

Sargon the Great

1. How do we know about the rule of Sargon the Great?

There is no written evidence from his lifetime. People passed down Sargon the Great's story from generation to generation.

2. Why did Sargon the Great want to rule ancient Sumer?

The Akkadians had always learned from the Sumerians because they were an advanced civilisation. Sargon the Great did not want to watch Sumer grow. He wanted to rule over the country himself.

3. Why was ancient Sumer weak under the rule of Lugalzaggisi?

The city states of Sumer were battling for water, land and independence. There was a divide between the rich and the poor.

4. Why did people want to follow Sargon the Great's leadership?

He aligned himself with the ordinary people and called himself 'the rightful king'. People liked the fact that he was from a humble background.

5. How did Sargon the Great create a united empire?

He made everybody speak the same language, tore down city walls, built roads between cities and sent Akkadian officials to bring order and justice to the city states.

6. Why did he become known as Sargon the Great?

He was the first person in the world to rule over an empire. He expanded trade links and crushed rebellions against his rule. The arts and the military also flourished. His empire lasted for 200 years after his death.

7. Was Sargon the Great a successful ruler?

Example answers

Yes, I think that Sargon the Great was a successful ruler because he gained land and territory, and brought different groups of people together by making them speak the same language.

No, I think that Sargon the Great was not a successful ruler because he still had to crush rebellions against his rule and his empire collapsed 200 years after he died.

