Importantly Ideas

A. The earliest humans survived by ___________________________ their food. They used tools of wood, bone, and ______________. They also learned to make ________________.

B. About ___________________________, people in the ___________________________ developed the first agriculture and domesticated animals during the ___________________________.

C. A ___________________________ is a form of ___________________________ in which some people live in cities, have complex social institutions, use some form of ___________________________, and are skilled at using ___________________________.

D. The first civilizations arose in ___________________________, where favorable geographic conditions allowed farmers to grow a ___________________________.

E. The ___________________________ invented the wheel, sailboat and cuneiform writing. The Egyptians developed an advanced civilization along the banks of the ________________. They built large stone ___________________________ for the afterlife of their ruler – the ___________________________ – and developed a form of writing known as ___________________________.

F. Other early civilizations developed along the ___________________________ on the Indian subcontinent and along the ___________________________ (Yellow River) in China.

G. The earliest civilizations were ___________________________. In a theocracy, religious leaders govern; in a monarchy, a ___________________________ heads the government.

H. ________________, the religion of the ancient Hebrews (Jews), was the first religion to worship only one God.

Early Human Society

• Anthropologists study the ___________________________. Most anthropologists now believe the ___________________________ was the birthplace of humankind. Many scientists believe that human beings as we know them today – ___________________________ – first appeared sometime between 400,000 and 200,000 years ago, during the last ___________________________.

The Importance of Culture

• Human beings had several important advantages over other animals: ___________________________, the use of hands to make tools, and the ability to ___________________________.
• Because human beings had these ways of communicating, remembering and making things, they were able to pass on what they learned and their way of doing things from ___________________________. In this way, the ___________________________.
The Hunter-Gatherers

- People in the earliest human societies were __________________________. They did not know how to grow their own __________________. Instead, they relied on __________________________________________. They learned to make fires, to make spears with pieces of _______________________, and to make canoes and boats out of ___________________.
- Because these people made tools of stone, historians refer to these early societies as __________________________. Over thousands of years, Stone Age peoples also learned to make clay pottery and to domesticate (tame) dogs.
- __________________________ spent most of their time hunting for food. They migrated to areas where food – __________________________________________________ – could be found. During the Ice Age, people __________________________ to other parts of the world. Eventually, people even migrated to the __________________________. Wherever people went, they showed great ingenuity in adapting to local conditions.

The Neolithic Revolution

- About _____________________________________, one of the great turning points in history occurred. People began to change from hunters and gatherers to __________________________. Two important developments brought about this change: people learned how to __________________________.
- Anthropologists believe this change first occurred in parts of the Middle East, where __________________________ were plentiful. People noticed they could spread the seeds of these grains to plant and grow their own crops. They also learned how to herd farm animals such as __________________________. These advances are now referred to as the __________________________.
- Wherever agriculture was introduced, people no longer had to wander in search of food. Instead, they could build __________________________ and established a fixed way of life. Populations grew. Although the emergence of agricultural societies is believed to have first occurred in __________________________, it also took place independently at later times in __________________________.
- The Emergence of Social Classes. The Neolithic Revolution brought both benefits and problems. People could grow more food than they had been able to gather or hunt, but they were also more vulnerable to attack by other peoples. Thus changes in economics – __________________________ – led to social and political changes.
  - The introduction of agriculture and settlements led to the emergence of __________________________: __________________________. Defense of the village became a major concern, resulting in the emergence of a warrior class. A priesthood emerged to conduct __________________________ in order to promote a good harvest and to protect the village from danger.

The Rise of River Valley Civilizations

- As __________________________ developed and grew, their way of life further changed. Around 3,500 B.C., the first civilizations arose.
  - The first civilizations developed in __________________________. Each of these river valleys offered a __________________________ and a water highway to other places. Water from the rivers also could be
used for _______________________________. Each of these valleys was also a flood plain where an overflowing river deposited fertile soil. This ___________________ led to abundant harvests and food surpluses.

Mesopotamia (3500 B.C. – 1700 B.C.)

• Sometime between _____________________________, the first river valley civilization developed in Mesopotamia, the region located between the __________________________ (in present-day Iraq). Mesopotamia was a Greek term meaning the “____________________________.”
• **Agriculture.** Although Mesopotamia was hot and dry, people learned how to irrigate the land by diverting water from the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. __________________________ allowed __________________________ to flourish and food supplies to __________________________. Fewer people were able to produce more food, leading to a surplus. Other people could begin to __________________________ in activities other than farming. Some became potters, weavers or metal workers. Others became __________________________.
• **Government.** The people of Mesopotamia built ___________________________. At first, each city-state, such as Uruk, Ur, and Babylon, had its ____________________________. Later, several of these city-states were united together under a ____________________________.
• **Building.** The Mesopotamians were the world’s first city-builders. They lacked __________________________ to build their cities. Instead, they made their buildings from ____________________________. They built walled cities, temples with arches, and ____________________________ known as ___________________________. Each ziggurat was made of a series of square levels, with each level slightly smaller than the one below it.
• **Cultural and Scientific Contributions.** Some of the most important inventions in history took place in ancient Mesopotamia. The __________________________ (the people of Sumer) invented the __________________________. They were able to figure how to reroute some of the water to irrigate fields farther away. They also developed __________________________. Bronze is made by melting tin and copper together: it is stronger than copper alone.
• **Cultural and Scientific Contributions.** The Sumerians devised a __________________________, dividing the year into 12 months. Later, the __________________________ developed a number system based on 60, providing the basis for our __________________________ today.
• **Cultural and Scientific Contributions.** They also invented the world’s __________________________, cuneiform, a form of symbol writing on __________________________. Cuneiform writing used three-dimensional marks by a stylus into clay before it hardened. Only the __________________________ could read and write in cuneiform. Generally, __________________________ were the ones who had this knowledge.
• **Legal System.** The Babylonians developed the earliest written law code – the __________________________. It covered most occurrences in daily life. Its aim was to ensure _____________________________.
• **Women in Mesopotamia.** Most girls __________________________, where they learned _____________________________. Women were responsible for raising children and crushing the grain. There were enormous variations in the rights enjoyed by women in _____________________________. Wealthier women were able to go to the __________________________ to buy goods, could complete legal matters in their husband’s absence, and could even ____________________________. These women could engage in business for themselves, and _____________________________. A few women, such as relatives of the ruler, enjoyed even higher status in Mesopotamia society.
Egypt (3200 B.C. – 500 B.C.)

