

AP WORLD HISTORY - PRINCETON REVIEW BOOK OUTLINE

PERIODIZATION I: Technological and Environmental Transformations: 8000 BCE – 600 BC

I. NOMADS – NEOLITHIC REVOLUTION – EARLY RIVER VALLEY CIVILIZATIONS

- Foraging vs. Pastoral societies – characteristics
- Neolithic (Agricultural) Revolution
 - characteristics – consequences – impact
- Bronze Age
- Why importance of rivers (valleys) for early civilizations?
- Civilization – major characteristics?
- City-states
- Mesopotamia – geographic location
- **Sumer**
 - cuneiform
 - polytheism
 - ziggurats
- **Babylon**
 - Code of Hammurabi
- **Hittites** – major development?
- **Persian Empire**
 - “Great Royal Road”
- **Lydians**
- **Phoenicians**
- **Hebrews**
- **Egypt**
 - cycle of Nile River compared to Tigris-Euphrates in Mesopotamia/
 - hieroglyphics
 - polytheism-mummification-pyramids
 - social “pyramid”
- **Indus Valley**
 - “contact” with others compared to Mesopotamian civilizations? Why?
 - Harappa / Mojenjo-Daro – significance? Features?
 - **Aryans** – what important things do they bring to the region with their invasions? Features?
- **Shang China** – Yellow River Valley (1600 BCE – 1100 BCE)
 - what cultural attitudes develop?
 - Technological achievements?
 - patriarchal
- **Zhou China** (1100 BCE – 256 BCE) – longest dynasty
 - Mandate of Heaven
 - Feudalism
 - bureaucracies
- **Bantus** – West Africa (1500 BCE)
 - originated? Why migration?
 - major effects of the Bantu migrations?
- **Chauvin**
 - settled in what area of South America? Geographic/Predecessors to what people?
 - Adaptation to environmental challenges?



AP WORLD HISTORY REVIEW

PERIODIZATION I (8000 BCE – 600 BCE)

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Answer ALL parts of the question below:

- A. Identify and Explain ONE common geographic feature of the Neolithic Revolution as it occurred in East Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East.
- B. Identify and Explain ONE feature that distinguished the Neolithic Age from the Paleolithic Age.
- C. Identify and Explain ONE significant technological development that occurred during the Neolithic Age.

2. Use the passage below and your knowledge of world history to answer all parts of the question.

“Women and men entered the historical process under different conditions and have passed through it at different rates of speed. If recording, defining, and interpreting the past marks man’s entry into history, this occurred for males in the third millennium BCE. It occurred for women (and only some of them) with a few notable exceptions in the 19th century. Until then, all History was for women pre-History.”

- Gerda Lerner, The Creation of Patriarchy, 1986

- A. Provide TWO pieces of evidence from ancient civilizations that support the argument in the passage, and explain how EACH piece of evidence supports the argument.
- B. Provide ONE piece of evidence from ancient civilizations that undermines this argument, and explain how it undermines the argument.

3. Many historians argue that the Neolithic Revolution marks a major turning point in human history.

- A. Provide TWO pieces of evidence that support this argument and explain how each piece of evidence supports the argument.
- B. Provide ONE piece of evidence that undermines this argument and explain how it undermines the argument.

4. Some historians have argued that the adoption of agriculture during the Neolithic period and the adoption of industrial production during the 19th and 20th centuries are the two most important transformations in world history.

- A. Identify and Explain TWO shared results of both transformations that would support the historians’ assertion.
- B. Identify and Explain another transformation in world history that can be interpreted as being of equal or greater importance.

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

Questions 1.1 to 1.3 refer to the table below.

Year	Population
10,000 years ago	100,000
7,000 years ago	1,000,000
3,000 years ago	3,300,000
10,000 years ago (8000 BCE)	4,000,000
7,000 years ago (5000 BCE)	5,000,000

- 1.1 How did culture change between 1,000,000 years ago and 10,000 years ago?
- (A) People changed how they lived and thought very little.
 - (B) People adapted to new environments and developed new tools.
 - (C) People developed writing and formed the first cities.
 - (D) People survived primarily by farming crops that were easy to grow.
- 1.2 The best explanation for the change in world population between 10,000 years ago and 7,000 years ago is the development of
- (A) better weapons to fight off predators
 - (B) early forms of religious belief, such as animism
 - (C) better means of food production
 - (D) standing armies that could protect people
- 1.3 Most historians agree with which theory explaining early human migration?
- (A) Humanity spread while all the continents were still connected.
 - (B) The human species developed independently in several different parts of the world.
 - (C) Humanity began in East Africa and spread to the rest of the world.
 - (D) The first region to be populated by humans was the Middle East and the last region was the Americas.

