



READING ESSENTIALS AND STUDY GUIDE 1-2 (CONTINUED)

Europe's Heritage of Ideas (pages 99-101)

Main Idea: Something given from the past
Ancient cultures laid the foundation of many modern ideas.
to the present

Kind
of Gov.

The idea of democracy developed in the ancient Greek city of Athens during the 400s B.C. The Athenians practiced direct democracy. They met and voted on laws firsthand.

Kind
of Gov.

Ancient Rome began as a republic. In the form of government, citizens elect their leaders. This idea later shaped the founding of the United States government. Rome also contributed the idea of the "rule of law." This means that the law should apply equally to everyone and that all people should be treated the same. The American legal system today is based on the rule of law.

In the ancient world, most people worshipped many gods. The Jews believed in only one god. The Hebrew Bible describes a covenant, or agreement, between the Jews and their God. The idea of a covenant later influenced the way colonists set up their societies in North America. The Ten Commandments found in the Hebrew Bible shaped the moral laws of many nations. The new religion of Christianity, based on the message of Jesus, a Jewish teacher, shaped values around the world.

Muslims, the followers of Islam, also believed in one God. Islam began in the Arabian Peninsula with the preaching of Muhammad. Jewish and Muslim scholars saved much of the learning of the ancient world. Muslims made advances in mathematics and medicine. They introduced the Arabic numerals used today.

Religious
thought

A new way of thinking called scholasticism began to change theology, or the study of religion and God. Its followers used reason to explore questions of faith. One follower, Thomas Aquinas, emphasized the idea of natural law. This is the belief that people have certain rights from birth. Governments do not have to grant these rights. Among these are the rights to live, learn, worship, and reproduce. Americans' belief in human rights can partly be traced to the ideas of Aquinas.

Natural Law

People have rights they are born with

Direct dem
Everybody
votes over
time

Republic
pick people
to speak for
the group

Don't steal,
kill, lie

Rome
Greeks

Reason



Reading Standards that apply in the Common Core Standards

RL 1-2 RH 1-8
RI 1-7 RST 1-8

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