

CHAPTER 2

Peoples, Gods, and Empires: 1700–500 B.C.E.

OUTLINE

- I. Introduction to Peoples, Gods, and Empires: 1700–500 B.C.E.
 - A. Indo-European Languages and Peoples
 - B. New Settlers in Anatolia
- II. The New Kingdom of Egypt
 - A. The Pharaohs of the Eighteenth Dynasty
 - B. The Legacy of Hatshepsut
 - 1. Thutmose II
 - 2. Hatshepsut
 - C. Religious and Political Change
 - D. The Reign of Akhenaten (1352–1336 B.C.E)
- III. Transnational Networks of the Late Bronze Age
 - A. Transnational Diplomacy
 - B. Transnational Trade
- IV. Aegean Civilizations: Minoan Crete, Mycenaean Greece
 - A. The Minoan Thalasscracy
 - B. Mycenaean Greece
 - C. The Sea Peoples and the End of the Bronze Age
- V. The States of the Early Iron Age
 - A. The Phoenicians
 - B. Phoenician Colonies and Cultural Influence
 - C. The Philistines

- D. The Hebrews and Their Scriptures
- E. The Struggle for Hebrew Unity
- F. The Consolidation of a New Hebrew Kingdom
- G. The Reign of King Solomon (973–937 B.C.E.)

VI. The Revival of the Assyrian Empire

- A. Neo-Assyrian Government and Administration
- B. The Assyrian Military-Religious Ethos
- C. The Legacy of Neo-Assyrian Power

VII. The Rise of the Persians

- A. The Persian Empire of Cyrus the Great
- B. The Consolidation of Persian Rule
- C. The Legacy of Zoroastrianism
 - 1. Tenets
 - 2. Influence of Zoroastrianism on Persian Government

VIII. The Development of Hebrew Monotheism

- A. From Monolatry to Monotheism
 - 1. Cult of Yahweh
- B. Judaism Takes Shape
 - 1. Babylonian Captivity

IX. Conclusion

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the impact of new migrations and settlements on ancient civilizations.
2. Define the difference between Egypt's New Kingdom and the Old and Middle Kingdoms.
3. Explain the workings of transnational networks during the Late Bronze Age.
4. Identify the new empires and kingdoms that emerged during the Iron Age.
5. Understand the historical importance of monotheism.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. During the first millennium B.C.E.:
 - A. bronze slowly replaced iron as the primary component of tools and weapons.
 - B. iron slowly replaced bronze as the primary component of tools and weapons.
 - C. tempered copper slowly replaced bronze as the primary component of tools and weapons.
 - D. scholars from India to Ireland used the Sanskrit language in academic treatises.
 - E. Anatolia lost influence and was no longer a major player in Near East politics.

ANS: B MSC: Remembering

TOP: I DIF: Easy

REF: page 40 OBJ: 1
2. The people who settled in Anatolia around 2000 B.C.E. and built a powerful, militaristic kingdom there over the next 400 years are known as the:
 - A. Philistines.
 - B. Assyrians.
 - C. Babylonians.
 - D. Hittites.
 - E. Chaldeans.

ANS: D MSC: Remembering

TOP: I, B DIF: Easy

REF: page 41 OBJ: 1
3. The culture of the Hittites was:
 - A. hindered by their lack of writing.
 - B. preserved for posterity by the Kassites.
 - C. based on ideas borrowed from the Hebrews.
 - D. strongly militaristic, prone to attacks on other peoples.
 - E. the source of all Middle Eastern cultures that followed them.

ANS: D MSC: Understanding

TOP: I, B DIF: Moderate

REF: page 41 OBJ: 1
4. Hattusilis and his successors eventually expanded the Hittite Kingdom by:
 - A. satisfying the demands of the warrior nobility, who agreed to assist the king's plans for expansion.

- B. annexing the neighboring kingdom of Babylon and using it as a base of operation.
- C. sacking the fabled city of Babylon and collecting its riches.
- D. negotiating with the Egyptians and signing a formal peace treaty with them.
- E. defeating the Mitannians by inventing the chariot for use in battle.

ANS: C MSC: Remembering

TOP: I, B DIF: Moderate

REF: page 41 OBJ: 1

5. During the Late Bronze Age (1500–1200 B.C.E.) in the ancient Near East, the two great imperial powers were:
- A. New Kingdom Egypt and the Hittite empire.
 - B. New Kingdom Egypt and classical Greece.
 - C. the Sumerians and the Egyptians.
 - D. the Hebrews and the Canaanites.
 - E. the Canaanites and the Hittite empire.

ANS: A MSC: Applying

TOP: I; II DIF: Difficult

REF: pages 41–42 OBJ: 1 and 2

6. The most fearsome warriors of the Bronze Age were the:
- A. Hittites.
 - B. Phoenicians.
 - C. Chaldeans.
 - D. Hebrews.
 - E. Anatolians.

