



## Science Academy Ancient Civilizations Summer Assignment Say-Mean-Matter

Recently, it seems that just about every week a new discovery is made regarding early humans and ancient cultures. Find and read a RECENT (written within the last year) article in a newspaper or magazine (or on a reputable magazine's website, such as *National Geographic*, *Archaeology*, *Scientific American*, etc.) that discusses a discovery that is leading us to new understandings about early humans or an ancient culture. Please do not include any articles on dinosaurs or other pre-hominid creatures.

Next, write a three-paragraph, **double-spaced** essay using the following format:

Last Name, First Name  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Academy  
Date

### Par. 1 – SAY

Summarize in your own words the information presented in the article. Don't include every single fact, but concentrate on the most important and relevant information. Be certain to include the publication, article title, author(s) and date of the article. Be certain to define any terms or proper nouns that may be unfamiliar to the general public.

### Par. 2 – MEAN

Explain how this new information is changing our understanding of the way early humans or ancient civilizations lived their lives. The discovery may also include unknown abilities or new genetic information. Don't forget to include what our former understanding was prior to this discovery.

### Par. 3 – MATTER

Put in your own words why this new information is important and what you think the impact will be on scientists, archaeologists, or historians, as well as the general public. Often, a discovery leads to new theories. If relevant, explain what new theory or theories are being proposed. Finally, describe what you think the next steps will be or should be to further our knowledge on your chosen topic.