The Night Sky by Another Name: Societies

Ancient Greece

- The first Ancient Greek civilizations were formed in approximately 1600 BC and was split into city-states starting in 800 BC
- The economy of ancient Greece was based around agriculture and industry.
- At its height, Ancient Greece spanned modern-day Greece and the coasts of the Mediterranean, Adriatic, Aegean, and Black Seas.
- They used myths about gods and other supernatural beings to understand their world.
- Greek city-states had their own governments, which included democracies (ruled by the people or elected officials), monarchies (ruled by a single person) and oligarchies (ruled by a small group).

Sources: ngkids.co.uk/history/10-facts-about-the-ancient-greeks

Map of Ancient Greece
The Night Sky by Another Name: Societies

Ancient Egypt

- Ancient Egypt was a powerful civilization that lasted from 3150 BC to 30 BC.
- It was an agrarian society based in northeast Africa around the Nile River.
- Their religion and government were tied together because the Pharaoh led both the government and the religion. They believed in over 2,000 deities.
- There is evidence the ancient Egyptians played board games and that they participated in recreational sports, like swimming.
- Both Egyptian men and women wore makeup.

ducksters.com/history/ancient_egypt
The Night Sky by Another Name: Societies

**Dogon People**

- The Dogon society is both patrilineal (family descent is traced through the father) and patriarchal (a male is the family head).
- They are an agricultural society based in Mali.
- Their traditional religion is based around a number of gods and ancestor worship. Certain tenets of Islam have, over time, been adapted into their traditional religion.
- The Dogon perform a ceremony which celebrates the star Sirius B.
- Although most marriages are monogamous (consisting of two people), polygyny (having multiple wives) is allowed.

The Night Sky by Another Name: Societies

Ju/Wasi People

- The singular of Ju/Wasi is Ju/wa, also spelled Ju/hoan.
- One of the five groups that make up the San people, also called Bushmen.
- They speak the !Kung language, which uses clicks, and are sometimes referred to as the !Kung people. The “!” indicates a click in the pronunciation.
- They are a hunter-gatherer society based in Namibia and Botswana.
- There are less than 100 first names for everyone in their society. They use their names as a way to determine who they are related to. To the Ju/Wasi, anyone who has the same name as your biological sister is also considered your sister (and the same goes for brothers, mothers, fathers, etc). It is taboo to marry someone with the same name as a close relative, because they are also considered your relative.