ANS: A MSC: Applying

TOP: I, B DIF: Easy

REF: Page 42 OBJ: 1

7. Which of the following was a deadly new innovation introduced by the Hittites?

- A. Crossbow
- B. Horse-drawn chariot
- C. Landmine
- D. Guerilla warfare
- E. Chemical warfare

ANS: B MSC: Remembering

TOP: I, B DIF: Easy

REF: page 42 OBJ: 1

8. Which of the following is true regarding the Hyksos, who invaded Egypt around 1700 B.C.E.?

- A. Little is known of their origins
- B. They migrated out of central Asia
- C. They migrated out of central Africa
- D. They introduced the crossbow
- E. They were responsible for eradicating Egyptian culture

ANS: A MSC: Remembering

TOP: II DIF: Moderate

REF: page 42 OBJ: 2

9. When the Hyksos conquered Lower Egypt in the Egypt's Second Intermediate Period, they:

- A. dismantled all Egyptian forms of government.
- B. desecrated Egyptian temples dedicated to Ra.
- C. moved the capital of Lower Egypt to Thebes.
- D. used a military aristocracy to govern.
- E. adopted the machinery of pharaonic government.

ANS: E MSC: Remembering

TOP: II DIF: Easy

REF: page 42 OBJ: 2

10. The New Kingdom, particularly the Eighteenth Dynasty, was marked by:
- A. a return to traditional values of peaceful rule and indifference to the world.
 - B. the ultimate triumph of the Hyksos and the fall of the Egyptian empire.
 - C. the failure of Pharaoh Amuse to control his military forces.
 - D. the peak of Egyptian cultural achievement, and political and military power.
 - E. the conversion of the entire Egyptian society to monotheism and their rejection of traditional gods and goddesses.

ANS: D MSC: Remembering

TOP: II, A DIF: Moderate

REF: page 42 OBJ: 2

11. The Hyksos were finally expelled from Egypt by:
- A. Hatshepsut.
 - B. Thutmose I.
 - C. Thutmose II.
 - D. Ahmose.
 - E. Ptolemy III.

ANS: D MSC: Remembering

TOP: II, A DIF: Easy

REF: page 42 OBJ: 2

12. Egypt's New Kingdom was introduced by which of the following?
- A. Cleopatra
 - B. Hatshepsut
 - C. Ahmose
 - D. Thutmose I
 - E. Ramses II

ANS: C MSC: Remembering

TOP: II, A DIF: Easy

REF: page 42 OBJ: 2

13. Hatshepsut was regularly portrayed as masculine in Egyptian statuary because:
- A. she had become a priest of Amon-Ra.
 - B. she needed to demonstrate that, like male pharaohs, she ruled in her own right.
 - C. she regularly led her troops in battle in men's clothing.
 - D. her court-appointed artists wanted to defame her.
 - E. she wanted to challenge traditional masculine authority.

ANS: B MSC: Applying

TOP: II, B, 2 DIF: Moderate

REF: page 43 OBJ: 2

14. Following the death of Hatshepsut:
- A. her mortuary temple was eventually destroyed.
 - B. she was proclaimed Egypt's greatest ruler.
 - C. attempts were made to erase her legacy.
 - D. Egyptian society entered a long period of decline.
 - E. the greatest pyramids were constructed.

ANS: C MSC: Remembering

TOP: II, B, 2 DIF: Moderate

REF: page 44 OBJ: 2

15. Which of the following was the capital of Egypt during the New Kingdom?
- A. Thebes
 - B. Alexandria
 - C. Memphis
 - D. Leontopolis
 - E. Bubastis

ANS: A MSC: Remembering

TOP: II, C DIF: Moderate

REF: page 45 OBJ: 2

16. Prior to the reign of Amenhotep IV, Amon was represented as a:

- A. man with the head of a wolf.
- B. man with the head of a lamb.
- C. woman with the head of a cat.
- D. woman with the head of a camel.
- E. man with the head of a falcon.

ANS: E MSC: Remembering

TOP: II, C DIF: Moderate

REF: page 46 OBJ: 2

17. When Akhenaten died and was succeeded by Tutankhaten,

- A. Tutankhaten continued the religious reforms of his predecessor.
- B. the priests of Amon knew their cause was hopeless.
- C. the young pharaoh stepped down from the throne, knowing he was too young to rule.
- D. the Hebrews took advantage of the opportunity to flee Egypt.
- E. the new pharaoh returned to traditional ways of worship.

ANS: E MSC: Remembering

TOP: II, D DIF: Easy

REF: page 47 OBJ: 2

18. Akhenaten represents one of the earliest moves, in Western history, toward:

- A. a centralized government with all authority resting with the ruler.
- B. centralized planning of all aspects of the country's economy.
- C. a regulated system of delivering messages throughout the country.
- D. monotheistic religious practices.
- E. a theocracy.