Questions 2.1 to 2.3 refer to the passage below.

“Within four thousand years of its introduction, agriculture had dramatically transformed the face of the earth. Human beings multiplied prodigiously, congregated in densely populated quarters, placed the surrounding lands under cultivation, and domesticated several species of animals. . . . Like the transition from foraging to agricultural societies, the development of cities and complex societies organized around urban centers was a gradual process rather than a well-defined event. Because of favorable location, some Neolithic villages and towns attracted more people and grew larger than others. Over time, some of those settlements evolved into cities.”

Jerry Bentley and Herbert Ziegler, *Traditions and Encounters: Global Perspectives on the Past*, 2003

- 2.1 Which of the following would be the most important factor determining a “favorable location” in the evolution of a village into a city?
- (A) nearby mountains that could provide a barrier to foreign invasion
 - (B) a plentiful supply of clay to produce pottery
 - (C) surrounding areas filled with animals to be hunted
 - (D) a predictable supply of drinking water
- 2.2 A major difference between a village and a city in Neolithic times was
- (A) cities possessed greater specialization of labor
 - (B) cities tended to be on higher ground for defensive reasons
 - (C) villages were more democratic and cities were more autocratic
 - (D) religion was more important in villages
- 2.3 Which feature was most important in the complex societies of the Neolithic times?
- (A) patriarchy
 - (B) stone tools
 - (C) monotheism
 - (D) specialization of labor

Questions 3.1 and 3.2 refer to the image below.



Source: © The Trustees of the British Museum

3.1 This pestle for mashing taro found in Papua, New Guinea, and believed to be 8,000 years old indicates that the people in the region had

- (A) relied upon crops that they grew
- (B) lived nomadic lives
- (C) developed trade with other oceanic cultures
- (D) independently developed the ability to smelt iron

3.2 The creation of this pestle indicates that the people who made it had which form of technology?

- (A) rafts and sailboats
- (B) the control of fire
- (C) possession of the wheel
- (D) farming implements

Questions 1.1 to 1.3 refer to the excerpts below.

- 1. If a man commits a murder, that man must be killed.
- 3. If a man commits a kidnapping, he is to be imprisoned and pay 15 shekels of silver.
- 18. If a man knocks out the eye of another man, he shall weigh out $\frac{1}{2}$ a mina of silver.
- 28. If a man appeared as a witness, and was shown to be a perjurer, he must pay fifteen shekels of silver.

Laws of Ur-Nammu, Mesopotamia, c. 2100 B.C.E.

- 6. If anyone steal the property of a temple or of the court, he shall be put to death, and also the one who receives the stolen thing from him shall be put to death.
- 195. If a son strike his father, his hands shall be hewn off.
- 196. If a man put out the eye of another man, his eye shall be put out.
- 229. If a builder build a house for someone, and does not construct it properly, and the house which he built fall in and kill its owner, then that builder shall be put to death.
- 282. If a slave say to his master: "You are not my master," if they convict him his master shall cut off his ear.

Law Code of Hammurabi, Mesopotamia, c. 1750 B.C.E.

1.1 The two excerpts above best support which conclusion?

- (A) Rulers wanted to create order in growing cities.
- (B) People desired to incorporate the gods into everyday life.
- (C) Merchants hoped to expand existing intraregional trade networks.
- (D) Societies needed to address the growing patriarchal nature of cities.

1.2 Which explains why the second excerpt is more harsh than the first?

- (A) constant attacks by neighboring empires
- (B) demands made by slaves for more justice
- (C) the growth and complexity of civilization
- (D) the growing lack of religion and immorality

1.3 Which statement can best be concluded from the two excerpts above?

- (A) Mesopotamian society was decentralized in its governance.
- (B) Mesopotamian society was plagued by theft.
- (C) Mesopotamian society did not have highly developed legal codes.
- (D) Mesopotamian society was socially stratified.

Questions 2.1 to 2.3 refer to the images below.



Source: jejun / Thinkstock
Olmec Statue, c. 1200 B.C.E.



