SPICE: ​The Characteristics of Civilization

**Civilization is defined as a complex culture with five characteristics.**

| **Social Characteristic** |
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* **Nature and complexity of social structure**
* **Potential for individual and group mobility**
* **Functions of family**
* **Roles and powers within families**
* **Extent of urbanization (cities)**
* **Extent of links between elite and masses**
* **Population density**
* **Nature of leisure pursuits/groups**

| **Political Characteristic** |
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* **Degree of political centralization**
* **Extent and nature of bureaucracy**
* **Ideologies behind types of government**
* **Contact between the state and the society**
* **Contact between the state and the globe**
* **Targets of loyalty (local government v. central government)**
* **Expressions of power and keeping power (militaries)**

| **Intellectual (Technological) Characteristic** |
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* **Level of education in society**
* **Role of the educated and their theories**
* **Available recorded information**
* **Importance of search for new discoveries**
* **Use of inventions to improve lives**
* **Modernization of infrastructure**
* **Levels of technology used**
* **Achievements by individuals or groups of people**
* **Awards given to individuals or groups**

| **Cultural (Religious) Characteristic** |
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* **Dominant religious and philosophical systems**
* **Dominant artistic and literary styles**
* **Degree of cultural tolerance within society**
* **Degree in interest in foreign cultures and ideas**
* **Society’s supports of cultural pursuits**
* **Role of religion in society**
* **Role of religious figures within society**
* **Nature of cultural support of gender and social hierarchies**

| **Economic Characteristic** |
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* **Role of agriculture in overall economy**
* **Role of merchants**
* **Labor systems (enslavement, serfdom)**
* **Role of landlords or land owners**
* **Role of manufacturing**
* **Exported and imported goods to an area**
* **Gender division in economy (pay, labor, jobs)**
* **Available goods and resources**

Social Characteristic Political Characteristic

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**Key words defining the five characteristics.**

| **Social Characteristic** |
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* **Class**
* **Community**
* **Discrimination**
* **Ethnicity**
* **Family structure**
* **Family roles**
* **Gender roles**
* **Interaction**
* **Population**
* **Rank**
* **Nationality**
* **Segregation**

| **Political Characteristic** |
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* **Alliance**
* **Citizenship**
* **Communism**
* **Demoncracy**
* **Enforcement**
* **Government**
* **Laws**
* **Leaders**
* **Power**
* **Rights**
* **Voting**
* **Warfare**
* **Military**

| **Intellectual (Technological) Characteristic** |
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* **Education**
* **Theories**
* **Documentation**
* **Technology**
* **Communication**
* **Written records**
* **Knowledge**
* **Inventions**
* **Achievements**
* **Accomplishments**
* **Advancement**

| **Cultural (Religious) Characteristic** |
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* **Art**
* **Behaviors**
* **Customs and dress**
* **Dance**
* **Ideas**
* **Language**
* **Literature**
* **Music**
* **Practice**
* **Restrictions**
* **Traditions**
* **Values**
* **Religious ideas and leaders**

| **Economic Characteristic** |
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* **Business**
* **Capital**
* **Exchange system**
* **Goods and services**
* **Inflation**
* **Investment**
* **Labor**
* **Market**
* **Money**
* **Production**
* **Profits**
* **Supply and demand**
* **Stock**
* **Trade**
* **Unemployment**
* **Imports and exports**

SPICEE: ​The Characteristics of Civilization

**Civilization is defined as a complex culture with six characteristics.**

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| **Environmental Characteristic** |
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* **Exported and imported goods to an area**
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