Vocab 8 AP World History

1. Yin and Yang- Expression of the Chinese belief in the unity of opposites.
2. Bhagavad Gita- A great Hindu text affirms the performance of caste duties as a path to religious liberation; part of the much larger epic poem Mahabharata.
3. Brahman- The World Soul or final reality in Upanishad Hindu belief.
4. Brahmins- The priestly caste of India.
5. Karma- In Hinduism, the determining factor of the level at which an individual is reincarnated, based on that individual's purity of action and fulfillment of duty in his or her prior existence.
6. Mahayana- "Great Vehicle" the popular development of Buddhism in the early centuries of the Common Era, which gives a much greater role to supernatural beings and which proved to be more popular than original Buddhism.
7. Nirvana- The end goal of Buddhism, in which individual identity is "extinguished," resulting in a state of serenity and great compassion.
8. Theravada- "Teaching of the Elders”; early form of Buddhism that portrayed the Buddha as a wise teacher but not divine and that emphasized practices rather than beliefs.
9. Aristotle- Greek polymath philosopher; a student of Plato and a teacher of Alexander the Great

1. Plato- A disciple of Socrates who’s Dialogues convey the teachings of his master while going beyond them to express Plato's own philosophy