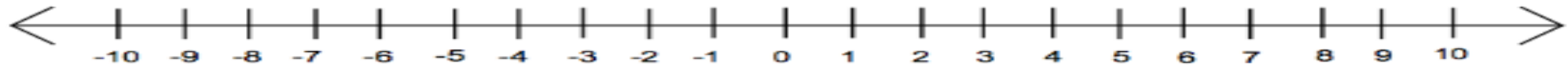


# *COUNTING TIME*

I will be able to accurately construct a timeline of the historical era while understanding the difference between B.C/B.C.E and A.D/C.E



WHAT OBSERVATIONS CAN YOU MAKE ABOUT THIS NUMBERLINE?

What is the difference between the -1 and 1?

Which is the smallest number on this number line? Which is the largest number?

IN MATH, WE COMMONLY USE NUMBER LINES TO HELP DISTINGUISH DIFFERENCES BETWEEN NUMBERS. IN HISTORY, WE USE TIME LINES TO DISTINGUISH TIME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HISTORICAL EVENTS.



HOW OLD IS THE EARTH?

*Scientists estimate that the Earth is around 4.54 BILLION years old.*

*That's nothing compared to the Universe...which is over 14 billion years old.*

IMAGINE THAT THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE IS COMPRESSED INTO ONE CALENDAR YEAR.

*It wouldn't be until 9:48 pm on December 21<sup>st</sup> that our earliest human ancestors began to walk upright.*



**WE HAVEN'T BEEN  
AROUND FOR VERY  
LONG!!!!!!**

# NOW, LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS

As humans, we have only been recording history for a short period of time, only about 5,000 years. Eventually, humans established a way to keep track of time.

**1 day = 24 hours**

**1 year = 365 days**

**10 years = 1 decade**

**100 years = 1 century**



As civilizations grew, new understandings of how time worked developed. Today, most countries use the Gregorian Calendar and recognize this year as 2015. *But what does that really mean?*

*FACT TO GET USED TO: People always disagree on things.*



*The calendar system we use is called the Gregorian Calendar. It was established in 1582 by Pope Gregory VIII with the sole purpose being to change the date of Easter. Our calendar is derived from the calendar that was established during the Roman Empire. Our calendar is also called the Western Calendar or the Christian Calendar. Most people who use this calendar believe the letters B.C and A.D are directly related to the man, Jesus Christ and that the year 1 serves as a dividing line between the times that Jesus lived and died.*

*Okay....first off....there has been much historical debate about this topic...literally, wars have been fought over it.*

*It's really best not to get too wrapped up in the Christian reference. Go with this idea; eventually most of the world adopted the Gregorian Calendar if for not other reason, than it became an easy way to universally agree upon certain dates and events. There are flaws and inaccuracies....but it's what we use. If you don't like it....then grow up and make a new calendar. = )*

**B.C:** In Christian reference, this times serves to mean “Before Christ”. In reality, Jesus is believed to have been born sometime between the years 6 and 4 B.C.

**A.D:** DOES NOT MEAN AFTER DEATH!!! Jesus is believed to have died sometime between the years A.D 27 and 30. A.D means Anno Domini (year of our lord)....**CONFUSED YET???**

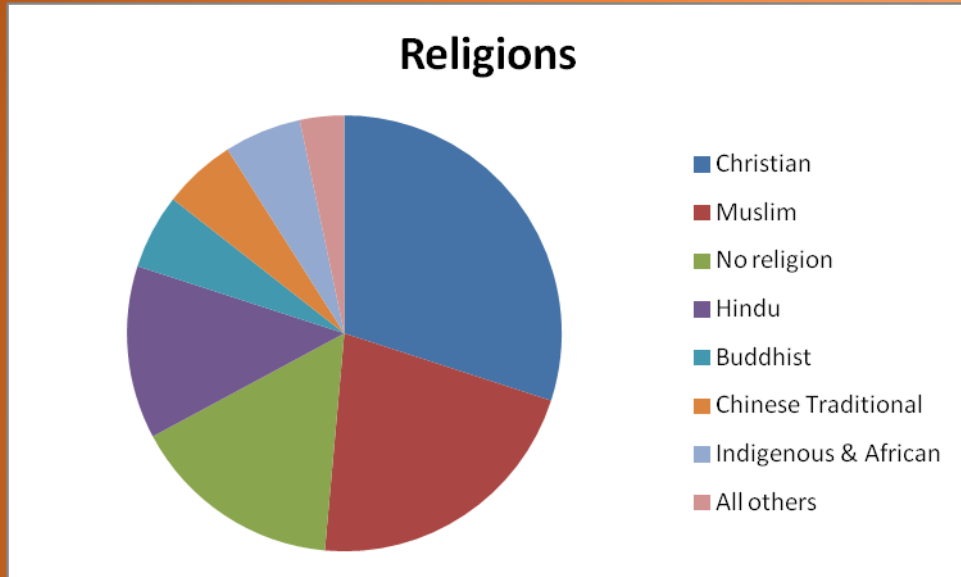
**We are here....A.D. 2015**



**B.C.** **THERE IS A LOT MORE HISTORY GOING TO THE LEFT THAN THERE IS TO THE RIGHT!!!!**

**A.D.**

*Here's an important thing to remember about human beings in the world.....Not everyone is a Christian.*



