

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

ANSWER: a

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

ANSWER: b

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

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

ANSWER: d

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

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

ANSWER: d

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

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

ANSWER: a

6. Why were early Paleolithic people most likely nomadic?

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

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

ANSWER:

a

7. What is the hallmark of the Mesolithic Age?

- a. The domestication of animals
- b. The use of systematic agriculture
- c. A shift from food gathering to hunting
- d. The development of art such as cave paintings

ANSWER:

a

8. How did systematic agriculture change the way Neolithic people lived?

- a. More nomad groups developed.
- b. More permanent settlements developed.
- c. Barter and trade practices declined.
- d. Domestication of animals could begin.

ANSWER:

b

9. Which of the following occurred as people settled in villages and towns?

- a. More women began hunting.
- b. A division of labor developed.
- c. New crops were introduced by neighboring villages.
- 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 increase populations
- d. To allow citizens to build specialized skills

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 keep records
- d. To create economic power

ANSWER:

c

12. What led to the growth of organized trade in early civilizations?

- a. The ability to write and keep records
- b. Demand for luxury items by ruling elites
- c. A growing group of free common people
- d. The enslavement of people to work fields

ANSWER:

b

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

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

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

ANSWER:

c

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

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

ANSWER:

b

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

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

ANSWER:

b

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

- a. By establishing religious hierarchies
- b. By arranging trade partnerships
- 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. Growing populations
- d. Bronze tools

ANSWER:

a

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

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

ANSWER:

c

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

b

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

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

ANSWER:

a

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

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

c

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

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

ANSWER:

c

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

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

a

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

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

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

ANSWER:

c

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

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

ANSWER:

c

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

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

ANSWER:

b

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

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

ANSWER:

b

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

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

a

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

- a. It became the spiritual home of Akhenaten.

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

- b. It became the independent state of Kush.
- c. It became controlled by Ramesses II.
- d. It became one of Egypt's most important trade partners.

ANSWER:

b

38. What was unique about the pharaoh Hatshepsut?

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

d

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. Mycenaean Greeks
- c. Phoenicians
- d. Mesopotamia

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

b

43. From where did the Phoenicians come?

- a. Egypt
- b. Syria and Canaan

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

- c. Mesopotamia
- d. Israel

ANSWER:

b

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

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

ANSWER:

c

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

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

a

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

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

ANSWER:

d

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 following the rules of the prophets
- d. By giving up worldly goods and following God

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

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

c

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

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

ANSWER:

a

52. What formed the basis of the Assyrian identity?

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

ANSWER:

b

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

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

ANSWER:

a

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

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

ANSWER:

b

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

- a. Cyrus the Great
- b. Nebuchadnezzar

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

- c. Ashurbanipal
- d. Darius

ANSWER:

b

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

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

ANSWER:

d

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

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

ANSWER:

a

Subjective Short Answer

58. Identify and explain the historical significance of hominids.

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

ANSWER:

67. Identify and explain the historical significance of divination.

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

75. Identify and explain the historical significance of Zoroastrianism.

ANSWER:

Essay

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____
: _____ : _____ e: _____

Chapter 1 Early Humans and the First Civilizations

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

86. Describe the impact of the Phoenicians on modern language. Answers will vary.

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER:

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

ANSWER: