

## Introduction to European History Homework Questions

Remember that all questions are worth two points. In order to get both points you must restate the question at the beginning of your answer. Do **NOT** use pronouns ever. All parts of the question must be thoroughly and completely answered to get full credit.

1. What is the most significant contribution of the Hebrews to Western Civilization? Please be specific in discussing those contributions.
2. What is the *polis* and what is its significance?
3. What was the role of the tyrant in Greek society?
4. Why is Herodotus considered the father of history?
5. Compare and contrast the philosophies of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.
6. Why is Alexander of Macedonia "Great"?
7. Why did Alexander's empire collapse so quickly after his death?
8. What was the political system for Rome under the Republic?
9. What made Roman armies so successful?
10. What caused the Roman Republic to fall and be replaced by the Empire?
11. Compare and contrast Caesar and Octavian.
12. What was the Pax Romana and why is it significant?
13. What caused the fall of Rome?
14. Compare and contrast Christianity from the dozens of other cult faiths in Rome.
15. Compare and contrast Islam with the other monotheistic faiths?
16. How did the Carolingians come to power?
17. Why is Charlemagne considered one of the great leaders of history? What did he accomplish?
18. What role did the church play in society during Charlemagne's reign?
19. What happened to Charlemagne's empire after his death? Why is this significant?
20. What was the nature of the lord-vassal relationship in feudal society?
21. What were the Gregorian reforms? How did they attempt to change the Church? How did the hierarchy of the Church develop?
22. How did monasticism change in the 11<sup>th</sup> century?
23. Compare and contrast the treatment of Catholics and non-Catholics during the religious fervor of the 11<sup>th</sup> century?
24. What were the causes of the Crusades? What did the Crusaders hope to accomplish?
25. What were the effects of the Crusades? How did they change European society?
26. Please trace the development of England as a nation, specifically how its government evolved?
27. What was the Holy Roman Empire? Why is it significant?