

# **7 Characteristics of Civilization**

# What is a Civilization????

Civilization is...a society marked by developed arts, sciences, government, and social structure

# The 7 Characteristics are.....

## GW RAFTS

G- Government

W- Written Language

R- Religion

A- Arts

F- Food Supply

T- Technology

S- Social Structure



# Government

The society's laws and political institutions, the people who hold power within a society



# Government

People form governments to provide for their common needs

-Types

- Democracy- people have supreme power
- Republic- people choose leaders to represent them
- Dictatorship- a ruler or group holds power

# Written Language

How people communicate their thoughts, feelings, and knowledge

- Language is the cornerstone of culture. It holds a culture together.



# Written Language

Important for passing on traditions, beliefs, and customs.

Language can be written or oral ( even gestures)

# Stable Food Source

A stable food supply means there is enough food for all of the people all the time.

- Surplus (extra) is necessary to survive





# Arts

Things that entertain, please, and teach us about a culture.

Promotes a cultures pride and unity

- Movies, Books, Plays, Games, Sports, TV Shows, Paintings.



# Religion

Helps people answer questions about the meaning and purpose of life.

-Monotheism: worship of one god.

-Polytheism: worship of many gods.



# Major Religions

## Monotheistic:

- Christianity
- Judaism
- Islam

## Polytheistic:

- Hinduism
- Buddhism

# Technology

The making, modification, usage, and knowledge of **tools**, **machines**, techniques, or **systems**, in order to solve a problem, improve a pre-existing solution to a problem, or achieve a goal.



# Social Structure

Cultures organize members into smaller unit so people can work together to meet basic needs. The family is the most important unit.

- wealth, jobs, and position



# Social Structure

2 ways to classify the FAMILY UNIT:

1. Nuclear Family- parents, children
2. Extended Family- several generations in one household.  
Grandparents, parents, uncles/aunts