

Name: _____

Understanding Dates

Cut out the dates and events on your colored sheet of paper and glue or tape them in the space below. Place the earliest event at the top and the most recent event at the bottom.

Answer the following questions:

1. What is the difference between BCE/CE and BC/AD?
2. What historical event marks the change from BCE to CE (or BC to AD)?
3. How many years are there between the following events?
 - The assassination of Julius Caesar and the fall of the Roman Empire?
 - The birth of Jesus of Nazareth and da Vinci's *The Last Supper*?
 - The Great Wall of China and the Great Pyramid of Giza?
4. Cleisthenes established democracy in Athens in 508 BCE. Hammurabi wrote his code of laws in 1772 BCE. Which event came first? Explain your answer.

Charlemagne is crowned.	800 CE
Cleisthenes establishes democracy in Athens.	508 BCE
Hammurabi writes the first code of laws.	1772 BCE
Jesus of Nazareth is born.	3 BCE
Julius Caesar is assassinated on the floor of the Roman Senate.	44 BCE
Leonardo da Vinci begins painting <i>The Last Supper</i> .	1495 CE
Mount Vesuvius erupts.	79 CE
Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha) dies.	483 BCE
The American Constitutional Convention is held in Philadelphia.	1787 CE
The Black Death ends.	1353 CE
The Great Pyramid at Giza is finished.	2560 BCE
The Qin Dynasty begins building the Great Wall.	221 BCE
The Soviets launch Sputnik, the first artificial satellite to orbit Earth.	1957 CE
The Western Roman Empire ends.	476 CE
William the Conqueror begins building the Tower of London.	1066 CE

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