**Comparison and Analysis of the Rule of Law in Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Israel**

***In your group, you will be reading excerpts from the Torah, Hammurabi’s Code, and the Laws of Maat to analyze and compare how each demonstrates the rule of law in their civilization.***

**MESOPOTAMIA VS ISRAEL – The Code of Hammurabi vs The Torah**

*Below is one law from the Code of Hammurabi and one from the Torah.*

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| ***If someone breaks another’s bone, they shall break their bone.***   * Hammurabi’s Code (c. 1700 BCE) | ***Foot for foot, hand for hand, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, life for life.***   * The Torah (c. 700 BCE) |

**Answer the following questions in complete sentences.**

1. What does each law mean?
2. How are these laws similar?
3. Why do you think these laws are similar?
4. How does each law connect to the rule of law?
5. Which law shows a specific punishment related to a specific crime?
6. In the United States, specific crimes come with specific punishments. How is that reflected in these two ancient laws and codes?

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**EGYPT VS ISRAEL – The 42 Laws of Maat vs the Ten Commandments**

*Below are select laws and rules from the 42 Laws of Maat and the Ten Commandments.*

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| **You must not commit sin.**  **You must not murder men or women.**  **You must not steal.**  **You must not steal from the gods and goddesses.**  **You must not curse anyone in thoughts, words, or actions.**   * The 42 Laws of Maat, the Goddess of Justice (c. 2900 BCE) | **You must not worship any other gods before the Lord.**  **You must not take the Lord’s name in vain.**  **You must not murder.**  **You must not steal.**  **You must not lie or envy.**   * The Ten Commandments (c. 1500 – 1200 BCE) |

**Answer the following questions in complete sentences.**

1. How are these laws different?
2. How are these laws and rules similar?
3. Why do you think these laws are similar?
4. How does each set of laws connect to the rule of law?
5. Do these laws show specific punishments related to crimes?
6. In the United States, specific crimes come with specific punishments. How is that reflected in these two ancient laws and codes?