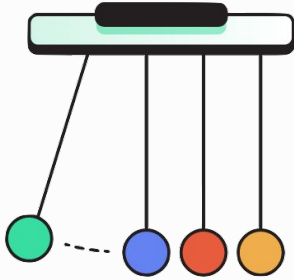


Formative Assessment:

Causation



Thinking historically means considering why certain things happened and what effects occurred because of an event, development, or process. It also means recognizing that there are multiple causes of and multiple effects from any event, development, or process.

Directions: Read the following historical context and primary source. Then, answer the questions on causation that follow. This question is Weighted Multiple Choice (WMC). The two best answers are 2 points, the next-best answer is 1 point, and the incorrect answer is 0 points.

Formative Assessment: Causation

Historical Context:

Most cultures in the ancient world were polytheistic. They worshipped more than one god. However, the ancient Israelites practiced monotheism, or the belief that there is only one god. The Tanakh, or the Hebrew Bible, records God making a promise with a man named Abram that his family line would become "a great nation." This promise (a covenant) continued with a man named Moses, as the Tanakh records that God used him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt where they were enslaved. For Moses and the Israelites, their belief in one god dramatically shaped the way they lived. It made them feel set apart from the rest of the ancient world and caused Israelite leaders to command their subjects to be obedient to God.

Source: Moses, Exodus 19:5 and Deuteronomy 5:6-7; 6:4-7, around 1250 B.C.E.

Note: In these two passages of the Tanakh, God's covenant with the Israelite people is established and God gives them the Ten Commandments.

Exodus 19:5

Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me.

Deuteronomy 5:6-7; 6:4-7

[God said through Moses]: I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery.

[Commandment 1]: You must not have any other god but me.

[Moses said]: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

judged themselves.
27 And Moses let his father-in-law depart; and he went his way into his ownland.

CHAP. XIX.
1 The people come to Sinai. 3 God's message to them out of the mount. 8 Their answer. 16 His fearful presence.

IN the third month when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai.

2 For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount.

3 And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel:

4 Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself.

5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine.

6 And I will take you unto me, and will be a father unto the fatherless, and a husband unto the widows, even unto the orphan and the stranger in your land. I will be a father unto the fatherless, and a husband unto the widows, even unto the orphan and the stranger in your land.

CHAP. V.
1 The covenant in Horeb. 6 The commandments. 22 At the people's request, Moses receiveth the law from God.

AND Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. The Lord is one. The Lord is one. The Lord is one.

2 The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb.

3 The LORD made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day.

4 The LORD talked with you face to face in the mount, out of the midst of the fire,

5 (I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to shew you the word of the LORD: for ye were afraid by reason of the fire, and went not up into the mount) saying,

6 I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

7 Thou shalt have none other gods before me.

8 Thou shalt not make thee any graven

CHAP. VI.
1 The end of the law is obedience. 5 An exhortation thereto.

NOW these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it:

1 That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.

2 Hear, therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee in the land that floweth with milk and honey.

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Images of passages taken from *The Holy Bible, containing the Old and New Testaments: translated out of the original tongues, 1815.* Library of Congress.



Formative Assessment: Causation

1. Using both the historical context *and* the primary source, select the **two statements** that best demonstrate the influence of monotheism on ancient Israelite leaders.
 - A. Monotheism influenced ancient Israelite leaders by encouraging them to command their subjects to be obedient to God.
 - B. Monotheism influenced ancient Israelite leaders because it shaped their own view of themselves as God's chosen people.
 - C. Monotheism influenced ancient Israelite leaders only slightly, since monotheism and polytheism are very similar.
 - D. Monotheism influenced ancient Israelite leaders because they trusted God after God rescued them from slavery in Egypt.

2. Historians rank effects to establish which effects are more significant. Using both the historical context and primary source, explain why one of the statements you chose represents a more significant influence of monotheism on ancient Israelite leaders. Cite evidence.



Teacher Key for Formative Assessment: Causation

- Using both the historical context *and* the primary source, select the **two statements** that best demonstrate the influence of monotheism on ancient Israelite leaders.
 - Monotheism influenced ancient Israelite leaders by encouraging them to command their subjects to be obedient to God. **(2 points)**
 - Monotheism influenced ancient Israelite leaders because it shaped their own view of themselves as God's chosen people. **(2 points)**
 - Monotheism influenced ancient Israelite leaders only slightly, since monotheism and polytheism are very similar. **(0 point)**
 - Monotheism influenced ancient Israelite leaders because they trusted God after God rescued them from slavery in Egypt. **(1 point)**

2. Historians rank effects to establish which effects are more significant. Using both the historical context and primary source, explain why one of the statements you chose represents a more significant influence of monotheism on ancient Israelite leaders. Cite evidence.

Based on this historical context and primary source provided, Choice A and Choice D are clear examples of how monotheism influenced ancient Israelite leaders. (Choice D is a true statement, but it does not specify how God rescuing the Israelites shaped their leadership, only that it did). However, when looking at the historical context and primary source, Choice A is a more significant example of monotheism's influence. The historical context notes that the belief in one god "caused Israelite leaders to command their subjects to be obedient to God." Additionally, the Exodus passage calls the Israelites to obey God and keep his covenant. The Deuteronomy passage quotes Moses, an Israelite leader, calling the Israelites to "love the Lord your God with all your heart." He commands the people to show their love of God through their obedience.



1. Weighted Multiple Choice

Choice 1	2 points (Choice A or B)	1 point (Choice D)	0 points (Choice C)
Choice 2	2 points (Choice A or B)	1 point (Choice D)	0 points (Choice C)
			Subtotal: _____ / 4

2. Short Answer: More Significant Effect

3 points	2 points	1 point	0 points
Student identifies one choice as a more significant effect and cites clear evidence from both the historical context and primary source to justify their choice.	Student identifies one choice as more significant and cites clear evidence from one source to justify their answer. Both sources may be cited, but only one provides clear justification.	Student identifies one choice as more significant and may or may not cite evidence to justify their answer. If evidence is cited, it does not provide clear justification for their choice.	Students does not identify one choice as more significant. Student either misunderstood question or did not attempt to answer it.
			Subtotal: _____ / 3

Total: _____ / 7