Scholars began using different acronyms to determine between the different historical eras of our history.

**B.C.E = Before the Common Era**

**C.E. = Common Era**

**A.D: Anno Domini**

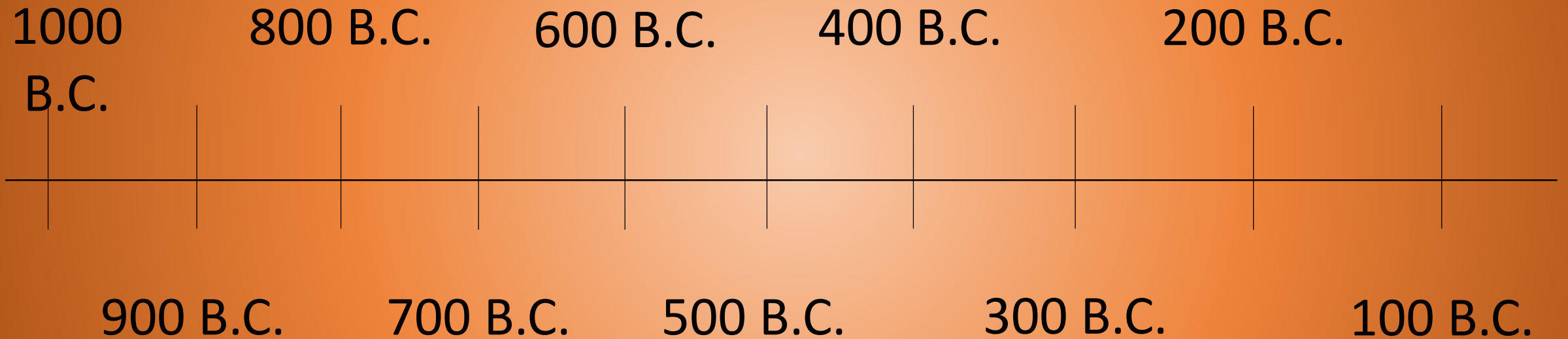
**B.C: *Before Christ***

**B.C.E: *Before the Common Era***

**C.E: *Common Era***

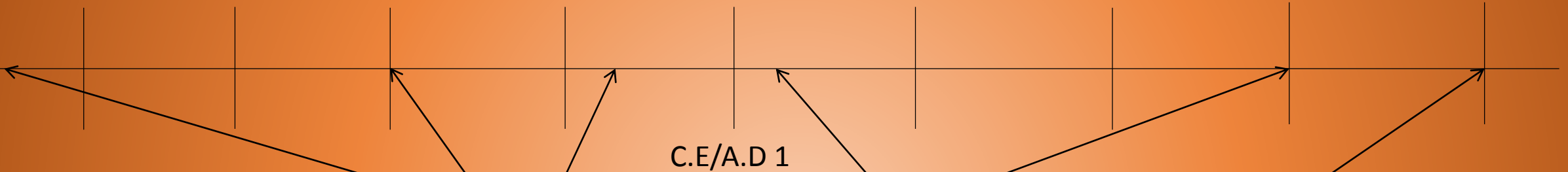
*Some people would argue that if you take out the religious references, the thought of our timeline makes more sense. More and more historians are using the B.C.E and C.E. Since most textbooks don't, we will primarily use B.C and A.D.*

***THE TRICKY THING TO REMEMBER IS THAT TIME ON THE B.C SIDE IS COUNTED BACKWARDS. THE FARTHER BACK YOU GO, THE EARLIER IN HISTORY YOU GO. SO..... 900 B.C. IS 100 YEARS EARLIER THAN 800 B.C. As you go to the right, the time is counting up. Right now, we are in the year A.D 2015. Next year will be 2016, then 2017, and so on and so on.***





*In your notebook, create a blank timeline as seen below.*



**Place the following dates in the correct location on this time line. Check can compare your answers with your partner.**

A.D 1500

350 B.C

1000 B.C

A.D 2000

A.D 150

2300 B.C

Let's see how you did.