**UNIT 9 How Archaeology Helps Us Understand**

**History and Culture**

**WARM-UP EXERCISE.** *In what way(s) does Archaeology help us understand History and Culture?*

**NOTES.** *Write down your ideas concerning the topic of this Unit*.

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**NAVIGATION. KEY TERMS.** *Study the following words prior to reading the text*.

**perspective**: viewpoint, point of view, standpoint, position

**origin**: start, beginning; line of descent

**written records and documents**: data written and kept on paper

**trade routes**: routes, usually of a long distance, used by traders

**READING How Archaeology Helps Us Understand**

**History and Culture**

Archaeology explores extensively and examines sites and finds in great detail, working diligently to accomplish what it undertakes to do. It offers a unique frame of reference as regards human history and culture, contributing to our understanding of both the ancient and the recent past. Archaeology helps us understand not only where and when people lived on the earth, but also how they lived, examining the changes and causes of changes that have occurred in human cultures over time.

Unlike history, which relies primarily upon written records and documents to interpret great lives and events, archaeology allows us to delve far back into the time before written languages existed and to glimpse the lives of everyday people through analysis of things they made and left behind.

Archaeology is the only field of study that covers all times periods and all geographic regions inhabited by humans. It has helped us to understand topics like the origins of agriculture in the Near East, ancient Egyptian religion, and early Mediterranean trade routes, among other things. Additionally, archaeology today can inform us about the lives of individuals, families and communities that might otherwise remain invisible.

**TASKS.**

**Task 1.** *Discuss further with your fellow students and instructor the relation between history, archaeology and culture*. *Justify your responses*.

**Task 2.** *Vocabulary.*

Write down the opposites.

1. visible ≠ **6.** stay ≠
2. unlike ≠ **7.** discover ≠
3. reliable ≠ **8.** understand ≠
4. primary ≠ **9.** complicated ≠
5. great ≠ **10.** ancient ≠

**Task 3.** *Team Work for two groups.*

***Group A***:Study and discuss the ancient Athenian woman’s position in society.

***Group B***: Study and discuss the ancient Spartan woman’s position in society.

***Group A & Group B***: Find differences and similarities.

**Task 4.** *Fill in the blanks to complete the sentences in a meaningful way*.

1. Dear Sir, I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ applying for the teaching post at your school.
2. I have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ three years of professional \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Please, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ attached a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of my CV and two letters of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. I am looking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to your reply.

**Task 5.** *Food for thought*.

Read the following questions. Make a choice you are interested in and discuss it with your fellow students and instructor.

1. What is the meaning of ‘myth’?
2. In what way is mythology connected to history and culture?
3. Do you think that mythology plays an important role in history and/or culture?
4. Could you refer to an example, where myth and history are connected?