- Egypt is located in ___________________________. The ________________________________, the Nile, runs through it. Each year, the Nile floods the lands along its banks, ________________________________. With bright sunshine, a long growing season, rich soil, and ________________________________, Egyptian farmers were able to grow large amounts of food. Farmers along the Nile were able to support a large number of _________________________________. Ease of communication along the river encouraged the development of a _________________________________.

- **Government and Society.** The most powerful person in ancient Egypt was the ________________________________. The pharaoh governed Egypt as an ________________________________. The pharaoh owned all the land, commanded the army, ________________________________, controlled ________________________________, and defended Egypt from foreigners. Egyptians considered the pharaoh to be a god.

- Egypt was a monarchy, a ___________________________________. Each pharaoh inherited ________________________________ from his father.

- Next in the social order below the pharaoh came the ________________________________. Then came Egypt’s ________________________________. At the bottom of society were ________________________________. They spent their time farming, ________________________________, and working on building projects for the pharaohs.

- **Religion.** The ancient Egyptians believed the body should be ________________________________ to participate in the afterlife. When pharaohs died, their bodies were embalmed and buried in a special room under a large ___________________________________. Here they were surrounded with gold, jewels, and other precious objects for use in the afterlife, which Egyptians imagined as similar to life before death. ________________________________ have used these artifacts to learn a great deal about ancient Egypt.

India

- More than 5,000 years ago, the ________________________________ became another of the first centers of human civilization. In this region, as in Egypt and Mesopotamia, a ________________________________ over the neighboring plain during its _________________________________.

- **Agriculture and Building.** Farmers grew _________________________________. Food surpluses allowed people to build large cities like Harrappa and Mohenjo-Daro. Each of these cities had more than ________________________________.
• More than 1,000 cities and settlements belonging to the Indus River Valley civilization have already been excavated. The artifacts found in these settlements suggest a __________________________________________________________. Walls were present in many of their cities. They were also among the first “urban planners,” with almost all their houses connected to public sewers and a water supply. These people, known as the Harrappans, were also the first people known to make cotton cloth.

• **Trade and Collapse.** ____________ was an important part of the Harrappan economy. Many small clay seals, probably used for trading purposes, have been discovered by archaeologists. They have also found kilns for ________________ and evidence of the use of metals. The Harappans developed their own form of writing, although ______________ are still unable to decipher it. No one knows exactly why this civilization collapsed, but its end occurred suddenly.

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**China**

• About 500 years after the settlement of the Indus River Valley, China’s first civilization emerged in the fertile plains along the _________________.

• **Agriculture.** As in the Nile and Indus River Valleys, the fertility of the soil along the Huang He was increased by the _________________. Around 4,500 B.C., people along the Huang He began growing millet (a type of grain). Later, they learned to _______________.

• **Government.** Around 1700 B.C., a ____________, known as the Shang, took power. They built the first Chinese cities and established their capital at Anyang, near the Huang He. The Shang ruled with the help of powerful nobles. Shang kings were ________________. They were also high priests who offered sacrifices to their _________________.

• **Cultural Contributions.** The people living in the Huang He Valley were ________________. Their ability in bronze work can be seen in many objects surviving from this period, including superior weapons and ceremonial vessels. They also were the first to make _________________. Finally, they developed a system of writing with ________________. Each character represented one word. Their pictorial characteristics, often with only minor modifications, are still used in written Chinese today. Even those speaking different dialects use the same characteristics.

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**The Ancient Hebrews**

• The ancient Hebrews, or ________________, lived south of Phoenicia in the area occupied by present-day ________________. Because of their location, the Hebrews were deeply influenced by the civilizations of both _________________. According to tradition, the forefather of the Hebrews, ________________, grew up in Mesopotamia in the city of Ur. Abraham moved to Israel.

• Unlike other ancient peoples, the ________________, who was both just and all-powerful. This new religion was called ________________. Jews did not believe that God had human characteristics or the head or body of an animal, like the _________________.

• Jews saw their God as an invisible but powerful force or spirit that created the world and that demanded proper ________________, ________________, became the basis for several later religions, including both ________________.
The Ten Commandments

• The early history of the Hebrews and their relationship with God is told in the first books of the Bible, known as the _________________. According to the Bible, the ancient Hebrews migrated to Egypt to escape _________________. They remained in Egypt for hundreds of years, where they became _________________. Their leader, _________________, later took them out of Egypt and freed them from slavery.

• According to the Bible, Moses also ________________, which came directly from God. These commandments _________________, and other forms of immoral behavior. They also commanded the Hebrews to worship one God and to keep the _________________.

• When the Hebrews _________________, they found it was occupied by new peoples. This led to a series of wars, ending with the _________________. The Hebrews then established their _________________, where they built a temple to worship God.