

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

Multiple Choice

1. Which advanced human form was thought to use larger and more varied tools and was the first to leave Africa and move into Europe and Asia?

- a. Homo habilis
- b. Homo sapiens
- c. Homo erectus
- d. Australopithecines

ANSWER:

c

2. How far might a band of modern humans move out of their traditional hunting ground and spread throughout the world?

- a. 2-3 miles per decade
- b. 2-3 miles per year
- c. 2-3 miles in a lifetime
- d. 2-3 miles per generation

ANSWER:

d

3. Who were among the first people to bury their dead?

- a. Neanderthals
- b. Europeans
- c. Homo sapiens
- d. East Asians

ANSWER:

a

4. What do archaeologists and anthropologists believe about the social structure of early Paleolithic people?

- a. Women hunted while men grew crops.
- b. They were nomadic.
- c. They were reliant on farming.
- d. Men hunted while women took care of homes and children.

ANSWER:

b

5. What do the cave paintings in the Chauvet cave tell anthropologists about early Paleolithic people?

- a. The types of animals they hunted
- b. The technological innovations they developed
- c. The systematic agriculture they practiced
- d. The forms of religion they practiced

ANSWER:

d

6. Why were early Paleolithic people most likely nomadic?

- a. They needed weapons to defend themselves against others.
- b. They had no fire or tools to build shelters.
- c. They sought out new caves for paintings.
- d. They relied on wild plants and hunting animals to survive.

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ANSWER:

d

7. What is the hallmark of the Mesolithic Age?
- a. The development of art such as cave paintings
 - b. The domestication of animals
 - c. A shift from food gathering to hunting
 - d. The use of systematic agriculture

ANSWER:

b

8. How did systematic agriculture change the way Neolithic people lived?
- a. More permanent settlements developed.
 - b. More nomad groups developed.
 - c. Domestication of animals could begin.
 - d. Barter and trade practices declined.

ANSWER:

a

9. Which of the following occurred as people settled in villages and towns?
- a. New crops were introduced by neighboring villages.
 - b. A division of labor developed.
 - c. More women began hunting.
 - d. Religion became more important in communities.

ANSWER:

b

10. Why would a growing population create a political or military structure?
- a. To gain land and power
 - b. To create shared religious practices
 - c. To allow citizens to build specialized skills
 - d. To increase populations

ANSWER:

a

11. Why is the development of writing important to advanced civilizations?
- a. To improve architectural structures
 - b. To define social classes
 - c. To create economic power
 - d. To keep records

ANSWER:

d

12. What led to the growth of organized trade in early civilizations?
- a. The ability to write and keep records
 - b. A growing group of free common people
 - c. Demand for luxury items by ruling elites
 - d. The enslavement of people to work fields

ANSWER:

c

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13. Which of the following helped to create a prosperous farming society in the Yellow River valley in northern China?

- a. Warfare
- b. Trade in textiles
- c. Domestication of goats
- d. Irrigation systems

ANSWER:

d

14. Where was the center of the early civilization that emerged in the Supe River Valley of Peru?

- a. Caral
- b. Machu Picchu
- c. Mohenjo-Daro
- d. Tenochtitlan

ANSWER:

a

15. What was the major concern for the aristocratic class in early Chinese civilization?

- a. Copper mining
- b. War
- c. Trade networks
- d. Irrigation systems

ANSWER:

b

16. How do some scholars believe that specialization of labor and large bureaucratic organizations helped early civilizations develop?

- a. By arranging trade partnerships
- b. By establishing religious hierarchies
- c. By creating food surpluses
- d. By unifying goals for the civilization

ANSWER:

c

17. In the Fertile Crescent, the emergence of civilization depended on what?

- a. Water management
- b. Large hunting bands
- c. Bronze tools
- d. Growing populations

ANSWER:

a

18. Which advanced city developed along the Indus River in India between 3000-1500 BCE?

- a. Egypt
- b. Mohenjo-Daro
- c. Uzbekistan
- d. Mesopotamia

ANSWER:

b

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19. Which would often be the most prominent building in a Sumerian city?

- a. The ziggurat
- b. The temple
- c. The royal palace
- d. The defense towers

ANSWER:

b

20. From where did a Sumerian king get his power?

- a. The government
- b. The army
- c. The gods
- d. The priests and priestesses

ANSWER:

c

21. How were women who were enslaved generally used by Sumerian temple officials?

- a. To weave cloth
- b. For agricultural work
- c. In building projects
- d. In domestic work

ANSWER:

a

22. Why are the Akkadians referred to as Semitic people?

- a. Based on the leader of the dynastic empire
- b. Based on their language
- c. Based on their location
- d. Based on the Code of Hammurabi

ANSWER:

b

23. What is the basis of the Code of Hammurabi?

- a. Distinct social classes
- b. Expansionism
- c. Strict justice
- d. Military control

ANSWER:

c

24. Under the Code of Hammurabi, what rights would a woman have?

- a. The right to divorce a husband
- b. The right to work as an artisan
- c. The right to decide which son received an inheritance
- d. The right to refuse an arranged marriage

