

Vote for Your Empire Project

AS THE EARLY STATES AND EMPIRES GREW IN NUMBER, SIZE, AND POPULATION, THEY FREQUENTLY COMPETED FOR RESOURCES AND CAME INTO CONFLICT WITH ONE ANOTHER. IN QUEST OF LAND, WEALTH, AND SECURITY, SOME EMPIRES EXPANDED DRAMATICALLY. IN DOING SO, THEY BUILT POWERFUL MILITARY MACHINES AND ADMINISTRATIVE INSTITUTIONS THAT WERE CAPABLE OF ORGANIZING HUMAN ACTIVITIES OVER LONG DISTANCES, AND THEY CREATED NEW GROUPS OF MILITARY AND POLITICAL ELITES TO MANAGE THEIR AFFAIRS. AS THESE EMPIRES EXPANDED THEIR BOUNDARIES, THEY ALSO FACED THE NEED TO DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO GOVERN THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH ETHNICALLY AND CULTURALLY DIVERSE POPULATIONS: SOMETIMES TO INTEGRATE THEM WITHIN AN IMPERIAL SOCIETY AND SOMETIMES TO EXCLUDE THEM. IN SOME CASES, THESE EMPIRES BECAME VICTIMS OF THEIR OWN SUCCESSES. BY EXPANDING THEIR BOUNDARIES TOO FAR, THEY CREATED POLITICAL, CULTURAL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES THAT THEY COULD NOT MANAGE. THEY ALSO EXPERIENCED ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WHEN THEY OVEREXPLOITED THEIR LANDS AND SUBJECTS AND PERMITTED EXCESSIVE WEALTH TO BE CONCENTRATED IN THE HANDS OF PRIVILEGED CLASSES.

In groups, students will play the role of “political campaign workers.” Each group will be assigned a Classical Empire to research and must create a presentation that proves their empire is “the best”.

Each group member must work within the following roles:

- Artist - Creates the a final presentation or poster with the empire’s name, dates, along with a campaign slogan and illustrations.
- Speechwriter - Write a campaign speech that outlines and explains the highlights of the empire - what makes it the best!
- Spin Doctor - Explains why the actions of the empire (even the bad things) were good, as well as preparing responses to the questions other empires may ask of you.
- Mudslinger - Researches and finds the “dirt” on the other empires. They will write questions for the other empires and ask them after their presentation.

On **Tuesday, September 20th**, groups will present their final campaigns to the class.

Recommended Ways to Complete the Project:

- *Use Google Docs and Google Slides*
- *Research your assigned topic (Artist is responsible for gathering materials and assisting the rest of the group as they gather data).*
- *Create a document with your name, your empire, and your assigned information. You will be graded on how well you perform in your role.*
- *Begin designing the finished product.*