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| Name: |  |
| Date: |  |

## Purpose

One person’s trash is another person’s treasure. As you gear up for this introductory lesson about ancient empires and religions, you’ll dump your preconceptions and load up the historical landfill. Writing down what we know—or what we think we know—about a new topic can be a useful way to prepare for new subjects. In this quick activity, it’s up to you and your classmates to determine what’s trash and what’s treasure.

## Process

1. Tear a piece of scrap paper into three pieces.
2. On each piece of paper, write one fact or one claim you think you know about ancient empires or ancient belief systems from 600 BCE to 700 CE.
3. Combine your three pieces of paper into one pile with those of your classmates.
4. Now, each student will take a turn selecting one fact from the pile that they believe is true, and will briefly tell the class why they agree that it’s true. (You can’t select your own claim.)