

Name:
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Ancient India – Vocabulary Cheat Sheet

1. **Indo-Europeans** – prehistoric group that started in the Eastern Europe.
2. **Vedas** - a collection of hymns, prayers, and poems that make up the Hindu's sacred text.
3. **Brahman** – Hindu great spirit or all powerful god.
4. **atman** – Hindu name for the human soul.
5. **ahimsa** – Hindu belief in nonviolence.
6. **reincarnation** -a rebirth of a soul in a new human body or living form.
7. **Caste** - rigid social class system in Indian that kept people at specific class through the use of customs, laws, and religion. Part of the caste system:
 - Brahmins – Priests
 - Kshatriyas – Warriors
 - Vaiyas – Merchants, Farmers, and Craftspeople
 - Sudras – Peasant and Servants
8. **untouchables** – the lowest level in Indian society.
9. **Buddha** – Enlighten One.
10. **Four Noble Truths** – basic teachings or beliefs of Buddhism. The Four Noble Truths are:
 - Life is full of pain suffering and sadness
 - Cause of suffering is the selfish desires of richness, power, and long life
 - Cure of suffering is overcoming selfish desires
 - Way to overcome selfish desires is to follow the Eightfold Path
11. **Eightfold Path** – Buddhist's basic rules for living their lives. The Eightfold Path are:
 - right views
 - right goal
 - right speech
 - right behavior
 - right employment
 - right effort
 - right attitude
 - right thinking
12. **Tipitaka** – Buddhist sacred text which mean “Three Baskets of Wisdom.”