

Name _____

Historical Examples of Simple Machines

Open-Ended Response Questions

1. Reflect on the historical importance of the wheel and axle invention. Discuss its impact on transportation, trade, and urban development in ancient Mesopotamia and beyond.
2. Explore the engineering marvel of the Great Pyramid of Giza and the role of levers in its construction. Consider the challenges faced by ancient builders and how simple machines facilitated their achievements.
3. Dive deeper into the Archimedes screw and its significance in ancient irrigation. Discuss how this simple machine improved agricultural practices and its enduring legacy in modern engineering.
4. Investigate the use of pulleys in ancient construction and their role in lifting heavy stone blocks. Analyze the effectiveness of these ancient cranes and their contributions to architectural achievements.
5. Examine Leonardo da Vinci's sketches and inventions related to simple machines. Highlight the innovative ideas and concepts he introduced and their impact on future engineering and technological advancements.

