CUSP History

LKS2

Achievements of an ancient civilisation (Egypt, Shang Dynasty or Ancient Sumer)

What is the difference between a society and a civilisation?

How was Ancient Rome a civilisation?

Common misconceptions

- Cities are a modern type of human settlement.

- Civilisations only exist in ancient history.

Aims of the lesson

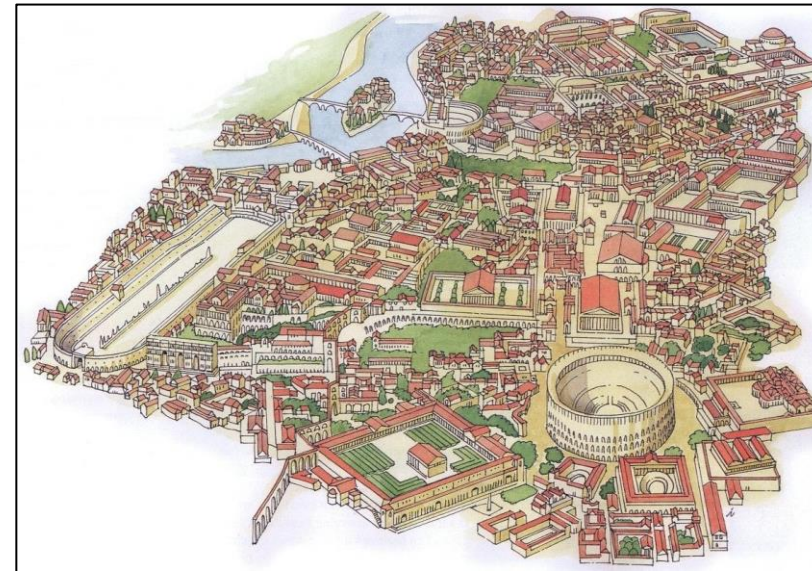| Pupils will know:	Pupils will be able to:
• the difference between a society and a civilisation.	• identify characteristics of Ancient Rome that made it a civilisation.

↺ Connect

A city is a human settlement of a notable size.

Does this suggest cities would not have existed in ancient history?

Use the images below to support your answer.

Vocabulary

The four oldest civilisations of the world are the Mesopotamia Civilisation, Egyptian Civilisation, Indus Valley Civilisation and Chinese Civilisation.

Civilisation. That is an interesting word. I want to understand what it means.

civ-i-li-sa-tion - civilisation

A civilisation is a society with legal, religious, cultural and political organisations. It is the stage of human social and cultural development that is considered most advanced.

Historians still argue about the reason for the demise of such a great civilisation.

This is a word I would use when talking about a type of human community with organised political, social and cultural structures. I would also use it to describe the settlement patterns of societies.

Civilisation relates to the Latin words *civitas* which means city. This is the reason why the definition of the word civilisation is sometimes given as a society that is made up of cities.