Source: Ignatius Tan / Thinkstock
Easter Island Statues, c. 1300 C.E.

2.1 A historian examining the statues from the Olmec and the Easter Island civilizations above would have the most evidence to support which of the following conclusions?

- (A) Both civilizations benefited from long distance trade with the other.
- (B) Both civilizations chose to honor key people, ancestors, or gods.
- (C) Both civilizations disappeared due to deforestation.
- (D) Both civilizations were primarily matrilineal societies.

2.2 Which conclusion about the period 8000 B.C.E. to 600 B.C.E. is most directly supported by the images above?

- (A) Systems of record keeping arose independently in all early civilizations.
- (B) Social hierarchies became less strict as states expanded.
- (C) New religious beliefs altered the political development of early civilizations.
- (D) Elaborate artistic expression suggests a surplus of agricultural labor.

2.3 Which statement identifies the clearest difference between the two civilizations represented in the images above?

- (A) The Olmec created a written language and developed a monotheistic religion, while the people of Easter Island had no written language and believed in ancestor veneration.
- (B) The language, beliefs, art, and athletics of the Olmec influenced later civilizations in Mesoamerica, while the people of Easter Island had limited influence on other civilizations due to their isolation.
- (C) The people who settled Easter Island were primarily agricultural, while the Olmec were not.
- (D) Easter Island made use of slave labor for public work projects, while the Olmec did not.

Questions 3.1 and 3.2 refer to the passage below.

“The earliest written documents are Sumerian wage lists and tax receipts, in which the symbol for beer, a clay vessel with diagonal linear markings drawn inside it, is one of the most common words, along with the symbols for grain, textiles, and livestock. That is because writing was originally invented to record the collection and distribution of grain, beer, bread, and other goods. It arose as a natural extension of the Neolithic custom of using tokens to account for contributions to a communal storehouse. Indeed, Sumerian society was a logical continuation of Neolithic social structures but on a far larger scale, the culmination of thousands of years of increasing economic and cultural complexity. Just as the chieftain of a Neolithic village collected surplus food, the priests of the Sumerian cities collected surplus barley, wheat, sheep, and textiles. Officially, these goods were offerings to the gods, but in practice they were compulsory taxes that were consumed by the temple bureaucracy or traded for other goods and services. The priests could, for example, pay for the maintenance of irrigation systems and the construction of public buildings by handing out rations of bread and beer.”

Tom Standage, *A History of the World in 6 Glasses*, 2006

3.1 Which conclusion is best supported by the passage above?

- (A) Religious authorities wielded great control over the Sumerian economy.
- (B) People first developed writing to record important religious ideas.
- (C) Compulsory taxation allowed Sumerians to conquer neighboring areas.
- (D) Sumerians established trade routes, which spread their goods to other civilizations.

3.2 Compared to the development of the Sumerian civilization as described in the passage above, the Chavin civilization (located in modern-day Peru)

- (A) was more self-sufficient so it carried on little trade
- (B) had a much weaker political system
- (C) required much less irrigation in order to carry on farming
- (D) had much less interest in organized religion

AP WORLD HISTORY – Review Material

Periodization I: 8000 BCE – 600 BCE “Technological and Environmental Transformations”

Periodization II: 600 BCE – 600 CE “Organization and Reorganization of Human Societies”

The following notes focus on the following themes during these periods:

- Trade
- Fall of the ‘Classical Civilizations’
- Major Migrations
- Class/Social systems
- Comparisons of Early Civilizations

- **The Silk Road** - This overland route extended from western China, across Central Asia, and finally to the Mediterranean area. Chinese silk was the most desired commodity, but the Chinese were willing to trade it for other goods, particularly for horses from Central Asia. There was no single route, but it consisted of a series of passages with common stops along the way. Major trade towns appeared along the way where goods were exchanged. No single merchant traveled the entire length of the road, but some products (particularly silk) did make it from one end to the other.
- **The Indian Ocean Trade** - This important set of water routes became even more important in later eras, but the Indian Ocean Trade was actively in place during the classical era. The trade had three legs: one connected eastern Africa and the Middle East with India; another connected India to Southeast Asia; and the final one linked Southeast Asia to the Chinese port of Canton.
- **Saharan Trade** - This route connected people that lived south of the Sahara to the Mediterranean and the Middle East. The Berbers, nomads who traversed the desert, were the most important agents of trade. They carried goods in camel caravans, with Cairo at the mouth of the Nile River as the most important destination. There they connected to other trade routes, so that Cairo became a major trade center that linked many civilizations together.
- **Sub-Saharan Trade** - This trade was probably inspired by the Bantu migration, and by the end of the classical era people south of the Sahara were connect to people in the eastern and southern parts of Africa. This trade connected to the Indian Ocean trade along the eastern coast of Africa, which in turn connected the people of sub-Saharan Africa to trade centers in Cairo and India.