ANS: D MSC: Applying

TOP: II, D DIF: Moderate

REF: page 46 OBJ: 5

19. The reforms of Akhenaten:

- A. failed to convert many Egyptians to the new religion.
- B. led all subsequent pharaohs to adopt the new faith.
- C. had the support of much of the priestly class.
- D. led many Egyptians to convert to the new faith.
- E. led to Akhenaten being declared a deity after his death.

ANS: A MSC: Understanding

TOP: II, D DIF: Moderate

REF: page 47 OBJ: 2

20. By the fourteenth century B.C.E., international relations were marked by:

- A. suspicions and hostility: states wanted as little contact as possible.
- B. strictly limited trade in essential goods only: grain, oil, wine, and salt.
- C. feelings of brotherhood between the Hittites and the Assyrians.
- D. diplomatic standards, polite forms of address, gifts, and alliances.
- E. continual warfare between the regional powers.

ANS: D MSC: Understanding

TOP: III, A DIF: Moderate

REF: page 47 OBJ: 3

21. Evidence of widespread trade and diverse cultural influences was particularly pronounced in:

- A. mountain villages.
- B. small towns far away from the coast.
- C. temples and religious altars.
- D. coastal cities.
- E. agricultural areas.

ANS: D MSC: Applying

TOP: III, B DIF: Moderate

REF: pages 47–48 OBJ: 3

22. The system of writing developed by the citizens of Ugarit:
- A. combined Egyptian hieroglyphics and Mesopotamian cuneiform.
 - B. used an alphabet of about thirty symbols for the consonants.
 - C. was hopelessly inefficient for the needs of trade.
 - D. constituted a secret language used by diplomats and spies.
 - E. was adopted throughout the region as an easier alternative to Phoenician.

ANS: B MSC: Remembering

TOP: III, B DIF: Easy

REF: page 48 OBJ: 3

23. Relations after 1500 B.C.E. are more appropriately referred to as “transnational” because:
- A. of the transcendence of Egypt during the Eighteenth Dynasty.
 - B. the superpowers of the Near East created the first multinational governing body.
 - C. the political and economic networks transcended national boundaries and identities.
 - D. of the emergence of the Persian Empire as the sole political entity in the region.
 - E. boundaries between kingdoms in this period were flexible and changed often.

ANS: C MSC: Understanding

TOP: III DIF: Moderate

REF: page 48 OBJ: 3

24. Heinrich Schliemann and Sir Arthur Evans:
- A. were archaeologists who dug up Troy, Mycenae, and Knossos.
 - B. refused to accept the historical character of Homer’s *Iliad* and *Odyssey*.
 - C. argued that the Greeks had taken all their ideas from African cultures.
 - D. discovered the source of the annual flooding of the Nile.
 - E. were archaeologists who discovered Pharos, the lighthouse of Alexandria.

ANS: A MSC: Remembering

TOP: IV DIF: Easy

REF: page 49 OBJ: 3

25. The remains of the palace compound of Knossos:
- A. are older than any on the Greek mainland.
 - B. are the only surviving remains from ancient Greece.
 - C. were built by the Akkadians.
 - D. were built in Anatolia.
 - E. were built by the Egyptians.

ANS: A MSC: Remembering

TOP: IV DIF: Easy

REF: page 49 OBJ: 3

26. The Minoans:
- A. remained isolated politically and economically from the rest of the ancient world.
 - B. were civil servants in a redistributive economy, not warriors.
 - C. wrote tablets in Linear A to record their economic transactions.
 - D. can be identified as non-Greek allies of the Hittites and Egyptians.
 - E. were warrior people who conquered most of the eastern Mediterranean.

ANS: C MSC: Understanding

TOP: IV, A DIF: Moderate

REF: pages 49–50 OBJ: 3

27. The Minoan empire is described as a thalassocracy, which means:
- A. military empire.
 - B. empire of the sea.
 - C. agricultural empire.
 - D. hereditary monarchy.
 - E. dual monarchy.

ANS: B MSC: Applying

TOP: IV, A DIF: Easy

REF: page 49 OBJ: 3

28. In the late nineteenth century, the site of the epic battle of Troy was located in:

- A. Anatolia.
- B. Tunisia.
- C. Greece.
- D. Crete.
- E. Malta.

ANS: A MSC: Remembering

TOP: IV DIF: Easy

REF: page 49 OBJ: 4

29. The collapse of Mycenaean Greece in the thirteenth century B.C.E.:

- A. was caused by a Persian invasion.
- B. led to devastating effects around the ancient world.
- C. was caused by an Egyptian invasion.
- D. was the result of an outbreak of the plague.
- E. marked the beginning of the Bronze Age.

ANS: B MSC: Applying

TOP: IV, C DIF: Moderate

REF: pages 51–52 OBJ: 3

30. The discoveries of Schliemann and Evans indicated that:

- A. Bronze Age Greece contributed nothing to the ancient world.
- B. Bronze Age Greece was far more historically significant than previously thought.
- C. the battle of Troy did not actually occur.
- D. Homer did not actually exist.
- E. ancient Greeks had no interest in the arts.