Read, hear, say
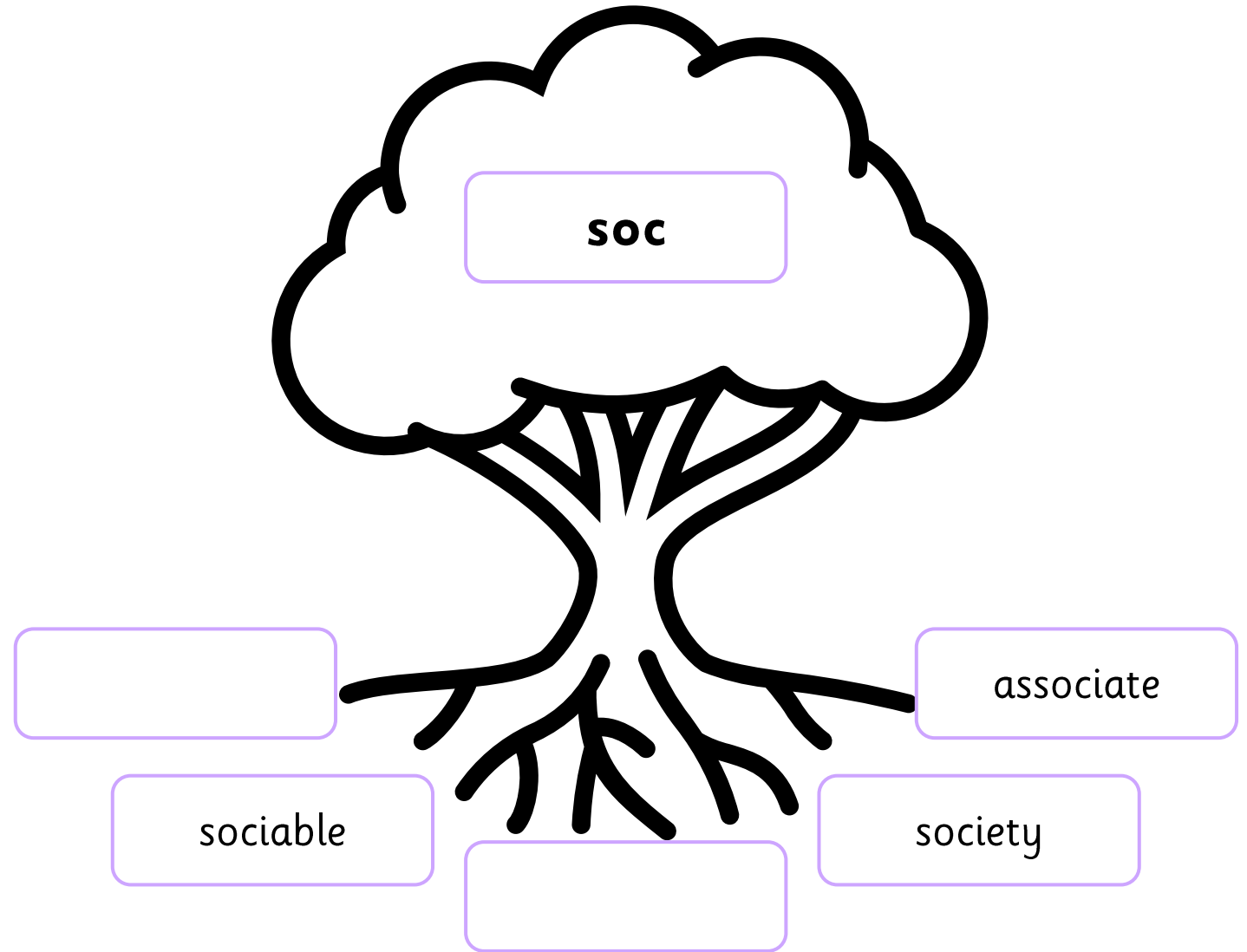
Define

Apply

Connect

Analyse

Vocabulary

The root word *soc* means partner or comrade.

How does this relate to the overall word meaning of society?

Which other words use this root word?
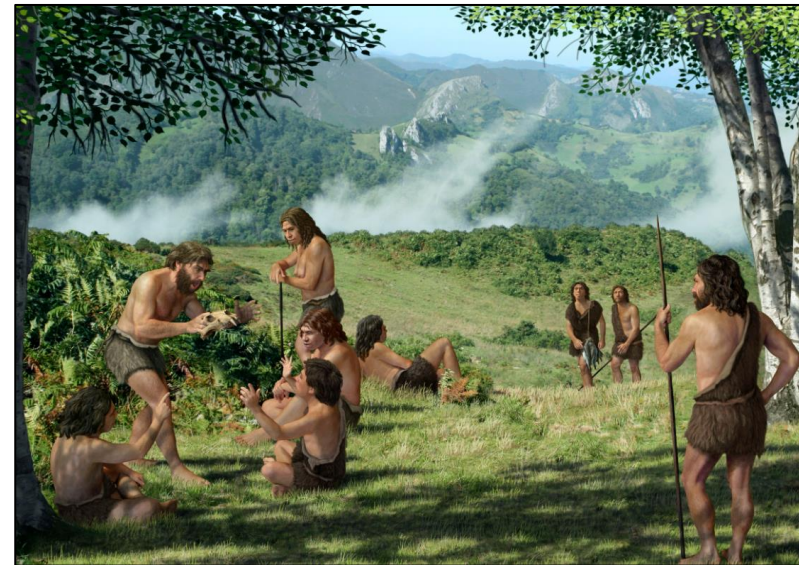
soc

associate

sociable

society

Explain

A society is a group of individuals who live together and are bound by the same traditions, interests and sometimes also beliefs. They live together in an organised way.

