

### Hammurabi Notes

Directions: After reading the information from different articles, answer each question completely (you may use bullet points to record your thinking).

1) What do we know about Hammurabi?

- very little
- was a military leader and politician
- ruled Babylon for 42 years
- best known for code of laws

2) Why was the Code of Hammurabi created?

- important to growth of civilization
- informed people of their responsibilities & rights
- to outline that each action deserves a consequence
- provided a consistent set of laws & consequences

3) Why did Hammurabi have his laws engraved in stone and placed in a public place?

- reiterates belief that rulers were direct liaisons between gods & common man
- so everyone would know & follow the laws

4) What can we learn about life in Babylon from the Code of Hammurabi?

- crimes committed against lower class people resulted in lesser consequences
- women faced harsher consequences than men
- get minimum wage
- belief in working hard for their pay
- worked hard to maintain social order
- there were 3 social classes: land owners, free non-landowners, slaves
- equal punishment ONLY when people involved were of equal rank

• they believed in doing what is right & fair

Each action deserved a consequence that was equal to the severity of the initial action taken

6) Why do we know more about Hammurabi's Code than other early forms of law?

- The stone tablet in which the code was carved is in a museum in France.
- Hammurabi's Code is more complete than other early laws and is still studied today because of its detail about Babylonian life.