

Chapter 2: The First River-Valley Civilizations, 3500-1500 BCE

Text pp. 28-53

KNOW:

Mesopotamia
Sumerians
Semites (Semitic)
city-state

Hammurabi
scribes
ziggurat
cuneiform

pharaoh
ma'at
Memphis
Thebes

hieroglyphics
papyrus
Harappa
Mohenjo-Daro

BE ABLE TO:

Images →

1. First kings- Sumerian rulers
2. Mesopotamian religions



3. Great pyramids

Maps →

1. p. 30: River Valley Civilizations

- identify the modern country in which you would find the following rivers
 - *Nile, Tigris/Euphrates, Indus, Huang He
- identify three river valleys that were connected through trade and one that was not.
- identify in what order these river valleys emerged.

2. p. 31: Mesopotamia

- List the four cities of Sumer.
- According to the map, what has happened to the river courses over time?
- Southern Mesopotamia is an alluvial plain. "Plain" indicates that it is flat. What does "alluvial" indicate?

3. p. 41: Egypt

- locate Lower and Upper Egypt and the geographic features that define them
- identify the resources available in the desert regions surrounding the Nile.
- locate the rule of the Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms and identify the regions conquered (when applicable)

Concepts →

- Identify the characteristics of a "civilization"
- Compare all three river valley civilizations in terms of SPICE themes
 - Examine how the environment affected the development of each society
 - Clarify the role of religion and politics and how, if so, they were connected
 - Identify and discuss the peoples and the assimilation that occurred between cultures
 - Describe the importance and impact of agriculture within each society
 - Explain the economic situation of each society including resources traded, need to trade and exchange goods vs. self-sufficiency, control of system, & importance of slavery
 - Identify each system of writing and its purposes
- Justify the reasons for failure or success of a civilization

Reading Assignments:

Section 1: Mesopotamia, pp.29- 40
Section 2: Egypt, pp. 40-48
Section 3: Indus Valley Civilization, pp. 48-52
Conclusion, pp. 52-53