Big Ideas of Lesson 1, Unit 4

- In the time period from 1000 B.C.E. 500 C.E., large civilizations developed in present-day China and India, as well as in the Mediterranean, Middle East, and Northeast Africa. Many of these civilizations became major empires that spanned large portions of Afroeurasia.
- These empires were organized around a core city center but reached well beyond urban areas through trade and imperial expansion over time.
- People in these empires developed governments and militaries as well as networks for transportation and trade that connected diverse peoples across Afroeurasia
- A somewhat different version of empire was developing independently in the Americas during the same time period.

Big Ideas of Lesson 2, Unit 4

- Era 3 was characterized by the rise of a series of important, large empires throughout Afroeurasia. These empires shared several significant characteristics.
- Empires did not start from scratch; they emerged where large civilizations were already developed and where there were sufficient human and natural resources. Empires often changed hands, were conquered, or were absorbed by new empires.
- Empires depended upon strong leadership and large armies. In addition, bureaucratic systems – systems of rules and government – were needed to control large territories and lots of people.
- The development of trade and trade networks especially roads was important and ongoing and led to the exchange of goods as well as ideas and cultures.



Growth of Empires Need for more Need for people and central control resources to and maintain army government and power Development of armies, government systems, taxes, etc. Developed over **TIME** often Strong declined due leaders and to conflicts Powerful over **power** armies **EMPIRES** systems to established manage religion people and resources **Built roads** for **trade** network