ANS: B MSC: Understanding

TOP: IV DIF: Moderate

REF: page 49 OBJ: 3

31. The tomb of the Griffin Warrior indicates that:

- A. Mycenaeans viewed warriors as gods.
- B. a great deal of cultural transfer took place.
- C. Mycenaeans practiced simple, austere funeral rites.
- D. warriors were not respected in Mycenaean culture.
- E. Mycenaeans did not believe in the afterlife.

ANS: B MSC: Remembering

TOP: IV, B DIF: Moderate

REF: page 51 OBJ: 3

32. The Phoenician city of Byblos, which was a clearinghouse for papyrus, became the basis for the word:

- A. paper.
- B. book.
- C. bandage.
- D. bark.
- E. tree.

ANS: B MSC: Remembering

TOP: V, A DIF: Easy

REF: page 54 OBJ: 4

33. Members of the group known in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) as the Philistines shared cultural affinities with the:

- A. Egyptians.
- B. Minoans.
- C. Mycenaeans.
- D. Hyksos.
- E. Hittites.

ANS: C MSC: Applying

TOP: V, C DIF: Moderate

REF: page 56 OBJ: 4

34. Much of what we know about the Philistines comes from the:

- A. Persians.
- B. Greeks.
- C. Hittites.
- D. Hebrews.
- E. Egyptians.

ANS: D MSC: Remembering

TOP: V, C DIF: Easy

REF: page 56 OBJ: 4

35. The Hebrew Bible is an unparalleled historical source that describes the cultural practices and theological development of the Hebrew people. However, most historians believe that:

- A. the biblical stories are essentially unique to the Hebrews, with no parallels in other Near Eastern societies.
- B. few historical events actually happened as they are described in the text.
- C. it represents a factual account of the events it relates—the most accurate record of the period we have today.
- D. the Hebrew people never really struggled with the Canaanites.
- E. the Bible's composite nature means that each biblical book should be analyzed within its particular context.

ANS: E MSC: Applying

TOP: V, D DIF: Difficult

REF: page 57 OBJ: 4

36. The Hebrew people, according to archaeological and linguistic evidence, were essentially:

- A. Egyptian.
- B. Philistine.
- C. Chaldean.
- D. Canaanite.
- E. Hyksos.

ANS: D MSC: Remembering

TOP: V, C DIF: Moderate

REF: page 57 OBJ: 4

37. The story of Moses's childhood was apparently based on a similar story about:

- A. Hammurabi.
- B. Darius.
- C. Sargon the Great.
- D. Ramses II.
- E. Thutmose.

ANS: C MSC: Remembering

TOP: V, D DIF: Easy

REF: page 57 OBJ: 4

38. King David's rule was significant in establishing:

- A. the principle of monarchy: in God's eyes, whatever a king does is right.
- B. a unified Israelite people with a new national capital at Jerusalem.
- C. Israeli claims to rule over the East Bank of the Jordan.
- D. an empire that dominated its neighbors for centuries.
- E. a ruling family that has lasted to the present day.

ANS: B MSC: Understanding

TOP: V, F DIF: Moderate

REF: page 58 OBJ: 4

39. Influenced by their long struggle to survive, the Assyrians:

- A. tried to appease their neighbors' demands for food and land.
- B. refused to share their advanced culture and political system.
- C. created a multicultural union of civilized states.
- D. acted very aggressively toward other peoples.
- E. developed a diverse cultural empire that outlasted its political influence.

ANS: D MSC: Applying

TOP: VI, A DIF: Moderate

REF: page 59 OBJ: 4

40. The earlier Assyrian empire had been devastated by the _____, but in the ninth century B.C.E., the foundations for a neo-Assyrian empire were laid by Assurnasirpal II.

- A. Phoenicians
- B. Mycenaeans
- C. Minoans
- D. Sea Peoples
- E. Egyptians

ANS: D MSC: Remembering

TOP: VI, A DIF: Easy

REF: page 59 OBJ: 4

41. The Assyrian king:

- A. also served as chief priest of the Assyrian religion.
- B. was in constant conflict with the chief priests of the Assyrian religion who used their power over the people to challenge the powers of the ruling class.
- C. did not act as a military leader but as a god embodied on earth.
- D. was chosen from a band of select warriors rather than being a hereditary position.
- E. was purely a military leader who ruled with a co-king who was the political leader.

ANS: A MSC: Remembering

TOP: VI, B DIF: Easy

REF: page 60 OBJ: 4

42. The Assyrians modeled their laws on:

- A. laws written by Egyptian pharaohs.
- B. the laws of the Hittites.
- C. Hammurabi's Code.
- D. religious beliefs.
- E. the laws of conquered enemies.

ANS: C MSC: Remembering

TOP: VI, B DIF: Moderate

REF: page 61 OBJ: 4

43. Unlike other rulers, Cyrus of Persia (559–529 B.C.E.):

- A. introduced metallic coinage in Asia Minor.