Fall of Civilizations

Recall that all of the river-valley civilization areas experienced significant decline and/or conquest in the time period around 1200 BCE. A similar thing happened to the classical civilizations between about 200 and 600 CE, and because the empires were larger and more connected, their fall had an even more significant impact on the course of world history. Han China was the first to fall (around 220 CE), then the Western Roman Empire (476 CE), and finally the Gupta in 550 CE.

SIMILARITIES

Several common factors caused all three empires to fall:

- Attacks from the Huns - The Huns were a nomadic people of Asia that began to migrate south and west during this time period. Their migration was probably caused by drought and lack of pasture, and the invention and use of the stirrup facilitated their attacks on all three established civilizations.
- Deterioration of political institutions - All three empires were riddled by political corruption during their latter days, and all three suffered under weak-willed rulers. Moral decay also characterized the years prior to their respective falls.
- Protection/maintenance of borders - All empires found that their borders had grown so large that their military had trouble guarding them. A primary example is the failure of the Great Wall to keep the Huns out of China. The Huns generally just went around it.
- Diseases that followed the trade routes - Plagues and epidemics may have killed off as much as half of the population of each empire.

DIFFERENCES

Even though the empires shared common reasons for their declines, some significant differences also may be seen.

- The Gupta's dependence on alliances with regional princes broke down, exhibiting the tendency toward political fragmentation on the Indian subcontinent.
- Rome's empire lasted much longer than did either of the other two. The Roman Empire also split in two, and the eastern half endured for another 1000 years after the west fell.
- The fall of empire affected the three areas in different ways. The fall of the Gupta probably had the least impact, partly because political unity wasn't the rule anyway, and partly because the traditions of Hinduism and the caste system (the glue that held the area together) continued on after the empire fell. The fall of the Han Dynasty was problematic for China because strong centralized government was in place, and social disorder resulted from the loss of authority. However, dynastic cycles that followed the dictates of the Mandate of Heaven were well defined in China, and the

Confucian traditions continued to give coherence to Chinese society. The most devastating fall of all occurred in Rome. Roman civilization depended almost exclusively on the ability of the government and the military to control territory. Even though Christianity emerged as a major religion, it appeared so late in the life of the empire that it provided little to unify people as Romans after the empire fell. Instead, the areas of the empire fragmented into small parts and developed unique characteristics, and the Western Roman Empire never united again.

COMMON CONSEQUENCES

The fall of the three empires had some important consequences that represent major turning points in world history:

- Trade was disrupted but survived, keeping intact the trend toward increased long-distance contact. Trade on the Indian Ocean even increased as conflict and decline of political authority affected overland trade.
- The importance of religion increased as political authority decreased. In the west religion, particularly Christianity, was left to slowly develop authority in many areas of people's lives. Buddhism also spread quickly into China, presenting itself as competition to Confucian traditions.
- Political disunity in the Middle East forged the way for the appearance of a new religion in the 7th century. By 600 CE Islam was in the wings waiting to make its entrance onto the world stage.

Compare causes for collapse of empires including role of nomads	Results of collapse
Han Dynasty, 300 BCE - 300 CE imperial expansion beyond military control, especially pressure of Xiung Nu nomadic groups	period of disunity; rise of Buddhism; continuation of Confucian bureaucratic model; Sui and then Tang dynasty
Roman Empire, 100 BCE - 476 CE imperial expansion beyond military control, especially pressure of Hun nomadic groups	rise of Christianity; creation of Byzantine empire; feudalism in Latin West; rise of Arab caliphates

