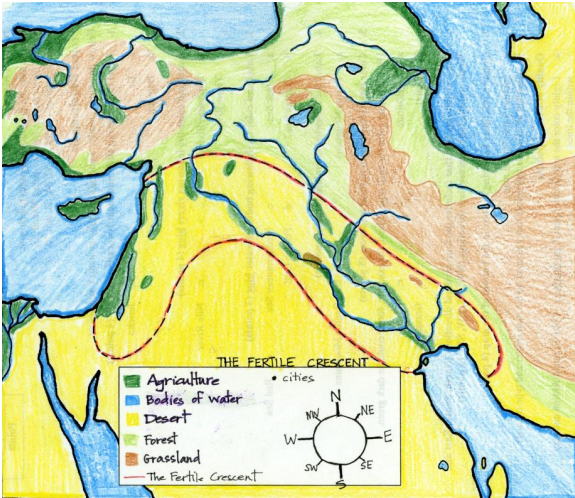


Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

Ch. 3 – MESOPOTAMIA AND THE FERTILE CRESCENT – Study Guide

SECTION I GEOGRAPHY OF THE FERTILE CRESCENT



Rivers Support the Growth of Civilizations

Where did early peoples like to settle?

Why? _____

Mesopotamia means “between two rivers.” What two rivers make up Mesopotamia?

_____ and _____

Mesopotamia is part of a larger region extending from Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea. What is this region called?
_____ which is a _____

Fertile silt made this region ideal for farming. What is silt? _____

What was grown in this area? _____

Farming and Cities

What were two concerns of farmers during this time in this particular region?

How did they solve the problems listed above? _____, which is _____

Mesopotamians also dug _____, human-made waterways, to protect houses from flooding and move water to their fields.

With water controlled in Mesopotamia, people were able to produce a food _____, meaning _____; as a result of this, people were able to develop new occupations, such as

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



This type of arrangement in which each worker specializes in a particular task or job is called a _____

How might running large projects prepare people for running a government?

SECTION 2 THE RISE OF SUMER

An Advanced Society

Where and how did most Sumerians live? _____

Rural means _____

Urban means _____

What were city-states and how did they get along with each other? _____

What city-state gained power in 3500BC? _____



Between 3500-2500BC, which two city-states were fighting for control?

One of Uruk's kings became a legendary figure in Sumerian literature. What was his name? _____

Who were the Akkadians? _____

Who was the ruler of Akkadians? _____ AND he was the first to have a _____

How did Sargon create an empire? _____

What is an "empire"? _____

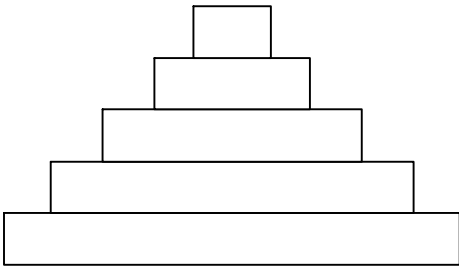
Religion Shapes Society

Worshipping many gods is known as _____. What are some gods Sumerians worshipped? _____

Why did priests gain high status in Sumer? _____

What is social hierarchy? _____

Label the pyramid ziggurat with Sumer's social hierarchy and provide a brief description of each level. Use arrows and/or make lines as necessary.



What did men and women of Sumer do?

Men	Women

SECTION 3 SUMERIAN ACHIEVEMENTS

Directions: Choose five Sumerian inventions or achievements and fill in the chart below.

Invention/Achievement/Advancement	How did Sumerians use it?	How do we use it today? / What do we have today?

SECTION 4 LATER PEOPLES OF THE FERTILE CRESCENT

The Babylonians Conquer Mesopotamia

Babylon is located on the _____ river near present day Baghdad, Iraq. Babylon was once a Sumerian town, but eventually became home to a powerful _____.

Who was Babylon's king? _____

A ruler of a kingdom or empire is known as a _____

Eventually Hammurabi brought all Mesopotamia into the _____ Empire



Hammurabi is most famous for his _____ of laws which is _____

Specific crimes brought specific penalties. Did social class play a factor in these laws? Yes/No Example: _____

Hammurabi's code was important because it was written down. Why would it have been helpful for people to have the law code written down? _____

Invasions of Mesopotamia

Who built a strong kingdom in Asia Minor? _____ Where was Asia Minor located in relation to Mesopotamia? _____

The Hittites were successful in building a kingdom because of two main reasons. Name them and describe how the Hittites used it.

1.

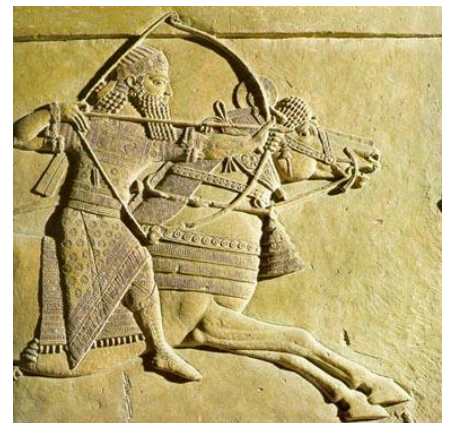
2.

Did the Hittites conquer Babylon? Yes/No

Did their rule (the Hittites) last long? Yes/No

Then who ruled? _____

Around 1200s BC who gained control of Babylon and where were they from? _____



The Assyrians were defeated, then recovered, and came back strong taking over _____

Assyrians key to success:

1.

2.

After conquering the Fertile Crescent, the Assyrians ruled from Nineveh, where was Nineveh located? _____

What did Assyrians demand from the people of the empire? _____

Assyrian kings ruled their empire through _____. These peoples had several jobs, what were they?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What weakened the Assyrian empire? _____

A group of people from the Syrian Desert took advantage of this weakness in the Assyrian empire and attacked destroying the capital of Assyrian empire; who were they?



The most famous Chaldean king? _____

What advances did the Chaldeans achieve?

The Phoenicians

Where was Phoenicia located? _____

Phoenicians created a _____

Phoenicia had few resources, but they did have what valuable trading item(s)? _____

They could not trade by land because of _____,
so they traded by _____

Because of trading this was the Phoenicians became expert

Phoenicia founded several new colonies along their trade routes. What was one of the most famous?

Phoenicia grew very wealthy from trade, trading goods such as _____



Phoenicians most important achievement wasn't trading goods, it was

TIMELINE

Put all of the Fertile Crescent Empires we've discussed in this chapter on a timeline in chronological (by date) order. Don't forget to include the dates 😊