- B. took the Hebrew people into captivity in his capital city.
- C. lost a great empire to the barbarian tribes of Central Asia.
- D. granted self-rule and religious freedom to conquered peoples.
- E. granted self-rule to conquered peoples who accepted the Persian religion.

ANS: D MSC: Remembering

TOP: VII, A DIF: Moderate

REF: page 64 OBJ: 4

44. Before the Persian Empire could be formed, the Persian people had first to defeat their rulers, the:
- A. Babylonians.
 - B. Egyptians.
 - C. Lydians.
 - D. Assyrians.
 - E. Chaldeans.

ANS: E MSC: Remembering

TOP: VII DIF: Easy

REF: page 64 OBJ: 4

45. The accomplishments of King Darius of Persia included:
- A. recruiting foreign mercenaries for his armies.
 - B. building roads for transport and postal service.
 - C. extending Persian rule over Greece and the Aegean.
 - D. capturing the bandits that had terrorized Persepolis.
 - E. conquering the civilization of the Indus River Valley.

ANS: B MSC: Remembering

TOP: VII, B DIF: Easy

REF: pages 65–66 OBJ: 4

46. Zarathustra attempted to redefine religion:
- A. as a set of ritual practices centered on animal sacrifice.
 - B. so that it would be concerned more with dietary rules and ritual.
 - C. as the mystical insights achieved through fasting.
 - D. as ethical practices common to all people.
 - E. as practices centered on temple worship conducted by priests.

ANS: D MSC: Applying

TOP: VII, C, 1 DIF: Moderate

REF: page 67 OBJ: 4

47. The scriptures of Zoroastrianism were known as:
- A. the Torah.
 - B. the Koran.
 - C. Hammurabi's Code.
 - D. the Avesta.
 - E. The Republic.

ANS: D MSC: Remembering

TOP: VII, C DIF: Moderate

REF: page 67 OBJ: 4

48. The Hebrew people became unified in their worship of Yahweh due to:
- A. Moses forbidding the worship of false gods.
 - B. Saul outlawing all other activities of worship.
 - C. the kings of Judah imposing the worship of Yahweh on the kingdom of Israel.
 - D. prophetic insistence on the need for a united Hebrew identity under neo-Assyrian rule.
 - E. the destruction of the city of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar.

ANS: D MSC: Understanding

TOP: VIII, A DIF: Moderate

REF: page 71 OBJ: 5

49. The Hebrews were allowed to return to their lands following the conquest of Babylon by:

- A. Hammurabi.
- B. Ramses II.
- C. Thutmose II.
- D. Amenhotep IV.
- E. Cyrus.

ANS: E MSC: Applying

TOP: VIII, C, 2 DIF: Moderate

REF: page 72 OBJ: 5

50. Which Hebrew prophet is attributed with bringing a strict interpretation of the Torah from Persia to Jerusalem?

- A. Ezekiel
- B. Moses
- C. Ezra
- D. Abraham
- E. Nathaniel

ANS: C MSC: Remembering

TOP: VIII, C, 2 DIF: Moderate

REF: page 72 OBJ: 5

TRUE/FALSE

1. Anatolia grew in wealth and became urbanized in part due to the Assyrians who changed from a nomadic lifestyle to become caravan merchants.

ANS: T MSC: Remembering

TOP: I, B DIF: Easy

REF: page 41 OBJ: 1

By 1900 B.C.E. the nomadic Assyrians had become caravan merchants and assisted in urbanizing Anatolia.

2. The Hittites were ruthless warriors who saw no value in incorporating the culture of their conquered enemies.

ANS: F MSC: Remembering

TOP: I, B DIF: Moderate

REF: page 41 OBJ: 1

In addition to being fearsome fighters, the Hittites also incorporated elements of the peoples they conquered, such as adopting cuneiform.

3. The Hyksos invasion of Lower Egypt allowed the Nubians to establish an independent kingdom.

ANS: T MSC: Applying

TOP: II DIF: Moderate

REF: page 42 OBJ: 2

Although the Hyksos only conquered Lower Egypt and left Upper Egypt independent, the pharaohs who ruled from Thebes in this period were weakened by the Hyksos control of the Lower Kingdom. The Nubians took advantage of the weakened state of the Upper Kingdom to establish the independent kingdom of Kush.

4. Thutmose I was the pharaoh who expelled the Hyksos and restored Egyptian confidence and reunification.

ANS: F MSC: Remembering

TOP: II DIF: Moderate

REF: page 42 OBJ: 2

Ahmose was the pharaoh who expelled the Hyksos.

5. The term *thalassocracy* means “sea empire.”

ANS: T MSC: Remembering

TOP: IV, A DIF: Moderate

REF: page 49 OBJ: 3

The Minoan thalassocracy united many of the Greek islands from 1900 to 1500 B.C.E.

