

# G etting to Know Your Atlas

## ► Milestones of World History

1. Turn to the inside front cover of *The Nystrom Atlas of World History*. Use the Milestones of World History to determine when each of the following events occurred. Write the year on the line next to each event. Make sure to include either B.C. or A.D.

Event	Year
a. First cities develop at Jericho and Catal Huyuk.	_____
b. Earliest known writing is used in Mesopotamia.	_____
c. Construction begins on the Great Wall of China.	_____
d. Bubonic plague spreads to Europe.	_____
e. Thomas Edison invents the electric light bulb.	_____

## ► Content

2. Now turn to the table of contents on pages 2–3. Use it to identify the pages on which you would find the following information.
- You are writing a report comparing ancient Greece and Rome. Where would you look for information about Greece and Rome in the Atlas? Pages \_\_\_\_\_
  - You want to learn about the causes of the French Revolution. Which unit would you look at? \_\_\_\_\_ What years does it cover? \_\_\_\_\_
  - You are studying China from ancient times to 1800. Which two units would you look at to find more information about China during this period?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  - You need to find the countries of the world in the year 200 and today. Reference maps would help. Where would you find these maps? Pages \_\_\_\_\_

## ► How does this atlas work?

3. Turn to pages 4–5 of the Atlas. These pages have tips for how to use this Atlas. Read the steps in the upper left corner. Then number the following items in the order they should be read.
- |                 |       |               |       |
|-----------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| a. Introduction | _____ | c. ABCD items | _____ |
| b. Topic title  | _____ | d. Unit title | _____ |

**How does this atlas work?**

4. The Atlas uses maps, pictures, graphs and charts, timelines, and words to help you learn about world history. Use pages 4–5 to complete the following sentences.
- The title of a map and explanations of what its colors and other symbols mean are found in the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Mini-captions on the map are called \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Key events from a unit's time period are shown on the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Key words or ideas are explained by \_\_\_\_\_.

**Looking at Atlas Pages**

5. Turn to pages 6–7 of the Atlas. Use these pages to answer the following questions.
- What is the unit title? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What is the topic title? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Is item B a map, graph, or picture? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What key words does the history question explain? \_\_\_\_\_

**References**

6. Use pages 122–144 and the inside front and back cover of the Atlas to complete this chart.

Name of Section	Description	Page(s)
Reference Maps	political maps of the world during different time periods and a physical map of the world today	
	definitions of special words and names used in the Atlas	
Abbreviations	explanations of abbreviations used in the Atlas	
	a list of pages where people, places, and events are mentioned in the Atlas	
Timetables of World History	a chart showing what was happening in different places at the same time	
	a short list of key events in world history	