

Alexander and the Hellenistic Age

Chapter 4 Section 5

Lesson Objectives



63. Explain how Alexander the Great built an extensive empire.
64. Describe the empire's cultural impact. (Hellenistic Culture)
65. Identify the groups who contributed to Hellenistic civilization.



63. Explain how Alexander the Great built an extensive empire.



Philip II

- ✦ Philip II of Macedonia dreamed of conquering the city-states to the south.
- ✦ He hired Aristotle to be his son Alexander's tutor.
- ✦ He was assassinated before he could continue building his empire.



Alexander Takes Persia



- ✦ Alexander carried on with his father's desire to conquer Persia.
- ✦ The Emperor, Darius III, was weak and the people were in constant rebellion.
- ✦ Alexander invader Persia and conquered Asia Minor, Palestine, and Egypt.
- ✦ He then went east and conquered the capital city at Babylon.

Alexander invades India

- ✦ With most of the Persian Empire under his control Alexander pushed further east into India.
- ✦ He crossed the high Hindu Kush mountains into Northern India.
- ✦ Alexander never lost a battle but his soldiers refused to go further east. They began their long journey home.



Alexander's Early Death




- ✦ Before he could continue conquering Alexander came down with a fever and died at the age of 32.
- ✦ He left no heirs to his throne.
- ✦ His empire was divided up into three parts and controlled by his three most powerful generals.


Alexander's Empire at his Death




Why was Alexander the Great able to conquer such a vast area of the world?



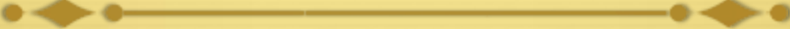
- Excellent army- phalanx
- Great military commander- charismatic
- The Persian Empire was weak.
- The Greek city-states had enough wealth and resources to help pay for his conquests.



64. Describe the empire's cultural impact. (Hellenistic Culture)



The Legacy of Alexander: Cultures Combine



✦ Cultural Diffusion

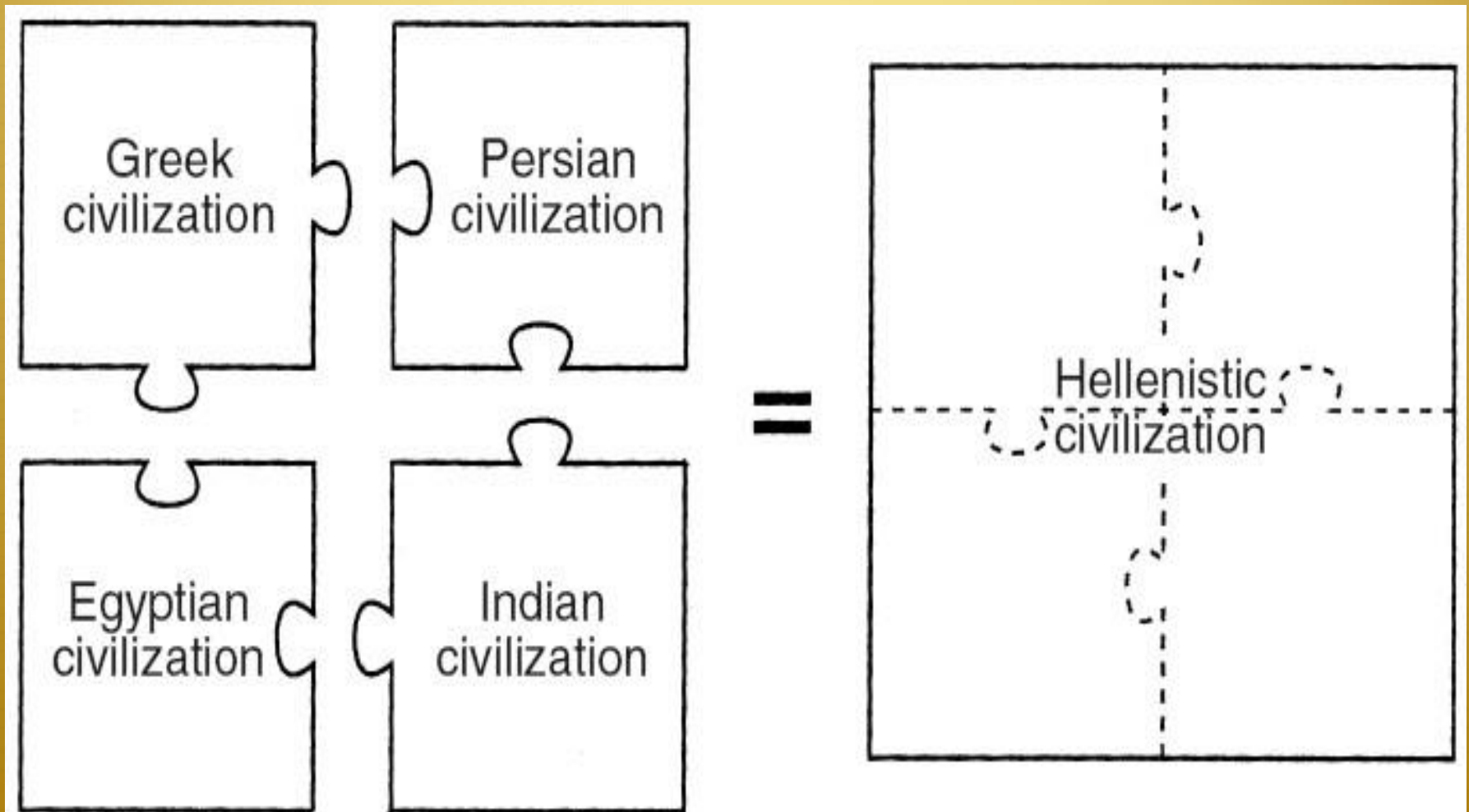
- ✦ Many new cities were founded throughout his empire.(Most named after him)
- ✦ Greek soldiers, artisans, and merchants settled in these cities.
- ✦ They built Greek temples and introduced Greek culture to the world.
- ✦ Local people **assimilated**, or absorbed, Greek ideas and culture.
- ✦ Greek settlers also adopted local customs.