6. The Minoans worshiped an early form of the Greek pantheon of gods and goddesses.

ANS: F MSC: Remembering

TOP: IV, A, 1 DIF: Easy

REF: page 49 OBJ: 3

Judging by images from the palace and temple complexes on Crete, the Minoans seem to have worshiped a god who took the form of a bull or a bull-man. This worship also appears to have led to the development of the ritual sport of bull-leaping.

7. The center of Mycenaean society was the village, which gave a sense of family and responsibility to the people and encouraged loyalty to the king, who was depicted as a father to his people.

ANS: F MSC: Remembering

TOP: IV, B, 2 DIF: Easy

REF: page 51 OBJ: 3

The Mycenaeans developed their enormous palace-citadels into complex societies, incorporating over 100,000 inhabitants in a single ruler's kingdom.

8. The effect of the arrival of the Sea Peoples on the Near East was to force fledgling kingdoms to unite, through conquest or consent, in order to stand up to this new threat.

ANS: F MSC: Remembering

TOP: IV, C DIF: Easy

REF: page 54 OBJ: 4

The effect of the Sea Peoples was devastating, toppling the Mycenaean, Assyrian, and Hittite empires, forcing Greece into a dark age and contributing to the decline of Egypt's power in the period.

9. The Greek term *Phoenician* means "purple people."

ANS: T MSC: Remembering

TOP: V, A DIF: Easy

REF: page 54 OBJ: 4

The Phoenician coast yielded a valuable purple dye from the murex snail in such large quantities that they became famous for it.

10. The word "philistine" has come to be synonymous with sophistication and refinement.

ANS: F MSC: Applying

TOP: V, C DIF: Moderate

REF: page 55 OBJ: 5

11. Most of our knowledge of the ancient Hebrews comes from Egyptian records of them.

ANS: F MSC: Understanding

TOP: V, D DIF: Easy

REF: page 56 OBJ: 5

Most of our knowledge of the Hebrews comes from their own writings, particularly their early scriptures.

12. The first five books of the Old Testament are usually attributed to Abraham.

ANS: F MSC: Remembering

TOP: V, D DIF: Moderate

REF: page 57 OBJ: 5

The first five books in the Hebrew Bible are generally ascribed to Moses.

13. The grand temple complex in Jerusalem was built by David.

ANS: F MSC: Remembering

TOP: V, G DIF: Easy

REF: page 58 OBJ: 5

The temple was built by David's son, Solomon.

14. The Neo-Assyrians saw military conquest as a way of worshipping their god, Assur.

ANS: T MSC: Remembering

TOP: VI, C DIF: Easy

REF: page 62 OBJ: 4

The Neo-Assyrians believed that the god Assur required constant military conquest.

15. The "Babylonian captivity" of the Hebrew people began in the rule of Cyrus the Great.

ANS: F MSC: Remembering

TOP: VIII, C DIF: Easy

REF: page 72 OBJ: 4, 5

Cyrus ended the captivity and ruled with great tolerance.

ESSAY

1. What was the effect of the Hyksos invasion on Egypt?

ANS: The conquest of Lower Egypt by the Hyksos dissolved Egyptian central authority, dividing Lower Egypt, which was ruled by the Hyksos, from Upper Egypt, which, though weakened, remained in Egyptian hands. Although the Hyksos incorporated themselves into Egyptian society and their rulers took on the role of Pharaoh, they were still regarded as foreigners who ruled Egypt illegitimately. As a result of a divided and weakened Egypt, the Nubians to the south managed to create the independent kingdom of Kush. Fearing the power of an independent and powerful Nubian Kingdom, the ruling family in Thebes, led by the pharaoh Ahmose, managed to unite the Egyptian people and expel the Hyksos. This ushered in Egypt's New Kingdom. The pharaohs of the Eighteenth Dynasty were thus warriors, and they continued to gain territory and strengthen Egypt. By the reign of Thutmose I (c. 1504–1492), Egypt ruled territory from Nubia in the south to the Euphrates River in the north and was at the height of its power.

TOP: II MSC: Understanding REF: page 42 DIF: Moderate OBJ: 2

2. How did Akhenaten differ from his predecessors in his religious practices?

ANS: Prior to the reign of Akhenaten, the Egyptians worshipped a number of gods and goddesses. Chief among them was Amon-Ra, who was often represented as a man with the head of a falcon. Another important god in the Egyptian pantheon was Aten, who was believed to traverse the sky each day. When Akhenaten became pharaoh in approximately 1353 B.C.E., Aten was elevated to the position of “sole god.” It was at this point that Akhenaten chose that name for himself (his actual name was Amenhotep IV). The name means “it pleases Aten.”

Though sometimes misunderstood as an early monotheist, Akhenaten actually saw himself as a god along with Aten. The old gods and goddesses were abandoned, with their images and inscriptions to them removed from temples. The actions of Akhenaten were controversial and many Egyptians, who were essentially a conservative people, found them unacceptable. Following the death of Akhenaten, his son-in-law, Tutankhamen, reestablished the old traditional gods and goddesses.

