

Name _____

World History

Date _____

What are the Signs of a Successful Society?**Instructions:** Read the following attributes of a successful society.

A. Put in order of importance. 1: MOST important. 16: Least important.

B. For your top 5 characteristics, explain why you ranked them as most important.

Characteristics	Ranking	Rationale (1-2 complete sentences)
Law code: The society has a law code that keeps order.		
Flexibility: The society is flexible – it can adapt to changes around it and to influences from other societies.		
Written Language: The society has a written language.		
Social Welfare: The society takes good care of poor, elderly, and vulnerable people.		
Education: The society has a strong way of helping its people learn.		
Arts: The society produces beautiful or enjoyable works of art. (Architecture, music, literature, etc.)		
Land: The society controls a lot of territory.		
Cities: The society has active and vibrant cities that are a nice place to live.		
Influence: The society is so great that other societies copy it.		
Individual Rights: People in the society have rights.		
Military Power: The society has a strong military that can defeat enemies.		
Work: People in the society can use their skills to make a living in a variety of ways.		
Technology: The society has advanced technology and useful inventions.		
Longevity: The society has lasted a long time.		
Leadership: The society has strong government leaders.		
Health: People in the society can make or trade for things they want or need.		

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Reflection Questions

1. Based on your evaluation above, provide at least 2 examples of a society from Foundations that you consider successful because it meets the requirements of a successful society.

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2. What characteristics of a successful society are missing from the list above? Why do you believe they are essential for a successful society?

3. Based on your list above, would you consider the United States to be a successful society? Support your answer with at least 2 specific reasons.