

Rome-Han China Imperial Strategies Comparative Matrix

The Empires of the Achaemenid Persians and Alexander the Great accomplished two significant things within Afro-Eurasia: 1) they provided the imperial model for the other large empires that would follow; and, 2) they developed a strong state system in the heart of Eurasia that promoted travel and trade across the continent by offering safety and security as people moved between east and west.

Suggest topics of research

- **Physical Geography:** How did the geography of the Roman Empire and Han China impact the people living there?
- **Exchange Systems and the Economy:** How were they able to feed and meet the basic needs of all the people in the empire? (subsistence economy)
How was trade conducted both inside the empire and with other regions (i.e. Silk Roads)? (political economy)
- **Territorial Expansion and the Process of Unification:** How were they able to expand, control, and bring together the diverse people living in their empires?
- **Building Infrastructure and Communication/Transportation Networks:** How were road, bridges, canals, aqueducts, ports, harbors, bridges, etc. used to establish interconnect the different regions of the empire?
- **Establishing Borders and Developing Policies towards Foreigners:** How did they use their military to expand, maintain borders, handle military threats, and interact with groups beyond their borders?
- **Creating Peace and Building Imperial Identities:** How were laws, beliefs, moral codes, and religion used to unify the empire? (Especially Christianity in Rome and Buddhism in China)
- **Political Authority and Administrative Control:** What was the role of the empire, and how was the government organized in order to maintain control of the empire?

Topic/Subtopic	Rome	China

Checklist

- Select a Topic
 - What are you interested in learning about?
- Choose a Focus Question
 - Turn your topic into a question that you will answer
- Conduct Research
 - What do you need to learn about this topic in order to answer the Focus Question?
- Collect and Record Resources
 - You must use at least 3 resources to find your information. Record the name of the website and the URL address
- Select a Delivery Format
 - How will you share this with the class? Will you create something that you the class can look through (a book, brochure, magazine, or website) or will you deliver the message to the class (a skit, performance, or presentation)? Or, a combination of the two?
- Share with the Class
 - Find a fun, creative, entertaining, and engaging way to share with the class what you have learned.

Developing <i>Areas that need improvement</i>	Competent <i>Standards for the assignment</i>	Sophisticated Evidence of exceeding expectations
	Research Question: Well-written, specific questions that related directly to the research topic.	
	Research Process: Gathered information in an effective manner that is directly related to the topic -Used keywords and organized materials -Summarized rather than copied -Maintained citations	
	Content: The material was on topic and there was clear evidence that the researched information was included. The presenter was knowledgeable about the topic, and could answer questions.	
	Organization: The material directly answered the focus question. The information was organized into subtopics supported by details and examples. Evidence of a clear, logical plan	
	Sharing: Find a way to share with the class what you have learned.	