Blending of eastern and western cultures

- ✦ Alexander had himself married a Persian woman. He also encouraged his soldiers to do so as well.
- ✦ He had also adopted many Persian customs.
- ✦ After his death a new culture emerged that blended **Greek, Persian, Egyptian, and Indian** influences.
- ✦ This **Hellenistic** culture would flourish for several centuries.



Hellenistic Culture



Source: *Guide to the Essentials of World History*, Prentice Hall, 1999 (adapted)

Alexandria

- ✦ Located on the trade routes between Europe and Asia in Egypt.
- ✦ Scholars accumulated knowledge and it became a center of learning.
- ✦ The Museum and library housed thousands of scrolls representing the knowledge of the ancient world.

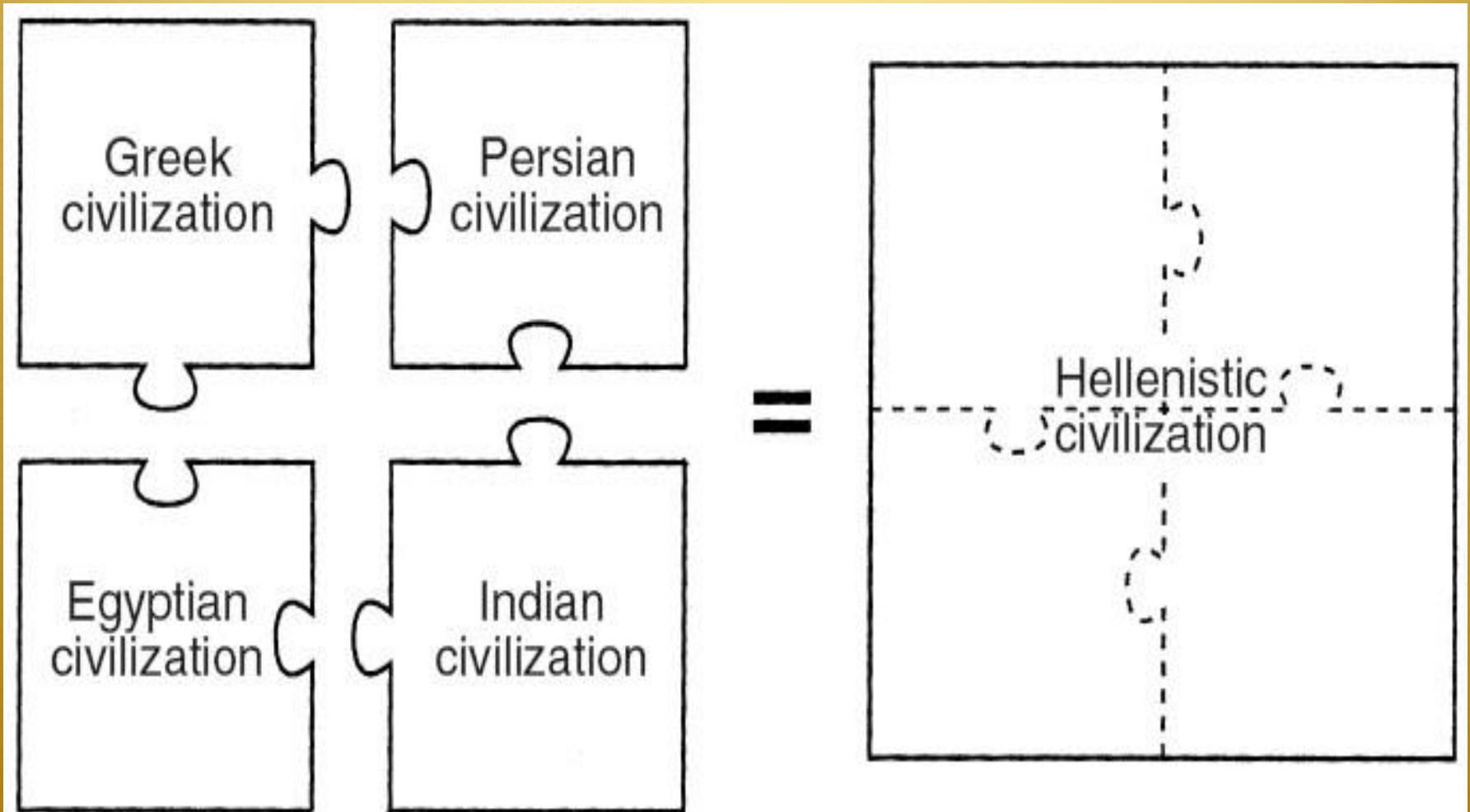




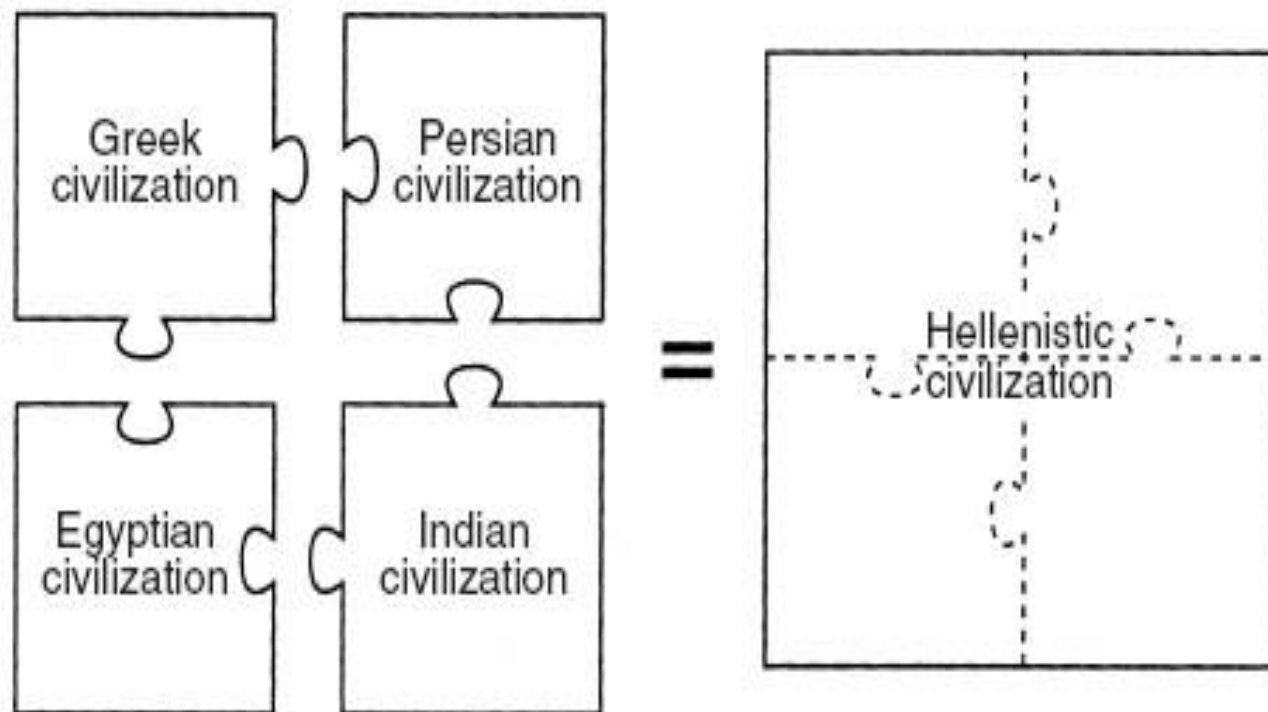
65. Identify the groups who contributed to Hellenistic civilization.



Hellenistic Culture



Source: *Guide to the Essentials of World History*, Prentice Hall, 1999 (adapted)



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Which concept is most closely related to the main idea of the illustration?

Which leader is most closely associated with the accomplishment shown by the illustration?

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)