**Empire Building: the Assyrians** (total of 25 pts)

1. Join your group based on the letter written on your folder
2. Read Handout 5.1 Empire-building: the Assyrians and examine maps on pages 5.3 and 5.4 which show the expansion of the Assyrian Empire. MARK THE TEXT so you can refer to it later.
3. Each of you will be assigned 1 of the documents in section 5.2. You will independently examine the lists of tributes, taxes or plunder the Assyrians collected. Answer the following questions for your assigned list:
   1. Write down the name of your assigned list:
   2. What does it tell you about the nature of Assyrian society? (What was it like for people living there and their social structure?)
   3. What does it tell you about the power structure (who has it or who doesn’t) in Assyria?
   4. What does it tell you about the geography of the empire?
   5. What does your document tell you about its source (where it came from)?
   6. How might the Assyrian king have used this item?
   7. Who collected this?
4. Each of you will take turns in your group describing your list and what it represents to the others in your group. Using the information from your teammates, complete the following grid. Write down your team member’s name and which document they had.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | What does this tell you about society in Assyria? | What does this tell you about power in Assyria? | What does this tell you about the geography of the Assyrian Empire? | What does this tell you about it’s source (where it came from) | How might the Assyrian king have used this item? |
| Document:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Teammate:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Document:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Teammate:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |  |  |  |

5. INDEPENDENTLY

Assessment (10 of 25 pts): write a diary/journal entry as **ONE** of the following (you choose)

* A governor reporting to the king on tribute being paid or not paid by a local ruler
* A tax collector reporting to the king on taxes being collected or not collected in his district
* A general reporting to the king on plunder he has taken after a successful battle

It should be 1 page on a separate piece of paper. Be creative and detailed. You have to report back to the king what your situation is - good or bad news; how you are going to break it to him; what you’re afraid of or excited about; what it was like to collect the payment (or not collect it); and what your journey will be like when you return to the king. Don’t worry! The king isn’t going to read your journal! (but I am!).