region and specific era) where and when you think that event occurred.
3. The reader will read the current space-time location for the event.
4. If you picked the correct box, you may leave that marker in its box and add another marker to any other box you choose.
5. If you picked a box that is "off" by just one letter or number (C3 or D4 instead of C4), you may move the marker to the correct box and leave it there.
6. If you picked a box that is "off" by more than one letter or number, you must remove that marker and another one you already had on the board.
7. The first person to get five markers in a row (horizontal, vertical, or diagonal) is the winner and becomes the next reader.

		G E O H I S T								
		WEST							EAST	
		2000 CE	Americas	Europe	Africa	Middle	C&S Asia	E Asia	Oceania	
7 6 5 4 3 2 1	1917 CE									7 6 5 4 3 2 1
	1775 CE									
	1450 CE									
	300 CE									
	CE BCE									
	1000 BCE									
	4000 BCE									

# GeoHistogram Bingo

Cut these apart, add some of your own, mix in a box or bowl, and draw for game.

Neanderthal  
cave painting

**E1**

Mauryan  
Empire

**I3**

Invention  
of gunpowder

**S4**

Muhammad's  
journey

**H4**

Ming  
Dynasty

**S5**

Olmec  
civilization

**G3**

Otto von  
Bismarck

**E6**

Code of  
Hammurabi

**H2**

Olduvai  
Gorge

**O1**

Ghana  
Empire

**O4**

Crusades

**E4+H4**  
(must have both)

Columbus

**E5+G5**  
(must have both)

Attila  
the Hun

**I4+E4**  
(must have both)

Silk Road

**I3+S3**  
(must have both)

Hebrew  
Exodus

**O2+H2**  
(must have both)

Stonehenge

**E2**

Confucius

**S3**

Peking  
Man

**S1**

French  
Revolution

**E6**

Srivijaya  
Empire

**T4**

Ptolemy

**O3**

Pyramids

**O2**

Gupta  
Empire

**I4**

Clovis  
Points

**G1**

Indus  
Civilization

**I2**

Charlemagne

**E4**

Protestant  
Reformation

**E5**

Hydrogen  
Bomb

**T7**

Meiji  
Restoration

**S6**

Suleiman the  
Magnificent

**H5**

Mohandas  
Gandhi

**I7**

Whydah  
Slave Port

**O5**

Domestication  
of Wheat

**H1**

Inca  
Empire

**G4**

Hadrian's  
Wall

**E3**

Burma  
Road

**S7**

Mustafa  
Kemal Ataturk

**H7**

Akbar  
the Great

**I5**

Crimean  
War

**I6 or H6**

King  
David

**H3**