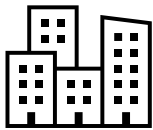Groups of hunters and gatherers from the Stone Age can be described as a society.

Explain

A civilisation is a society with legal, religious, cultural and political organisations.
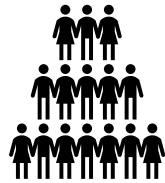
The key components needed for any civilisation are: a food supply (agriculture), cities, a social structure, a government, a religious system, advances in technology, a distinct culture (including a style of architecture and artwork) and a developed written language.
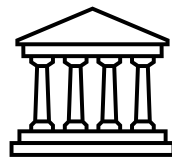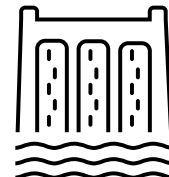
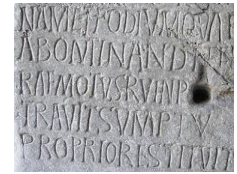agriculture   cities   social structure   government   religion   technology   culture   written language

Example

The Roman Empire existed from around 625 BCE to 476 CE and stretched across Europe, North Africa and Asia. It was initially ruled by kings but it became a republic until 31 BCE and then it became Imperial Rome (ruled by emperors).
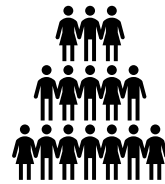
From this source, I can tell that Ancient Rome had a government and a social structure, two of the key components of a civilisation.
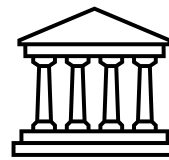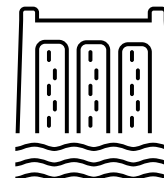
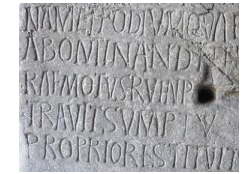agriculture   cities   social structure   government   religion   technology   culture   written language

Example

Roman road

Aqueduct to transport fresh water

Insulae (Roman apartments)

From these sources, I can tell that Ancient Rome was technologically advanced and had cities.

 agriculture
 cities
 social structure
 government
 religion
 technology
 culture
 written language

Attempt

How do these images support the idea that Ancient Rome was a civilisation?

The Colosseum (an amphitheatre)

Roman public baths

Mosaic of female athletes

agriculture   cities   social structure   government   religion   technology   culture   written language

Apply

No visit to Rome can be complete without a trip to the **Pantheon.** It is the most complete and well-preserved building of Ancient Rome. The original use of the **Pantheon** isn't certain. However, the name suggests that it may have been a temple dedicated to the gods of Ancient Rome until it was converted into a Christian church in 609 CE. It is still a church today, which shows that the **Pantheon** has stood the test of time and has been in use as a place of worship since it was first built.

This is an extract from a travel brochure for visiting Rome.

Is this an acceptable source for confirming Ancient Rome as a civilisation as it had a religious system?
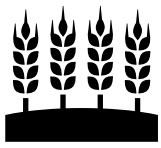
Which part is relevant?

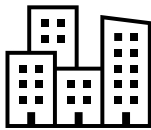Would further evidence be needed?

Challenge

Consider the key components needed for a civilisation.
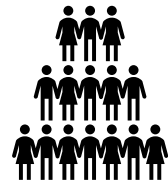Which of these components would be shared with a society?

Which is therefore more advanced – a society or a civilisation?
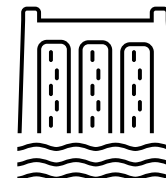
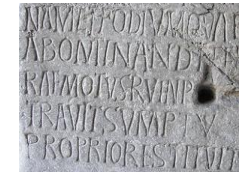agriculture   cities   social structure   government   religion   technology   culture   written language

Quiz

1. List three components of a civilisation that were present in Ancient Rome and give an example for each.

2. Explain the difference between a society and a civilisation.

3. Which historical source would you prefer to examine to find out more about Ancient Rome: a mosaic depicting daily life or the ruins of a Roman home. Give a reason for your choice.