TOP: II, D MSC: Understanding REF: pages 46–47 DIF: Moderate OBJ: 2

3. In what ways can it be said that the Late Bronze Age was an “international system”?

ANS: The Late Bronze Age saw a boom in international relations, as illustrated by the large amount of correspondence extant between rulers of this period. There was an increase in international, diplomatic marriages, and professional envoys journeyed frequently between centers of power. Many of these envoys also included merchants who sought out new trading routes or centers. Seaborne trade flourished, allowing small seaside towns to prosper, while the larger empires and cities improved overland routes. Trade routes

were for the transport not only of goods and gold, but also of artistic motifs, literary and religious ideas, architecture, and technology. The search for markets, resources, and trade routes heightened economic competition, but the sharing of goods and ideas also promoted greater understanding between cultures; the treaties of this period illustrate this new relationship. This new system also brought with it great fragility, however, as cities and countries began to be dependent on each other's economy. One crash or even decline of a city or empire could spell disaster elsewhere.

TOP: III, A, B; IV MSC: Understanding REF: page 48 DIF: Moderate OBJ: 3

4. How did the cultures of the Minoans and Mycenaeans contribute to the development of Greece?

ANS: Both the Minoans and the Mycenaeans relied on the sea to conduct trade and to foster diplomatic relationships that would become a characteristic of the Greek world. The Minoans employed a huge and powerful fleet of ships for both trade and protection, and the Mycenaeans built their empire out of both trading and raiding with their ships. The great power and multiple uses of a strong and large fleet of ships would be an example that several of the later Greek city-states would use to great effect. Both Minoans and Mycenaeans had large centralized citadels and palaces that were centers of manufacture and political power. From these centers they created a tight network of international commercial and diplomatic relationships especially with peoples and cities in Anatolia. This pattern was one the classical Greek city-states would aim to follow, though the city-states themselves were generally much smaller than these older centers. Furthermore, the language spoken and written by the Minoans, the as not yet decoded Linear A, and the Linear B of the Mycenaeans seem to have developed into the written language of the classical Greek city-states.

Mycenaean Greece, perhaps because its culture reached its height nearer to the time of classical Greece, influenced classical Greece in other ways. The Mycenaeans seem to have worshiped an early version of the classical Greek pantheon of gods and goddesses, which suggests that their religion was shared with the later inhabitants of classical Greece. In addition, the *damas*, a Mycenaean class with many economic and political rights, may have been the forerunner of the *demos*, the citizen class in classical Greek city-states.

TOP: IV, A, B MSC: Analyzing REF: pages 49–51 DIF: Moderate OBJ: 3

5. Describe the effect of the Sea Peoples on the kingdoms and economies of the Late Bronze Age.

ANS: The Sea Peoples disrupted the northern trade networks, which had a profound effect on the Mycenaeans. Because the huge populations of the Mycenaean citadels relied on trade, a disruption meant a sudden lack of funds, and therefore a lack of food and supplies for the overpopulated cities. War was likely fought not only with the Sea Peoples but with each other for food and other goods. Many letters exist from kings all across the Mediterranean begging other leaders for help. A wave of refugees fled the Aegean basin, contributing to problems in Greece and Asia Minor. The undermining of commerce also devastated

the economy of the Hittites whose kingdom quickly fell. The great cities were left in ruins, and many empires fell to be replaced by fledgling kingdoms. Greece suffered over 90% depopulation and entered a period of relative isolation from which it would not emerge for approximately 250 years. Egypt survived the assaults of the Sea Peoples, thanks to the narrow victory of Ramses III, but without its trading partners, Egypt also entered a period of decline. Assyria, the Kassites, and Babylon all fell from outside pressures and internal economic collapse.

TOP: IV, C MSC: Understanding REF: pages 51–54 DIF: Easy OBJ: 4

6. What significant contributions were made by the Phoenicians?

ANS: Known primarily for their abilities as sailors, the Phoenicians made numerous contributions to the ancient world. As expert sailors, one obvious contribution was in the field of navigation, a field in which their knowledge was spread to the Greeks and other Mediterranean cultures. The alphabet also owes a great deal to the Phoenicians, who didn't invent it, but were likely responsible for the transmission of the alphabet to other Mediterranean cultures. Both the Aramaic and Greek alphabets were influenced by the earlier Phoenician one.

Phoenicians were also adept at spreading their culture throughout the Mediterranean rim. They established colonies in North Africa, Italy, and Spain. Phoenician traders traveled throughout the ancient world, and likely played an important part in shaping Greek culture by exposing Greeks to ideas and influences beyond Greek city-states.

