

Date: 26-6-2019

## Topic: **Numerals of ancient countries**



What I know (previous knowledge):

The modern numeral system contains ten symbols

It has different place value

It is a decimal numeral system (base-ten number system)

Decimals, Fraction, Percentage.



What I want to know (learning targets):

What is the numeral system in ancient world?

Advantage? Disadvantage?

Related to modern numeral?

What I learnt (summary):

I learnt three ancient numerals: ① Babylonian ② Egyptian  
③ Maya.



Self-Review:

1. I understand the content of this module.	✓	✓	✓
2. I pay attention and learn actively in the lessons.	✓	✓	✓
3. I am able to do note-taking.	✓	✓	✓
4. Suggestion for revision:	_____	_____	_____

Note-taking:

Ancient

★ Chinese Rad

★ Babylonian For example:

★ Egyptian The Chinese

★ Maya numerals used

Roman

Chinese Rad

nowdays were first used in the Han Dynasty.

★ Babylonian

For example:

Γ = 1 Π = 2 ΠΠ = 3 ΠΠΠ = 4

ΠΠΠ = 5 ΠΠΠΠ = 6 ΠΠΠΠΠ = 7 ΠΠΠΠΠΠ = 8 ΠΠΠΠΠΠΠ = 9

Ρ = 1 ΡΡ = 2 ΡΡΡ = 3 ΡΡΡΡ = 4 ΡΡΡΡΡ = 5

ΡΡΡΡ = 6 ΡΡΡΡΡ = 7 ΡΡΡΡΡΡ = 8 ΡΡΡΡΡΡΡ = 9 Λ = 10

The Babylonians, who were famous for their astronomical observations and calculations.

The babylonain number system created

in Origin. This system first appeared around 2000B.C.

Numeral	Normal	零	一	二	三	四	五
	Financial	零	壹	貳	叁	肆	伍
6	6	六	六	七	七	八	八
7	7	七	七	八	八	九	九
8	8	八	八	九	九	十	十
9	9	九	九	十	十	百	百
10	100	百	百	千	千	萬	萬
1000	10000	萬	萬				

Number	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	100	1000	10000	
Special Chinese numerals	○	丨	॥	॥॥	X	八	上	士	二	三	久	十	百	千	万

Note-taking:

★ Egyptian

For example:

$1 = 1$  (line)  $7 = 1\vartheta$  (loop)

$8 = 100$  (rope)  $\varphi = 1000$  (flower)

$P = 10000$  (finger)  $\vartriangle = 100000$  (tadpole)  $\times = 1000000$  (God)

I think this system is not good because  
the writing take so many times.

$1 = 1$   $2 = \mid\mid$   $3 = \mid\mid\mid$   $4 = \mid\mid\mid\mid$   $5 = \mid\mid\mid\mid\mid$

$10 = \cap$   $100 = \textcircled{O}$   $1000 = \times$

$1 = 1$   $2 = \mid\mid$   $3 = \mid\mid\mid$   $4 = \mid\mid\mid\mid$   $5 = \mid\mid\mid\mid\mid$

$6 = \textcircled{2}$   $7 = \textcircled{7}$   $8 = \textcircled{8}$   $9 = \textcircled{2}$   $10 = \textcircled{1}$

$20 = \lambda$   $30 = \times$   $40 = \rightarrow$   $50 = \exists$   $60 = \textcircled{\textcircled{4}}$   $70 = \textcircled{\textcircled{7}}$

$80 = \textcircled{\textcircled{4}}$   $90 = \textcircled{\textcircled{5}}$   $100 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{1}}}$   $200 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{2}}}$

$700 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{3}}}$   $800 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{4}}}$   $900 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{5}}}$

$1000 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{6}}}$   $2000 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{7}}}$   $3000 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{8}}}$   $5000 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{10}}}$   $6000 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{11}}}$

$7000 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{12}}}$   $8000 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{13}}}$   $9000 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{14}}}$  So, e.g.,  $1328 = \textcircled{\textcircled{\textcircled{13}}} \textcircled{\textcircled{12}} \textcircled{\textcircled{8}}$

I think this is very fun.

This system was used in Ancient Egypt from around 3000 B.C. until the early first millennium A.D.



Note-taking:



★ Maya

For example:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	●	..	...	....		●	..	...	....		●	..	...	....		●	..	...	....		●	..	...	....

For calculation:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 9 - 7 = 2 \\
 \dots - \dots = \dots
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{r}
 29 - 13 = 16 \\
 \dots - \dots = \dots
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{r}
 IV \\
 4 \\
 \text{on the left} = 1
 \end{array}$$
  

$$\begin{array}{r}
 17 - 11 = 6 \\
 \dots - \dots = \dots
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{r}
 20 + 7 = 27 \\
 \dots + \dots = \dots
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{r}
 VI \\
 6 \\
 \text{on the left} = 1
 \end{array}$$
  

$$\begin{array}{r}
 16 - 12 = 4 \\
 \dots - \dots = \dots
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{r}
 4 \times 6 = 24 \\
 \dots \times \dots = \dots
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{r}
 VIII \\
 8 \\
 \text{on the right} = 1
 \end{array}$$
  

$$\begin{array}{r}
 26 \div 2 = 13 \\
 \dots \div \dots = \dots
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{r}
 3 \times 5 = 15 \\
 \dots \times \dots = \dots
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{r}
 IX \\
 9 \\
 X \\
 XI \\
 XII \\
 12 \\
 \text{on the right} = 1
 \end{array}$$

二十進制記數系統。

The Mayan numeral system was the system to represent numbers and calendar dates in the Maya civilization.

It was a vigesimal (base-20) positional numeral system.

The Mayan civilization is generally dated from 1500 BCE to 1700 C.E.

Definition of positional notation: a system of expressing numbers in which the digits are arranged in succession, the position of each digit has a place value, and the number is equal to the sum of the products of each digit by its place value.

★ Roman numerals  
For example:

1	I	1234 MCCXXXIV
2	II	17 XVII
3	III	23 XXIII
4	IV	500 D
5	V	1000 M 100=C 50=L

Roman numerals were used commonly by Europeans before 13th century.