

The following are a series of questions designed to guide a student's reading of ***A History of the World in 6 Glasses*** (**Tom Standage**). Students are not required to answer these questions in a formal or written response. However, making notes concerning these questions could help in coming to a more complete and complex understanding of the assigned portions of the text.

Chapter 1: A Stone Aged Brew

- How is the development of beer in the Fertile Crescent a demonstration of the Neolithic Revolution? How did the storage of grain have an impact on hunter-gatherer societies?

Chapter 2: Civilized Beer

- How was beer used in the Ancient Mesopotamian and Egyptian civilizations? How does it play a role in religion? Economics?
- Beer was so important that it found its way into early writing. Why do you think the symbol for beer becomes more abstract over time?

Chapter 3: The Delight of Wine

- What was the Ancient Greek Symposium? What role did wine play in it?
- According to the text, what was the purpose of mixing water and wine?

Chapter 4: The Imperial Vine

- Describe the importance of wine to the Ancient Romans? Who consumed wine? Why? What role did it play in economics?
- According to the text, why do Christians consume wine but Muslims do not?

A Sport in the Greek and Roman Worlds (ed. **Thomas F. Scanlon**). Students are not required to answer these questions in a formal or written response. However, making notes concerning these questions could help in coming to a more complete and complex understanding of the assigned portions of the text.

Chapter 1: Women, Bull Sports, Cults, and Initiation in Minoan Crete

Note: Crete is an island in the Mediterranean Sea, just south of Greece (which is an archipelago – lots of islands included in the country), and scholars believe that there may have been close connections between Crete's civilization and the later settlements in Sparta on the Peloponnesus.

- Describe the type of games being played in Crete during the Minoan civilization. What do we learn about the roles of women/girls in these activities? From what evidence do we learn?
- According to the text, to what extent were these activities "rites of initiation"?

Chapter 2: Athletic Contests in the Epic

Note: Epics are long poems and popular sources of information for historians learning about classical Greece and Rome, in particular.

- What did Homer use funeral games to explain? How did he describe specific funeral games? How were the various games similar?
- How were the descriptions provided by Vergil different than the Greek games of Homer's writing?
- What sorts of prizes were offered, and to whom? What can we learn about these societies based on the prizes?