ANSWER:

c

25. Which type of religion did the people of Mesopotamia practice?

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- a. Polytheism
- b. Monotheism
- c. Divination
- d. Theocracy

ANSWER:

a

26. How did the Sumerians develop some of the oldest Mesopotamian texts, which date to around 3000 BCE?

- a. Using a cuneiform
- b. Using hieroglyphs
- c. Using papyrus
- d. Using animal hides

ANSWER:

a

27. What did the Mesopotamians develop that allowed them to measure fields and erect buildings?

- a. Astronomy
- b. Phonetic values
- c. Geometry
- d. Cuneiform writing

ANSWER:

c

28. What made the Nile River unique and capable of producing abundant harvests?

- a. Defensive barriers
- b. The speed of the water
- c. Its cataracts
- d. Annual flooding

ANSWER:

d

29. What did the geographical landscape around Egypt provide to those that lived there?

- a. Direct land routes to trade partners
- b. Natural barriers and protection
- c. Large population bands
- d. Rapid development of cities

ANSWER:

b

30. What advantage did the Nile offer sailors who wanted to head north toward the Mediterranean Sea?

- a. Strong winds from the south
- b. The northbound currents
- c. Broad flood plains
- d. Cataracts that controlled the river

ANSWER:

b

31. Who was responsible for uniting Upper Egypt with Lower Egypt around 3100 BCE, creating the first Egyptian royal dynasty?

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- a. Osiris
- b. Atum
- c. Menes
- d. Isis

ANSWER:

c

32. Where was the prosperous capital of the Old Kingdom, which included several of the largest pyramids in Egypt?

- a. Thebes
- b. Nubia
- c. Memphis
- d. Luxor

ANSWER:

c

33. How were the pharaohs of Egypt supposed to rule their kingdoms?

- a. Based on divine intervention
- b. Based on the Code of Hammurabi
- c. Based on absolute power
- d. Based on the principle of Ma'at

ANSWER:

d

34. What led to the development of the Middle Kingdom between 2100-1650 BCE?

- a. The development of jewelry and metal trades
- b. The expansion of cities along the Nile
- c. The collapse of the Old Kingdom
- d. The acquisition of land through warfare

ANSWER:

c

35. Who would have been responsible for aiding the king in the Old and Middle Kingdoms of Egypt?

- a. Priests
- b. Landed estate owners
- c. The ruling class
- d. Artisans

ANSWER:

a

36. Who would have typically owned the land used to cultivate crops and provide food?

- a. Common people
- b. The king
- c. Serfs
- d. Nobles

ANSWER:

b

37. What happened to Nubia after the disintegration of the Egyptian New Kingdom?

- a. It became one of Egypt's most important trade partners.

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- b. It became the independent state of Kush.
- c. It became controlled by Ramesses II.
- d. It became the spiritual home of Akhenaten.

ANSWER:

b

38. What was unique about the pharaoh Hatshepsut?

- a. She led several military campaigns into Syria and Canaan.
- b. She was one of the first women to be pharaoh in her own right.
- c. She restored Egypt as an imperial power.
- d. She introduced the worship of the sun-god Aten.

ANSWER:

b

39. What changes did the boy-pharaoh Tutankhamun make to the Egyptian empire?

- a. He returned the government to Thebes.
- b. He closed the temples to all gods except Aten.
- c. He removed all Egyptians from Canaan.
- d. He lessened the power of the priesthood.

ANSWER:

a

40. How were megaliths in Neolithic Europe used?

- a. As monuments to dead kings and rulers
- b. As a way to detect astronomical phenomena
- c. As places of ritual worship
- d. As centers of trade for neighboring city-states

ANSWER:

b

41. From where did the Hittite empire gain much of its cultural practices, including language, literature, and religion?

- a. Israel and Judah
- b. Phoenicians
- c. Mycenaean Greeks
- d. Mesopotamia

ANSWER:

d

42. Which innovations helped the Indo-European migrations to other lands?

- a. Domesticated farm animals and crops
- b. Unified language and writing
- c. Irrigation systems and canals
- d. The wheel and wagon

ANSWER:

d

43. From where did the Phoenicians come?

- a. Mesopotamia
- b. Egypt

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- c. Syria and Canaan
- d. Israel

ANSWER:

c

44. What allowed for the newfound political independence and trade expansion of the Phoenicians?

- a. The dawn of monotheism
- b. The end of the Sea Peoples
- c. The development of the alphabet
- d. The demise of the Hittite

ANSWER:

d

45. Which Phoenician colony on the north coast of Africa was considered its most famous?

- a. Carthage
- b. Sardinia
- c. Sicily
- d. Southern Spain

ANSWER:

a

46. What value does the Hebrew Bible offer historians when trying to understand the history of the Hebrews?

- a. It describes the fall of the Phoenicians.
- b. It explains monotheism.
- c. It explains the origins of Jesus.
- d. It describes their origins and history.

