**CHW3M Decline of Egypt **

“Causes and Consequences” is the **HTC** we’ll be focusing on. Make sure to read your HTC page on causes and consequences in the writing package at the back of your handouts.

It’s rare that one event directly leads to one consequence. But it does happen.

**X ⇒ Y**

Most events (such as the decline of a civilization) are caused by multiple things.

**X, X, X ⇒ Y**

When you think about the decline of civilizations you might imagine wars, invasions, natural disasters, and other catastrophic events. In most cases in the ancient world, decline was a process, one taking place over a long period of time. In this class you’ll learn to think about causes of decline in terms of categories. That is, certain factors that caused decline can be grouped into categories. A cause of decline can fall under multiple categories. For instance, natural disaster can be both an external factor and a short-term factor if it led to the immediate end of the civilization because the people were literally wiped out within a few months.

**Factor Categories - Explanations:**

* **Long-term** – usually in history this kind of cause would be something that happened over a long time, such as hundreds of years.
* **Medium-term** – this kind of factor might happen closer to the time of decline, but not immediate (maybe 50 years or so).
* **Short-term** **(triggers)** – these are immediate causes – numbering more in the 10s of years or lower.
* **Internal** – factors that happen inside the civilization
* **External** – factors that happen outside of the civilization that have an effect inside the civilization
* **PERSIAT** (any of these can overlap with any of the above factors as well)
  + Political
  + Economic
  + Religious
  + Social
  + Intellectual
  + Artistic
  + Technological

**Now you try! Match the cause with one or more factors.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Cause** | **Factor(s)** |
| Civilization X is attacked by civilization Y and all the people in X are killed over a five-year period. |  |
| Rulers no longer paid attention to the state of the civilization. |  |
| There were family conflicts in the last 100 years leading up to decline. |  |
| Civil war 100 years before the collapse led to chaos and instability. |  |

**Decline Jig-Saw Activity**

Today in class you will get a reading. This reading will be your specialization. Take notes on the article by putting information from it into the chart below. Do not write on the articles – you’ll return them to the teacher. After your group has specialized, you will divide up and enter into mixed groups where you will teach the other students about your article. And they will teach you about their articles. You will take notes about what the students tell you using this chart as well. By the end, you should have a pretty good idea of the various causes of Egypt’s decline. If a cause goes in more than one category, make a clear indication. Don’t fuss about tiny details – get the main jist!

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Long-Term** |  |
| **Medium-Term** |  |
| **Short-Term (trigger)** |  |
| **Internal** |  |
| **External** |  |
| **Political** |  |
| **Economic** |  |
| **Religious** |  |
| **Social** |  |
| **Artistic** |  |
| **Technological** |  |