**AP World History: Autopsy of a Classical Civilization**

Civilizations don’t tend to last forever. They have a life expectancy – some live longer than others, some get degenerative diseases, and others meet violent ends. Some keep their empire going through artificial supports, while others succumb without aid. Some fall entirely, while others are dismembered. You will be using the analogy of an obituary and an autopsy report to depict the success and eventual downfall of a classical civilization.

**Directions:**  You and your group will be recording the success and eventual downfall of a classical empire. You will be assigned to one of the following: China (Han), India (Gupta), Rome.

For the purposes of the obituary and the autopsy, use the following:

* Head: Significant leaders, major accomplishments
* Arms: Military, Diplomacy & International relationships
* Hands: Art, Architecture & Technological advances
* Spine: Political Structure/Bureaucracy/Legal Systems
* Ribs: Societal Infrastructure/Gender Roles
* Heart: Religious Beliefs
* Legs: Labor Systems (slavery, caste system, etc.)
* Feet: Trade Routes, animal transport, and goods traded

**Part 1: The Obituary**

* Draw a large representation of a person (your civilization) on your butcher paper. Include its name on top and your names on the back.
* Give a clear picture of what this civilization was like during healthier times, its prime. What made your empire or civilization successful? What were its strengths?

**Part 2: The Autopsy**

* Label the different issues that caused the decline and fall of your civilization on the paper. Be creative in your “diagnosis.”
  + Remember to include what led to its decline/weakened it prior to the final moments. What was the killing blow/disease, etc.? Was it a long, slow decline, or a fast end?

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|  | **Exemplary**  (90-100%) | **Proficient**  (80-89%) | **Partially Proficient**  (70-79%) | **Unsatisfactory**  (0%-69%) |
| **Content**  (0-20 pts) | * Content is accurate, detailed and informative * Content is presented according to directions | * Content is accurate and adequately detailed and informative * Content is presented according to directions | * Content is mostly accurate, is too basic and/or missing some key details * Content is mostly presented according to directions | * Inaccurate content * Content lacks necessary informative details * Content is not presented according to directions |
| **Organization**  (0-10 pts) | * Information location is accurate * Information is legible * Well-organized | * Information location is accurate * Information is adequately readable * Poster is relatively well-organized | * Information is on the poster * Information is mostly readable * Poster lacks organization | * Information is missing or in wrong location * Information is not readable * Poor organization |
| **Professionalism and Creativity**  (0-10 pts) | * Poster is professional – high level of effort is apparent * Poster is colorful and creative | * Poster is mostly professional – Effort is apparent * Poster is colorful and gets the point across | * Poster is somewhat professionall, effort is somewhat apparent * Poster lacks color or creativity | * Poster is not professional quality - Effort is not apparent * Poster has no color or creativity |