



## Culminating Task

**Grade 5 Critical Challenge:** Judging Quality of Life in Ancient Civilizations.

**Type of Challenge:** Judging Better or Best

**Explain the Critical Challenge:** Judging Quality of Life, based on pre-determined criteria for an average family in Ancient Greece, Ancient Egypt and Ancient China.

**Synopsis of the Critical Challenge:** After establishing criteria to determine quality of life for an average family, students will gather background information about life in the Ancient Civilizations and make a judgement on which family would have had a better quality of life. A written report will present their findings. This task will be completed in partners. The teacher will determine the profile of an “average family” with or without class input. (e.g. a husband or wife, two children, living in an urban centre, father- middle class job). Students will be given various resources to gather background information. Such as: textbooks, videos and websites.

**Teaching the Tools:**

**Background Knowledge:** After common exposure to aspects of life in Ancient Egypt, with a partner, students will gather information regarding life in Ancient Greece and Ancient China. The topics to be taught to the whole class include: religion, education, food, homes, social hierarchy, leisure, clothing and government.

**Possible Resources to help create the profile of the “Average Family”:**

- The Egyptian Genius; James Burnett and Calvin Irons
- Ancient Egypt; S and S Learning Materials
- The Egyptians; Macdonald Educational
- The Time Traveller Book of Pharaohs and Pyramids; Usborne Books

**Criteria for Judgment:** In groups brainstorm ideas on what constitutes a good quality of life such as; freedom, access to food, access to water, shelter, education, safety, medical care etc. As a whole class vote on 6 most popular criteria to use in assessing quality of life.

**Critical Thinking Vocabulary:** argument, analysis, criteria, conclusion, evidence, judgement, fact

**Thinking Strategies:** Brainstorming, classifying information, comparing and contrasting, focus on key points, making connections, summarizing information

**Habits of Mind:** Fair minded, empathetic, respectful in discussions with others, Consultative in that they seek several sources of information and confer with others.

**JUDGING QUALITY OF LIFE**

In my opinion the \_\_\_\_\_ family enjoy their quality of life.

I believe this because....

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