



## Tips on Using Inclusive Language

### *Respect Other Cultures' Contributions to History*

*Why? By not thinking critically about potentially oppressive dominant standards, the roles that other cultures have played in world history and their cultural influences may be overlooked and underappreciated by readers.*

<b>Example of Language that May Not Be Inclusive</b>	<b>Why it May Feel Non-inclusive</b>	<b>Suggested Revision to be More Inclusive</b>
"Since the Greeks, philosophers have been trying to answer life's deepest questions and have come up with some profound results."	This reflects a tendency to see the Greeks and Romans as the origin of everything of cultural importance to the West while ignoring the non-European cultures who influenced them, for example, the Egyptians, along with people whose influence was less direct but whose accomplishments in intellectual and artistic fields	"For thousands of years, humans have been wrestling with life's deepest questions, and some, including ancient Greek philosophers, have come up with influential answers."

	were just as (if not more) remarkable, for example, the Ancient Chinese.	
“The Renaissance happened because Italians in the 14th Century brought back classical thinking, which had been lost for nearly 1000 years.”	This is a “Western-centric” statement that overlooks broader historical contributions and influences, in this case, the Muslim scholars who preserved and improved ancient Greco-Roman writings during the Islamic Golden Age (700s-1250s CE), without which there might not have been a “Renaissance” or an “Enlightenment.”	“The Renaissance resulted, in part, from 14th Century Italian scholars’ renewed interests in classical thinking, much of which had been preserved and improved upon by Muslim scholars for centuries.”

“Orientalism and Power: When Will We Stop Stereotyping people?” *YouTube*, uploaded by *BBC Ideas*, 30 Apr. 2017, <https://youtu.be/ZST6qnRR1mY>.

Van Norden, Bryan W. “Why the Western Philosophical Canon Is Xenophobic and Racist: Aeon Essays.” *Aeon Magazine*, [aeon.co/essays/why-the-western-philosophical-canon-is-xenophobic-and-racist](http://aeon.co/essays/why-the-western-philosophical-canon-is-xenophobic-and-racist). Accessed 28, July, 2021.