ANSWER:

d

47. What purpose did the temple built by Solomon in Jerusalem serve?

- a. It was the center of the Israelite religion.
- b. It was the center of Israelite military strength.
- c. It was the home of royal power.
- d. It was the home to all deities worshiped by the Hebrews.

ANSWER:

a

48. According to the Hebrew religious tradition, how can the covenant between Yahweh and his chosen people be fulfilled?

- a. By obedience to the law of God
- b. By following the laws of universalism
- c. By giving up worldly goods and following God
- d. By following the rules of the prophets

ANSWER:

a

49. What helped to establish The Assyrians as an empire that included Mesopotamia, the Iranian Plateau, and Egypt down to Thebes?

- a. Dominance of waterways

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- b. Trade
- c. Universalism
- d. Iron weaponry

ANSWER:

d

50. How did the Assyrians promote communication throughout their expansive empire?

- a. Through strict military control
- b. Through the use of satraps
- c. Through relays of horses
- d. Through the use of local officials that reported to the emperor

ANSWER:

c

51. Which of the following was the most important economic element in Assyrian life?

- a. Societal hierarchy
- b. Religion
- c. Agriculture
- d. Trade

ANSWER:

c

52. What formed the basis of the Assyrian identity?

- a. Language
- b. Common enemies
- c. Religion
- d. Culture

ANSWER:

a

53. What is one of the best-known objects of Assyrian culture that exists today?

- a. Relief sculptures
- b. The Hebrew Bible
- c. Iron weaponry
- d. Religious temples

ANSWER:

a

54. How was authority and the structure of social classes in the Assyrian Empire regulated?

- a. By the Epic of Gilgamesh
- b. By the Code of Hammurabi
- c. By the Code of the Assura
- d. By the Book of Exodus

ANSWER:

c

55. Who made Babylonia the leading state in western Asia after the collapse of the Assyrian Empire?

- a. Ashurbanipal
- b. Darius

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- c. Cyrus the Great
- d. Nebuchadnezzar

ANSWER:

d

56. What was the role of the satrapies of the Persian empire?

- a. Minor deities
- b. Communication hubs
- c. Protectors of the kingdom
- d. Indus River protectorates

ANSWER:

c

57. Why did the standing armies of Darius come to be known as the Immortals?

- a. They had more than fifty thousand horses.
- b. They never lost a battle.
- c. Their numbers never fell below ten thousand.
- d. They were entombed with the Emperor when he died.

ANSWER:

c

Subjective Short Answer

58. Identify and explain the historical significance of hominids.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

59. Identify and explain the historical significance of the Paleolithic Age.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

60. Identify and explain the historical significance of the Neolithic Revolution.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

61. Identify and explain the historical significance of the Mesolithic Age.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

62. Identify and explain the historical significance of patriarchy in ancient society.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

63. Identify and explain the historical significance of the emergence of civilization.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

64. Identify and explain the historical significance of a Sumerian ziggurat.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

65. Identify and explain the historical significance of Sumerian theocracy.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

66. Identify and explain the historical significance of polytheism in Mesopotamia.

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ANSWER: Answers will vary.

67. Identify and explain the historical significance of divination.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

68. Identify and explain the historical significance of cuneiform writing.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

69. Identify and explain the historical significance of the Egyptian pharaoh.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

70. Identify and explain the historical significance of Egyptian hieroglyphics.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

71. Identify and explain the historical significance of Neolithic megaliths.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

72. Identify and explain the historical significance of Hebrew monotheism.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

73. Identify and explain the historical significance of the Persian satrapy.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

74. Identify and explain the historical significance of the Persian satrap.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

75. Identify and explain the historical significance of Zoroastrianism.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

Essay

76. Describe societal norms and major changes in society between the Paleolithic age, the Neolithic Revolution, and the Mesolithic Age.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

77. Describe each of the seven characteristics that historians have identified as basic characteristics of civilization.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

78. Describe the roles of religion in Sumerian cities and the relationship of kings and rulers to the gods.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

79. Describe the Code of Hammurabi as it pertained to justice, marriage and the family, and the role of women in society.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

80. Why was writing important in societies such as Mesopotamia and Samaria?

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

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81. Describe features of the Nile River valley that provided safety to people there and how those features shaped life in the area.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

82. Discuss the most important gods for the Egyptians and what each of those gods offered the people of Egypt.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

83. Describe the purpose of the great pyramids and the hieroglyphics that were found inside them.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

84. Describe the life of ancient Egyptians and the gender norms of their society.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

85. Explain the rise of the Hittites and their impact in western Asia.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

86. Describe the impact of the Phoenicians on modern language.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

87. Describe the importance of the covenant, the law, and the prophets in the Hebrew religious tradition.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

88. Illustrate the ways in which the Assyrian kings were able to administer their empires and the contribution of the military in this administration.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

89. Describe the relationship between agriculture and trade in the Assyrian empire.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.

90. Describe the basic tenants of the Zoroastrian religion and its impact on modern society.

ANSWER: Answers will vary.