

Guided Reading Activity



India's First Empires

Lesson 1 *Origins of Hindu India*

Review Questions

Directions: Locate each heading below in your textbook. Then use the information under the correct heading and subheading to help you write each answer.

I. Social Class in Ancient India

A. What culture's ideas did the social structure of ancient India reflect?

B. What were the four *varnas* of ancient Indian society?

C. Why were *Sudras* important to ancient India?

D. How did one's *jati*, or caste, influence one's life in ancient India?

E. Why were Untouchables outside the caste system?

II. Hinduism

A. What beliefs merged and developed into Hinduism?

B. What is Brahman?

C. How do Hindus regard their gods? What do they seek through devotion to the gods?

Guided Reading Activity *Cont.*



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D. What is the concept of reincarnation?

E. How are karma and dharma important to the process of reincarnation?

Summary and Reflection

Directions: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

How did early Hindus believe one could achieve union with ultimate reality?