TOP: V, A MSC: Understanding REF: pages 54–55 DIF: Easy OBJ: 4

7. What was the Phoenician sphere of influence in the Early Iron Age?

ANS: The Phoenicians were merchants and traders and to facilitate that trade, they founded independent colonies that served as trading posts throughout the Mediterranean. The most famous of these colonies was Carthage. Founded in the ninth century B.C.E. in modern-day Tunisia, Carthage came to dominate trade in the Western Mediterranean, though its success also made it a target for the growing Roman Republic. The Phoenicians traded many types of goods, including timber, dyes, and glass, to ports all over the Mediterranean from the Levant to Iberia. The Phoenicians' trade with the Greeks during the Greeks' period of isolation following the collapse of the Mycenaeans may have helped to reintroduce urban life in Greece. But the clearest indication of how widespread the Phoenician sphere of influence was how widely their alphabet, a simple 22-character system of writing, was adopted. The letter formations form the basis of ancient Greek, Hebrew, and Latin scripts and thus became the basis of the writing systems of many modern Indo-European languages.

TOP: V, A–B MSC: Understanding REF: pages 54–55 DIF: Moderate OBJ: 3

8. Compare and contrast the strengths and weaknesses of the Davidic dynasty in the Hebrew Kingdom.

ANS: Davidic kingship saw an unparalleled growth in the power and prestige of the Hebrew nation. Under the rule of David, the Philistines were defeated and confined to a small piece of coastal land. David also defeated the Moabites and the Ammonites, peoples who inhabited neighboring territories to the newly united Israel. David built a capital at Jerusalem, halfway between the southern tribes of Judah and the northern tribes of Israel; his purpose was not to show favor to any one area, but rather to unite those tribes under his rule and under the cult of Yahweh that was centered in Jerusalem as well. His son, Solomon, continued David's ambitious building program and maintained an impressive standing military. However, this building and aggrandizing came at great cost. Solomon imposed a highly unpopular system of taxation and forced labor and military duty on his subjects, even employing slaves to mine gold and copper. Solomon ruled as a despot, and ultimately, his harsh oppression, which included conscription of his peoples and four months of forced labor every year, proved to be overwhelming. At the end of Solomon's rule, he faced many rebellions, which turned to open revolt in his son's reign.

TOP: V, E MSC: Analyzing REF: page 58 DIF: Moderate OBJ: 4

9. Analyze the role of warfare and terror in the formation, rulership, and fall of the Assyrian empire.

ANS: Due to the location of their homeland in northern Mesopotamia, the Assyrians had to struggle from the beginning against their powerful neighbors: the Babylonian empire, the Egyptians, the Hittites, and the Sea Peoples. This centuries-long fight for existence had a profound effect on the Assyrians, who became aggressors in turn, extending their own power and influence through brutal treatment of their neighbors during the creation of the Neo-Assyrian Empire. The constant fighting often threatened the empire, but at the same time fostered the creation of a powerful standing army. In the hands of an able ruler such as Assurnasirpal II, the Neo-Assyrians were able to turn their war machine on their enemies with great success. The empire created by Assurnasirpal II and his son was built through oppression and was often thrown into periods of revolt. It was an armed state, built on the ability to spread terror and oppress enemies and subjects alike. The religion of the Neo-Assyrians was likewise warlike. The Assyrian god Assur demanded that his worship be extended through military conquest, and thus holy war dominated the religious and military ethos. The brutality of the Neo-Assyrians served them well in carving out an empire but eventually worked against them. After the death of the powerful king Assurbanipal, a coalition formed between the Medes of Iran and the Chaldeans who launched a revolt against their oppressors and destroyed the capital city of Nineveh in 612 B.C.E.

TOP: VI MSC: Analyzing REF: pages 59–62 DIF: Moderate OBJ: 4

10. What factors contributed to the success of the Persian Empire?

ANS: Excellent leadership was a core asset of the Persians. Cyrus's superb military skill not only added the prosperous lands of Lydia and Babylon to his empire, but his policy of toleration allowed the conquered peoples to have a degree of self-determination and to retain their identity. This policy was especially important for the Hebrew people whom he freed from Babylonian captivity. The toleration and good treatment of his peoples was a policy that Cyrus's successors, including Darius, continued. Unlike previous empires, the Persians could count on the loyalty of their subjects because of the latitude they gave to their people.

Dedication to the well-being of the empire also contributed to the Persian Empire's success. Darius's improvements and building projects included not only an imperial palace, but also a system of canals that connected the Nile to the Red Sea, greatly facilitating trade and increasing agricultural production. Communication also greatly improved under Darius thanks to his vast road system, and a postal system was made possible by the creation of such excellent means of travel. Unlike the Davidic kings of Israel, the Persian kings kept taxation low and tribute modest while also regulating forms of tax collection, standardizing currency, and enforcing the law. Their military success tempered with domestic interest and a tolerant rule created a powerful and stable empire, in stark opposition to the physically and economically brutal kingdoms of the era.

TOP: VII, A–B

MSC: Analyzing

REF: pages 64–66

DIF: Moderate

OBJ: 4

