

Ancient History: Concepts and topics across units

	UNIT 1:	UNIT 2:	UNIT 3:	UNIT 4:
	Investigating the Ancient World	Ancient Societies	People, Power and Authority	Reconstructing the Ancient World
CONCEPTS	Unit focus	Unit focus	Unit focus	Unit focus
	the nature of the remaining sources of the ancient past interpretations and representations the authentication, preservation, ownership and display of material from the ancient world	how people lived in the ancient world social, political and economic institutions and structures	the nature and exercise of power and authority in society the role of the individual in society political, military, religious and economic features	significant historical periods key features and developments social, political, religious, and economic institutions and practices events and individuals
	Key concepts	Key concepts:	Key concepts:	Key concepts:
	the reliability and usefulness of sources	significance	causation	 perspectives
	custodianship of the past	• perspectives	change and continuity	interpretations
	interpretations	interpretations	 perspectives 	contestability
	 representations 	continuity and change	interpretations	reconstruction
			contestability	conservation
TOPICS	Students investigate at least TWO of the following topics, which are to be taught with the requisite historical skills described at the start of the unit: 1. Historical authentication and reliability (specific studies could include: Piltdown Man, Turin Shroud, Priam's treasure, KV5 tomb, Homer's Iliad) 2. Preservation, conservation, and/or reconstruction of ancient sites (specific studies could include: Knossos, Persepolis, Teotihuacan, Terracotta Warriors, Giza) 3. Cultural heritage, ownership and the role of museums (specific studies could include: Bust of Nefertiti, Parthenon Sculptures, Crowther Collection, Priam's treasure) 4. Treatment and display of human remains (specific studies could include: Indigenous Australians, mummified remains, Bog Bodies, Otzi – Ice Man) Students study how at least ONE ancient site, event or change, individual or group, chosen from the following topic electives, has been interpreted, represented, which is to be taught with the requisite historical skills described at the start of the unit: Ancient site 1. Ancient Thera (Santorini) 2. Masada Events and changes 3. The Battle of Kadesh 4. The destruction of Troy 5. The Fall of the Roman Empire in the West 6. The Roman Games Individual 7. Alexander the Great 8. Cleopatra 9. Cao Cao Group 10. The Celts	Students study TWO of the following topic electives, incorporating the requisite historical skills described at the end of the unit: 1. Old Kingdom Egypt, 3rd to 6th Dynasties 2. Egypt in the Ramesside Period, 19th and 20th Dynasties 3. Bronze Age Greece: Minoans or Mycenaens, 2000 – 1100 BC 4. Sparta, c. 700 – 371 BC 5. Persia, 559 – 330 BC 6. Rome, 753 – 264 BC 7. Rome, 264 – 133 BC 8. Ptolemaic Egypt, 331 BC – AD 31 9. China in the Qin and Han Dynasties, 221 BC – AD 220 10. Israel, and Judah, 961 – 586 BC 11. Assyria, 721 – 612 BC 12. India in the Mauryan Dynasty, 321 – 185 BC For the chosen society, students investigate the following: The chronological and geographical context Social structures Political institutions Economic activities In addition, for each chosen society, students will study ONE of the following features: Slavery Art and architecture Weapons and warfare Technology and engineering The family Beliefs, rituals and funerary practices	Students study ONE of the following societies, incorporating the requisite historical skills described at the start of the unit: 1. New Kingdom Egypt to the death of Horemheb 2. Persia, 560 – 330 BC 3. Archaic Greece, 900 – 600 BC 4. Athens, 490 – 445 BC 5. Rome, 133 – 63 BC 6. Rome, 63 BC – AD 14 7. Late Han and the Three Kingdoms, AD 180 – 280 Students study ONE of the following individuals: Akhenaten Augustus Caesar Cicero Cimon Darius I Hatshepsut Livia Pericles Solon Sulla Themistocles Thutmose III Xerxes Zhuge Liang	Students study at least ONE of the following, incorporating the requisite historical skills described at the start of the unit: 1. Thebes – East and West, 18th Dynasty Egypt 2. New Kingdom imperialism, diplomacy and governance, 18th – 20th Dynasty Egypt 3. The Athenian Agora and Acropolis, 514-399 BC 4. Athens, Sparta and the Peloponnesian War, 435 – 404 BC 5. The Julio-Claudians and 'Imperial' Rome, AD 14 – 68 6. Pompeii and Herculaneum, 80 BC - AD 79
	·	Beliefs, rituals and funerary practices		
	8. Cleopatra	•		