



ANSWER GUIDE

Ancient: Episode 9

The Advancement of Knowledge

Discussion Questions and Answers

1. How have libraries shaped our world?

Libraries revolutionized the way individuals and civilizations could study, preserve, and share written history and accumulated knowledge. This paved the way for rapid advances in human progress, as generations no longer had to depend solely on oral traditions to track knowledge reserved for a small group of elite insiders.

2. Where was Ephesus located and why was this important to its economic power?

Ephesus was located on the coast of the Aegean Sea. It was a port city and an endpoint for the Royal Road from Smyrna. Therefore, Ephesus was a crucial trade hub for the exchange of goods and ideas.

3. Which library was established in honor of Tiberius Julius Celsus Polemaeanus?

The Library of Celsus at Ephesus, which was built in 110 AD.

4. Who was Herodotus? Why was he a significant historical figure? Bonus if you remember his two opposing nicknames.

Herodotus was the first real historian of the western world, born around 484 BC in Asia Minor. He traveled the ancient world collecting its oral history and writing it down. His work eventually became successful and he contributed huge amounts of knowledge to the ancient libraries of Alexandria, Pergamum, and Celsus. His writings are critical for modern historians and archaeologists to understand the history of ancient civilizations, floods and other natural disasters of the time, and everyday life in the ancient world. Through historians like Herodotus, humanity learned the value of recording its story, reexamining its successes and its mistakes, and leaving a legacy for future generations.

Bonus: The Father of History and The Father of Lies

5. Name the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

- *Hanging Gardens of Babylon*
- *Colossus of Rhodes*
- *Mausoleum at Halicarnassus*
- *Lighthouse of Alexandria*
- *Statue of Zeus at Olympia*
- *Pyramid of Giza*
- *Temple of Artemis*

6. What was the Roman name for the Greek goddess “Artemis”?

Diana