

What were the effects of Alexander the Great's empire?

Objective:

- **Describe** the effects of Alexander the Great's empire.

Introduction

➡ **Directions:** Read the excerpt below and respond to the questions.



Alexander the Great was the son of Philip II of Macedon, the king of the area known as Macedonia, who **conquered Athens** in the 300s BCE. While in control of Athens and several other Greek city states, Philip II was **assassinated**. His son, Alexander, became the king. During his brief thirty-two years of life, Alexander led an army of Greeks to conquer an area that stretched from **Athens** to **India** and included **Persia**, the **Middle East**, and **Egypt**.

Alexander set-up cities throughout his **empire**, modeled them after Greek cities and spread Greek culture throughout the region. As a result, **Hellenistic culture**, a blend of Greek, Persian, and Indian traditions was created.

Alexander died in 323 BCE of illness and his empire soon **crumbled**, but his cultural **legacy** lasted for centuries.

1. Who did Alexander the Great conquer?

2. What is Hellenistic culture?

3. Identify one way Alexander the Great spread Hellenistic culture?



➡ **Directions:** Watch this video from Education Portal on "[Alexander the Great and the Birth of Hellenism](#)," then answer the questions below (Start at 2:45).

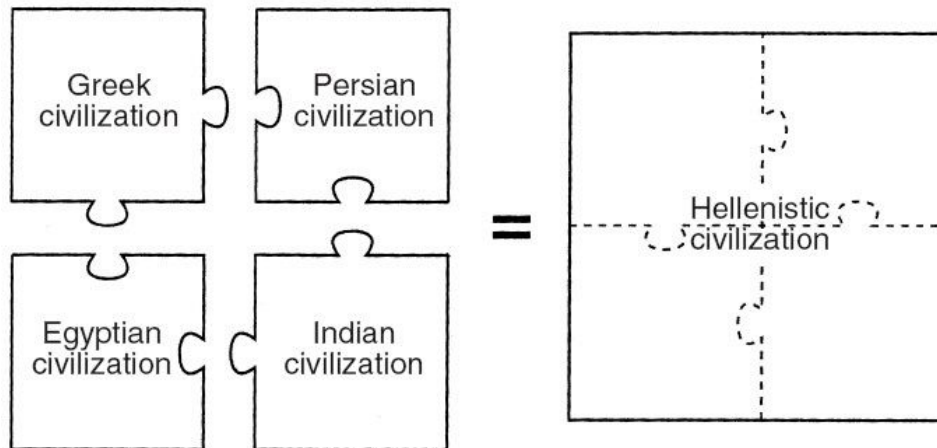
1. Why was Alexander so successful as a general and ruler?

2. How did Alexander unify his empire?

3. What happened to Alexander's empire after his death?

The Spread of Hellenistic Culture

➡ **Directions:** Examine the image below and read the text. Then, respond to the questions.



Source: *Guide to the Essentials of World History*, Prentice Hall, 1999 (adapted) from the
NYS Global History and Geography Regents Exam.

Hellenistic Culture is a combination of Greek, Persian, and Indian art, philosophy, science, math, architecture, and traditions that were created through contact between people ruled by Alexander the Great and spread by those that traveled in his empire.

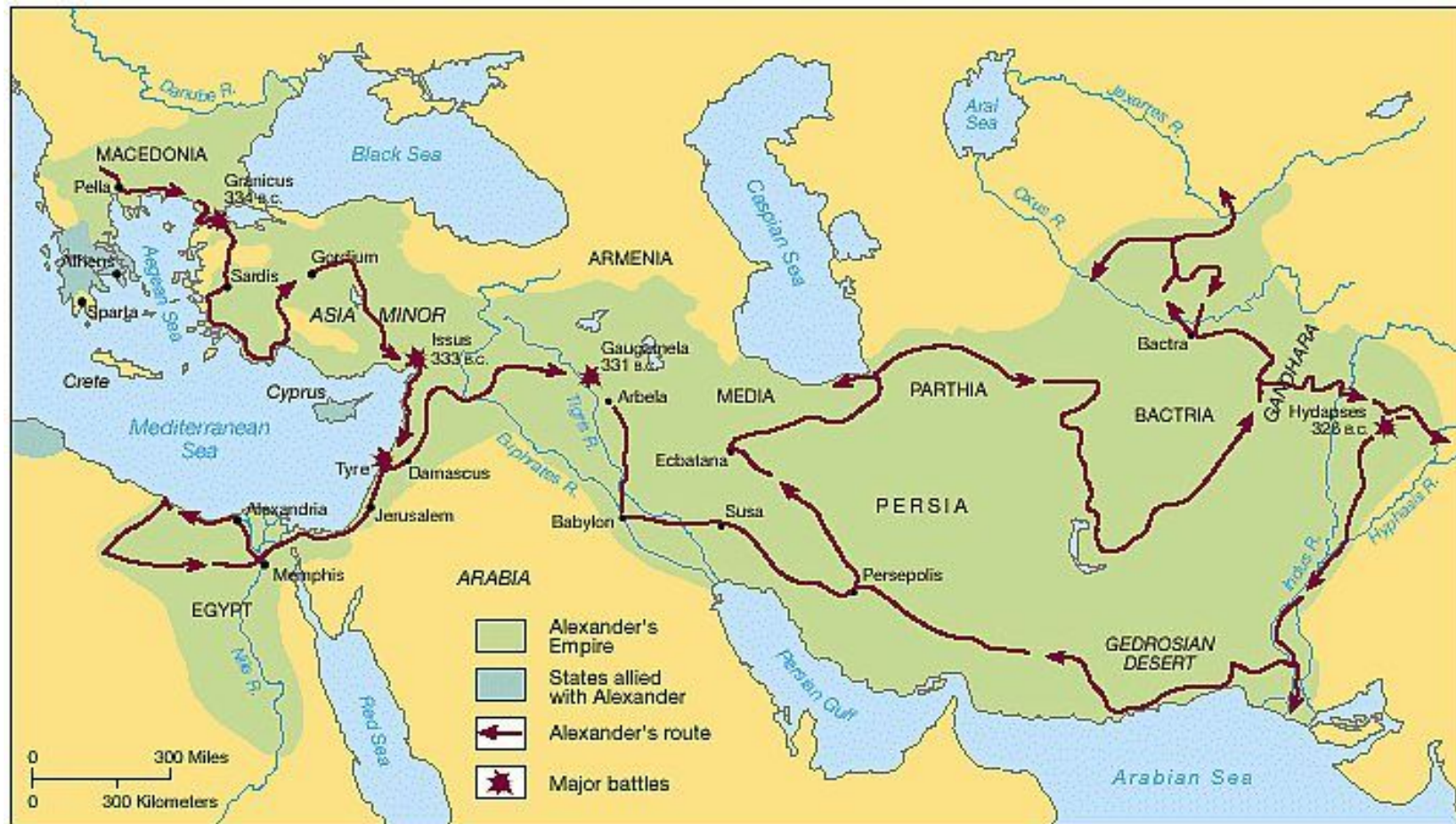
What is Hellenistic culture?

