"The History of every major Galactic Civilization tends to pass through three distinct and recognizable phases, those of Survival, Inquiry and Sophistication, otherwise known as the How, Why, and Where phases. For instance, the first phase is characterized by the question 'How can we eat?' the second by the question 'Why do we eat?' and the third by the question 'Where shall we have lunch?"

[From Douglas Adams]

Expand the above idea in 15-20 sentences in the context of the history of human communities and empires.

[If you use any known facts in your composition, please verify the authenticity from reliable source(s), which you may also cite.]