MAJOR MIGRATIONS

- **Phoenicians** - By about 2000 BCE this small group of seafaring people from a coastal area of the eastern Mediterranean Sea had set up colonies in North Africa and southern Europe. Pressured by both lack of space in their homeland and desire for prosperity from trade, the Phoenicians traveled widely over the entire Mediterranean area. To facilitate their trading, they simplified the cuneiform system, producing an alphabet with 22 characters that was far easier to learn and use. Not only did the Phoenicians spread their maritime skills, but their alphabet became the basis for alphabets in Greece, Rome, and eventually for many modern languages.
- **Israelites** - According to Judaism, the Israelites actually originated about 2000 BCE in the Mesopotamian city of Ur with the founder of the religion, Abraham. Abraham and his family migrated to the eastern Mediterranean, where they settled in a land they called Canaan. The Jews were distinctly different from other people of the area because they were monotheistic, believing in only one god. They later migrated to Egypt to escape a spreading drought. There they became slaves, and under their leader Moses, they returned to Canaan where they eventually formed the kingdom of Israel. The Jewish religion greatly influenced the people that they contacted, although it did not actively encourage conversion of non-Jews. Jewish beliefs and traditional stories were written down and later became basic to Christianity and Islam. The religion stressed the importance of prayer, worship, and good behavior — tenets that have become characteristic of many other monotheistic religions.
- **Aryans** - These herding peoples originated in the Caucasus area, but they began migrating in many directions about the mid 2nd millennium BCE. Waves of Aryan migrants invaded the Indian subcontinent, decimating the cities of the Indus Valley. The Aryans remained a nomadic people for many years, but eventually pushed eastward, settling in the fertile Ganges River area as agriculturalists. The Aryans imposed their caste system on the natives, a complex social structure with strict social status differences and virtually no social mobility. Their stories also became the basis for Hinduism.
- **Huns** – 300-400s C.E.; originated in the Gobi Desert (China) and moved to what we now call Hungary; Pushed the natives out and the natives (Goths) started to move into Roman Empire. Attila the Hun invaded Gaul (France) in 451, but they were pushed back. They then invaded Rome in 453, but Attila died and the Hun Empire quickly collapsed.
- **Germanic Peoples** – found from the Black Sea to the Rhine. In 476, Odoacer, a Visigoth, officially became the leader of Rome.

Basic features of major world belief systems

BELIEF SYSTEMS	BASIC FEATURES, INCLUDING GENDER ROLES	MAJOR AREAS
Polytheism	belief in a number of deities that can be anthropomorphic or related to the non-human world	everywhere
Confucianism	Five Relationships Mandate of Heaven	East Asia
Daoism	Yin-Yang, Dualism in Nature, People part of the balance in Nature	East Asia
Hellenism	Greek philosophy; trade and common culture throughout Mediterranean science and technology developments at Alexandria -- Library	Mediterranean
Hinduism	caste system multiple expressions of deities emphasis on ritual prayer sacred texts	South and Southeast Asia
Buddhism	Four Noble Truths Eight-Fold Path	South Asia, Central Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia
Judaism	monotheistic, emphasis on daily prayer, sacred text -- Torah	Mediterranean world
Christianity	monotheistic Jesus Christ as savior Gospels, emphasis on saints	Mediterranean world and then expansion into Latin West, areas controlled by Byzantines, Ethiopia, India
Islam	monotheistic Mohammad as prophet Qu'ran, Sufi emphasis on saints Sunni, Sh'ia split	Arabian peninsula, Mediterranean world then expansion into Islamic Spain, Persia, India, North Africa, Sudanic Africa

Class/Social Systems:

social structures a	Social stratification	Family structure	Roles of women
The caste system in Indian subcontinent	Major castes: brahmin -- priests merchants farmers untouchables	patriarchal and patrilineal	ideal: wife and mother but their labor was needed for agricultural work and domestic industries Rare cases of women rulers.
Major slave systems	Slaves could not be citizens in ancient Greece or Rome. Slaves under Islam could become free if they converted. In all agricultural societies, slavery or serfdom was a common last resort for farmers in debt or in need of military protection.	Under Islam, the mother's status determined if the child was free or slave.	Female slaves were usually for domestic work, but in large empires female slaves might be brought in the household of the elite to bear children. Under Islam, the mother's status determined if the child was free or slave.
Confucian social hierarchy	Rulers -- hereditary unless overthrown and challenger gains "mandate of heaven" Civil servants selected by examination (this system is begun during the Han dynasty) Farmers Craftspeople	patriarchal and patrilineal	ideal: wife and mother but their labor was needed for agricultural work and domestic industries. Rare cases of women rulers. (e.g. Empress Wu during the Tang dynasty)