How did Hellenistic culture spread?



Think Like a
Geographer

➡ **Directions:** Examine the map below, then fill out the chart with what you see, think and wonder about Alexander the Great and Hellenistic culture.



See

List three things you **see** in the image above.

Think

Based on your observations, what impact do you think Alexander the Great's empire had?

Wonder

Write two questions you have about the map above.

➡ **Directions:** Examine the map and artwork on the next page, then fill in the graphic organizer with what you see, think and wonder about Alexander the Great’s impact.

See List three things you see in the image above.	Think Based on your observations, what impact do you think Alexander the Great’s empire had?	Wonder Write two questions you have about the map above.

A capital (top) of a Greek Corinthian pillar. from the *tholos* at Epidauros (Archaeological Museum of Epidauros)

Coin from Athens, 467-465 BC. Silver Dekadrachm (43.38 g). Head of the goddess Athena right, Back: ΑΘΕ (ΑΘΗΝΑΙΩΝ - of Athenians), owl standing facing, wings spread; olive sprig and crescent to upper left

Silver coin depicting the Greco-Bactrian king Demetrius I (200-180 BC) wearing an elephant scalp, symbol of his conquest of India.

Back: Herakles (Hercules), holding a lion skin and a club resting over the arm. The text, written in Greek reads: ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ - *BASILEŌS DĒMĒTRIOU* "of King Demetrius".

Statue of the Greek goddess Athena. Marble, Roman copy after a Greek original of the late 5th century BCE.

Heracles depiction of Vajrapani as the protector of the Buddha, 2nd century Gandhara, British Museum.

An Indo-Corinthian capital with the Buddha at its centre, 3-4th century, Gandhara.

One of the first representations of the Buddha, 1st-2nd century AD, Gandhara: Standing Buddha (Tokyo National Museum).



Regents Multiple Choice Check for Understanding

➔ **Directions:** Circle the choice that answers each question or complete the sentences below.

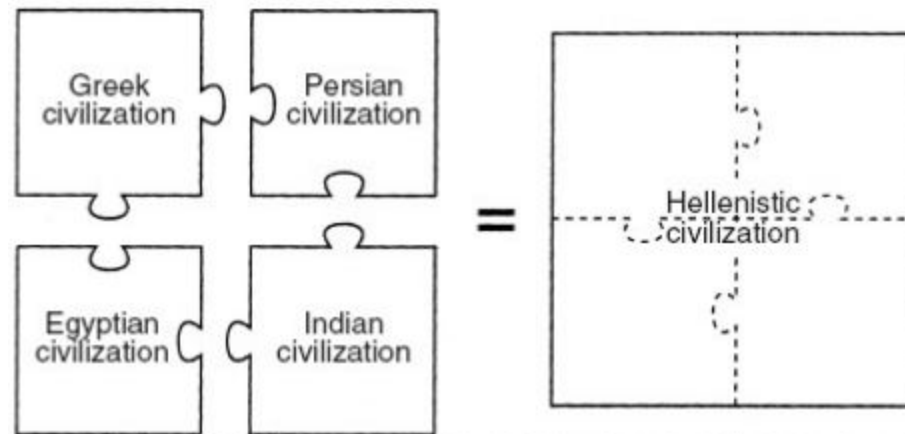
1. What was one effect of Alexander the Great's conquests?

1. expansion of Hellenistic culture
2. formation of the Christian church
3. decreased importance of the Silk Roads
4. increased support of the Mayan leaders

2. Alexander the Great's conquests of Greece, Asia Minor, Egypt, and Persia led to the

- (1) spread of Hellenic culture
- (2) adoption of a feudal system
- (3) establishment of representative democracy
- (4) spread of Islamic culture throughout Europe

Base your answers to the questions 3 and 4 on the illustration below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Source: *Guide to the Essentials of World History*, Prentice Hall, 1999 (adapted) from the NYS Global History and Geography Regents Exam.

3. Which concepts is most closely related to the main idea of the illustration?

- (1) isolation
- (2) cultural diffusion
- (3) armed conflict
- (4) urbanization

4. Which leader is most closely associated with the accomplishment shown by the illustration?

- (1) Charlemagne
- (2) Mansa Musa
- (3) Alexander the Great
- (4) Suleiman the Magnificent

