

## Activity 2: Hammurabi's Code as an Object: Stele, Stele, Stele

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

After viewing the [Large Image of Hammurabi's Stela](#), available through the EDSITEment-reviewed web resource [The Oriental Institute: The University of Chicago](#), answer the following questions.

1. Describe the stele, being sure to include the shape, carvings, figures, and any additional distinctive features.

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2. What is the relative size of the two figures?

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3. Why make one figure significantly larger than the other?

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4. Describe the posture of the smaller figure. Which figure appears to be more important?

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5. What could be the purpose of the wavy lines coming from the shoulders of the seated figure?

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6. The larger figure is handing something to the smaller figure. What could that mean?

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7. What could one hypothesize might be happening in the scene?

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8. The markings under the graphic have been translated. What do students hypothesize the writing might say?

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9. Assume that King Hammurabi composed the inscription on the stela after hearing the students' recommendations as his advisors in Activity #1. What might the inscription say?

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