	Merchants		
Patriarchal family structures and trends in Latin West and Byzantium	Roman Catholic Church for Latin West (remember -- power of sacrament) Rulers (lords/kings) knights serfs merchants in cities Byzantine emperors and Orthodox patriarch merchants peasants slave soldiers (Mamluks)	patriarchal and patrilineal	ideal: wife and mother but their labor was needed for agricultural work and domestic industries. Rare cases of women rulers.
Pastoral groups and other non-urban societies (some Bantu)	head of clan, tribe, lineage shepherds, horse, yak, llama, and camel breeders and trainers craftspeople slaves	combination of matriarchal and patriarchal matrileneal and patrilineal	Women included in political decision-making and major economic activities, including war sometimes

Diverse interpretations

What are the issues involved in using "civilization" as an organizing principle in world history?

This is a very "politically correct" topic. Civilization is a "western word" that is defined as having: 1) a food producing based that generated surpluses, 2) an increase in population, 3) specialization of labor, 4) a social hierarchy, 5) growth of trade, 6) centralization of political and religious authority, 7) monumental building, and 8) the development of writing and written records. Many historians would suggest that a better way of organizing world history is through studying human creativity. Civilization often implies superiority. Not all settled agricultural societies had monumental architecture or writing systems, so they appear to be "lesser" than those that did.

What is the most common source of change: connection or diffusion versus independent invention?

Major question: do civilizations develop major ideas on their own (pyramids in Egypt, ziggurats in Mesopotamia, and temples in Mayan Empire) or do they get their ideas because they had been exposed to them elsewhere. Once trading networks and missionaries travel, there's almost constant connections that lead to diffusion. Independent inventions often happened before 1000 C.E. when humans were isolated geographically from each other.

Major comparison and snapshots:

Compare development of political systems, trade systems, and migrations in major early civilizations	Major similarities	Major differences
Compare Indian compared with Chinese political traditions and institutions	Indian king linked to Braham religious traditions that say the ruler is a god-king Chinese rulers, "son of heaven", dependent on gaining and keeping the mandate of heaven	
Compare The role of nomadic groups in Central Asia with The impact of Bantu migrations in Africa	environmental causes for migration or attacks: population density made Bantu move south and east drought or cold made Xiungnu/Huns move south or west	the Bantu migration displaced foraging groups and continued creating new, small density of agricultural settlements. Central Asia nomads caused Chinese ruling elites and Roman ruling elites to lose political power.
Compare trans-Saharan trading system with the Silk Road	dependent on the role of trading cities land-based	trans-Saharan: periphery of Afro-Eurasian trade networks

trading system	luxury, non-perishable trade goods: porcelain, silk, gold, salt slaves commonly traded dependent on camel and horse transportation Muslim merchants prominent	Silk Road: heart of Afro-Eurasian trade networks, therefore more goods and people involved
Compare Indian Ocean with East European trading system	dependent on the role of trading cities both centered around major bodies of water: Indian Ocean and Black Sea slaves commonly traded syncretism: Indian Ocean -- Swahili as trading language, mix of religions in port cities East European -- Vikings used Byzantine coins and Orthodox Christianity adopted by Russians	Indian Ocean: more extensive sea routes, more technological developments with shipbuilding, use of compass from Sung China, more extensive exchange of goods and ideas, not dominated by any one political or religious group East European -- dominated by Byzantine Christians though others were allowed to participate by paying tribute



