**Chapter 3—State and Empire in Eurasia/North Africa, 500 B.C.E. –500 C.E.**

**Seeking the Main Point**

**How might you assess—both positively and negatively—the role of empires in the history of the second-wave era?**

***Download and save this document so you can return to it as you take notes and for studying.*** *As you read the chapter, fill in the chart below to remind you of the positive and negative impacts of empires on history during the second-wave era. If you are unsure about whether a development was “positive” or “negative,” put it in both columns. If you copy and paste from the text, make sure to put quotation marks around the copied material; however, if you can think of a way to put it into your own words, you should do so.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Positive** | **Negative** |
| **Empires and Civilizations in Collision: The Persians and the Greeks** |  |  |
| The Persian Empire |  |  |
| The Greeks |  |  |
| Collision: The Greco-Persian Wars |  |  |
| Collision: Alexander and the Hellenistic Era |  |  |
| **Comparing Empires: Roman and Chinese** |  |  |
| Rome: From City-State to Empire |  |  |
| China: From Warring States to Empire |  |  |
| Consolidating the Roman and Chinese Empires |  |  |
| The Collapse of Empires |  |  |
| **Intermittent Empire: The Case of India** |  |  |

*After you have read the chapter, use your notes to compose an essay that answers the following question:*

**On balance did empires play a positive or negative role in the history of the second-wave era?**

*Be sure to include an opening, introductory paragraph in which you state your thesis. Then use the body of your essay to provide evidence from the chapter to support that thesis. Remember that questions like this have no single “correct” answer. It is best to recognize that there might be developments that contradict your answer, but make the case that on balance they are outweighed by factors in support of your argument. End by writing a clear conclusion to your essay.*