Theme: **Impact of technology and demography on people and the environment**

(population growth and decline, disease, manufacturing, migrations, agriculture, weaponry).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BCE</th>
<th>CE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Revolution</td>
<td>Rise of Civilizations</td>
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</tbody>
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**Annotations:**

1. The First Agricultural Revolution caused a dramatic global population increase from 10 million in 10,000 B.C.E. to 153 million in 400 B.C.E.
2. Rise of civilizations led to an increase in urban populations near the areas of greatest food production in the world.
3. Bubonic Plague in Rome and Han Empires decreased populations in two largest empires and contributed to the decline of both empires.
4. Southernization caused the spread of crops and irrigation technology that led to population increase in Middle East and North Africa.
5. Song Technological Revolution in agricultural techniques and importation of Champa rice caused a 50% rise in East Asian populations giving Chinese merchants an ever-increasing consumer base in the commercialized economies in East Asia.
6. The pandemic of the bubonic plague, known as the Black Death, caused a 30% decline in populations in the Latin West, North Africa, and Middle East due to spread of diseased rats and their fleas by Mongol conquests; periodic outbreaks of the plague, especially in the Latin West, kept the population at lower than previous levels, leading to changes in wages and confidence in the Catholic Church.
7. Amerindian pandemic caused the deaths of at least 30% of the population in the Americas exposed to smallpox, measles, and/or typhus for the first time by colonizing Europeans. The initial death rate was over 90% in Mesoamerica helping the Spanish conquest.
8. The Columbian Exchange (export of new foods such as corn/maize and potatoes from the Americas to Europe and East Asia) led to a rise in world population from 375 million in 1400 to 771 million in 1750, giving western Europeans and the Chinese empires an advantage in agricultural production and technological developments.
9. The Atlantic Slave Trade caused increase in forced migration of Africans to the Americas and flat demographic growth in West Africa.

**Thesis:** The spread of technology from the Agricultural Revolution led to increases in food production that helped maintain steady population growth, but epidemic disease and forced migrations caused declines or flat population growth in particular regions at times.