COMPARISONS OF EARLY RIVER VALLEY CIVILIZATIONS			
	CULTURE	POLITICAL ORGANIZATION	SOCIAL STRUCTURE
MESOPOTAMIA (developed by 3500 BCE)	<p>Cuneiform writing with wedge shaped characters; 2000 symbols reduced to 300</p> <p>Extensive trade with Egypt and the Indus Valley</p> <p><i>Epic of Gilgamesh</i></p> <p>Early use of bronze tools, chariots</p> <p>Advanced astronomy; math based on 60</p> <p>Pessimistic view of world, perhaps due to irregular, unpredictable flooding of the rivers</p> <p>Polytheism – gods powerful and often cruel</p> <p>Kings powerful, but not divine</p>	<p>City-states and warrior kings in almost constant conflict with one another</p> <p>Large empires in later times</p> <p><i>Hammurabi's Code and lex talionis</i> (law of retaliation)</p> <p>Competition among city states as well as frequent invasions led to less political stability than in Egypt</p>	<p>Job specialization – farmers, metallurgist, merchants, craftsmen, political administrators, priests</p> <p>Social classes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) free land-owning class 2) dependent farmers and artisans 3) slaves for domestic service (could purchase freedom) <p>Merchant class important</p> <p>Marriage contracts, veils for women; women of upper classes less equal than lower class counterparts</p>
EGYPT (developed by 3000 BCE)	<p>No epic literature</p> <p>Concerned with decorative arts, shipbuilding, some medical knowledge</p> <p>Less advanced in math and astronomy than Mesopotamians</p> <p>Less extensive trade, especially in earlier eras</p> <p>Polytheism, with pharaoh as a god</p> <p>Optimistic view of life (regular, controllable flooding of the river)</p> <p>Strong belief in the afterlife; <i>Book of the Dead</i></p> <p>Hieroglyphics – complex, pictorial language</p>	<p>Divine kingship – the pharaoh; highly centralized, authoritarian government</p> <p>Generally stable government throughout the 3 kingdoms</p> <p>Extensive bureaucracy; pharaoh's power channeled through regional governors</p>	<p>Smaller nobility than Mesopotamia; fewer merchants</p> <p>Some social mobility through the bureaucracy</p> <p>Priests have high status (only ones who understand the complex hieroglyphic written language)</p> <p>Women – probably higher status than in Mesopotamia; love poetry indicates some importance placed on male/female relationships</p> <p>One female pharaoh – Hatshepsut</p> <p>Influential wife of pharaoh – Nefertiti</p>
INDUS VALLEY (developed by 2500 BCE)	<p>Writing system only recently decipherable</p> <p>Soapstone seals that indicate trade with both Mesopotamians and China</p> <p>Pottery making with bulls and long-horned cattle a frequent motif</p> <p>Small figurines of women</p> <p>Cruder weapons than Mesopotamians – stone arrowheads, no swords</p> <p>Polytheism – naked man with horns the primary god; fertility goddesses</p> <p>Two cities: Harappa and Mohenjo-Dara</p>	<p>Assumed to be complex and thought to be centralized</p> <p>Limited information, but large granaries near the cities indicate centralized control</p>	<p>Priests have highest status, based on position as intermediaries between gods and people</p> <p>Differences in house sizes indicate strong class distinctions</p> <p>Statues reflect reverence for female reproductive function</p>

	CULTURE	POLITICAL ORGANIZATION	SOCIAL STRUCTURE
SHANG CHINA (developed by 1700 BCE)	Oracle bones used to communicate with ancestors Pattern on bones formed basis for writing system; writing highly valued, complex pictorial language with 3000 characters by end of dynasty Uniform written language became bond among people who spoke many different languages Bronze weapons and tools, horse-drawn chariots Geographical separation from other civilizations, though probably traded with the Indus Valley	Centralized government, power in the hands of the emperor Government preoccupied with flood control of the rivers	Job specialization – bureaucrats, farmers, slaves Social classes – warrior aristocrats, bureaucrats, farmers, slaves Patriarchal society; women as wives and concubines; women were sometimes shamans
MESO AND SOUTH AMERICA (developed by 1200 BCE)	Olmeecs in Mesoamerica: Highly developed astronomy; used to predict agricultural cycles and please the gods Polytheism; religious rituals important, shamans as healers Ritual ballgames Irrigation and drainage canals Giant carved stone heads; probably with religious significance Jaguar symbol important Chavin in Andean region: Polytheism; statues of jaguar men Square stone architecture, no mortar Well-developed agriculture based on maize Unique geography: lived on coast, in mountains, and in jungle	Olmeecs: apparently not united politically; unusual for ancient civilizations Chavin: probably political unification; public works operated by reciprocal labor obligations; had a capital city	Olmec: craft specializations; priests have highest status; most people were farmers Chavin: Priests have highest status; capital city dominated the hinterlands; most people were farmers

CHANGE OVER TIME – EGYPT AND WESTERN ASIA

The river valleys where civilizations first developed have been home to many people continuously over time right up to present day. In ancient times all of the areas changed significantly from their early beginnings through golden days to their eventual demise. The chart on the next page reflects change over time in two of the areas – Egypt and Western Asia, concentrating on the era from 1500 to 500 BCE.