Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit 1-MC

Using your notes and your textbook, answer the following questions. You may work together in groups of 2-4.

**Due on the day of the test**. PLEASE WRITE ANSWERS DOWN THE LEFT SIDE OF PAGE.

\*\* Use this a study tool for short answers and gather evidence for your short-answer test.

1. Which of the following is *not* generally considered to be an attribute of civilization?

a. monumental buildings.

b. a system for keeping records.

c. the absence of social class divisions.

d. cities that served as administrative centers.

e. a political system based on control of a defined territory.

2. Early societies developed civilizations in the floodplains of great rivers because the rivers and floodplains provided

a. a route for barge traffic.

b. fertile silt and water for agriculture.

c. spawning grounds for fish.

d. a cheap form of long-distance transportation.

e. a “natural compass.”

3. Creation myths often provide a society with a

a. means to control its unruly members.

b. foundation for its religious systems.

c. satisfactory explanation of its environment.

d. justification for war and genocide.

e. way to control its surroundings.

4. Mesopotamia was sometimes seen as a dangerous place to live by its inhabitants because of

a. angry gods.

b. frequent invasion.

c. a high crime rate.

d. wild animals.

e. flooding.

5. Agriculture in Mesopotamia depended on

a. the introduction of wheat crops.

b. a highly motivated workforce.

c. the region’s high annual rainfall.

d. large numbers of animals for fertilizer.

e. artificial canals and irrigation.

6. The earliest historically documented people of Mesopotamia were the

a. Hyksos.

b. Sumerians.

c. Timpanos.

d. Hittites.

e. Medes.

7. Which of the following is *not* included in the Semitic family of languages?

a. Elamite.

b. Phoenician.

c. Aramaic.

d. Hebrew.

e. Arabic.

8. The term city-state refers to

a. an urban center and the agricultural hinterlands it controlled

b. the political institution that ruled over ancient kingdoms.

c. an association of mutually dependent cities.

d. any number of small states which engaged in long-distance trade.

e. a large city surrounded by a protective wall.

9. In Mesopotamian cities the temples

a. were in caves and cliffs.

b. housed the cult of the deity or deities.

c. were in every home.

d. were built outside of the city walls for protection.

e. were so sacred that to enter one would result in the offender being blinded.

10. In the third millennium B.C.E., the political system that became dominant in Sumer was

a. a revolutionary council of twelve elders.

b. a theocracy with power vested in female priestesses.

c. a merchant oligarchy.

d. a democracy with the votes extended only to males.

e. a kingship with the support of priesthood and military.

11. The first king to unite many Sumerian city-states under the control of one king was

a. Golem.

b. Gilgamesh.

c. Minos.

d. Sargon.

e. Tutankhamen.

12. The Babylonian leader Hammurabi is best known for his

a. religious reforms.

b. modern political organization.

c. law code.

d. expansion of the Mesopotamian economy.

e. physical strength.

13. What motivated Mesopotamian conquests of far-reaching territories?

a. the search for living space for the burgeoning population

b. the need for vital resources

c. the desire to capture slaves

d. the desire to spread the religion of Baal

e. the search for new trade goods

14. Surprisingly, merchant activity in Mesopotamia took place without

a. barter.

b. food commodities.

c. luxury goods.

d. coins.

e. government regulation.

15. Historians can infer that Mesopotamian society was made up of

a. two classes.

b. three classes.

c. five classes.

d. seven classes.

e. no classes.

16. Women in Mesopotamian society had a lower status than in a hunter-gatherer society because of

a. the shift of the major role in food provision from women to men.

b. the requirement to serve as temple prostitutes.

c. the requirement that they not leave the house.

d. their role as primary agricultural producers.

e. their role in the military.

17. Which of the following about women in Mesopotamia was probably *not* true?

a. They could own property.

b. They brewed beer and ran taverns.

c. They could initiate divorce.

d. They manufactured textiles.

e. They worked as  prostitutes and fortunetellers.

18. Mesopotamian gods were anthropomorphic, that is, they

a. were omniscient.

b. were humanlike in form and conduct.

c. appeared in the bodies of kings while on earth.

d. were divine and perfect beings.

e. took form as the elements of nature.

19. Mesopotamian priests

a. inherited their positions from their fathers.

b. bought their positions from the temples.

c. were chosen by ritual combat.

d. were chosen by the gods through oracles.

e. were chosen by the kings.

20. The abundance of amulets suggests

a. the belief in the value of magic

b. Mesopotamian artisans were very skilled.

c. the egalitarian nature of Mesopotamian religion.

d. the large quantity of semi-precious stones available.

e. that society was extremely materialistic.

21. The Mesopotamian writing system is called

a. Linear B.

b. hieroglyphics.

c. Linear A.

d. Persian.

e. cuneiform.

23. The culture that developed in Egypt was unique largely because of

a. Egypt’s interaction with other civilizations.

b. Egyptian dominance in metalworking.

c. Egypt’s natural isolation and essential self-sufficiency.

d. Egypt’s large population.

e. Egypt’s surplus agricultural production and trade.

24. The annual flood of the Nile can best be characterized as

a. fairly regular.

b. always predictable.

c. often erratic.

d. like Mesopotamia’s annual flood, advantageous.

e. like Mesopotamia’s flood, disadvantageous.

25. Which of the following is *not* included among Egypt’s natural resources?

a. building stone

b. salt

c. turquoise and gold

d. copper

e. reeds for paper

26. A pivotal event in early Egyptian history was

a. the creation of popular democracy by King Menes.

b. the rejection of divine birth by Queen Hapshepsut.

c. the freeing of the slaves under King Gilgamesh.

d. the assassination of Ramesses.

e. the unification of all Egypt under King Menes.

27. According to Egyptian belief, the function assigned by the gods to the Egyptian kings was to maintain ma’at, or the

a. separation of the divine and natural spheres.

b. divinely authorized order of the universe.

c. subservience of the people to the king.

d. the accumulation of royal wealth.

e. welfare and prosperity of the country.

28. The Mesopotamian law code is famous. What might account for the fact that Egypt did not create a similar code of law?

a. As a god on earth, the king was the source of all law.

b. Egypt adopted Mesopotamian law codes, rather than creating their own.

c. A common law system based on precedent was used.

d. The wealthy merchant class controlled the legal system.

e. It was left to the people to determine the code of morality.

29. Egyptian administrative and government records were

a. passed down primarily through verbal orders.

b. generally not recorded in any manner.

c. written on papyrus, an early form of paper.

d. written on the walls of pyramids and temples.

e. kept mostly on stone tablets.

30. Compared with Mesopotamia, the Egyptian population

a. worked in craft and artisan trades.

b. was warlike and uneducated.

c. was more rural and agricultural.

d. was more engaged in long-distance trade.

e. lived more often in large towns and cities.

31. Egypt’s external interests were primarily concentrated on

a. defeating the threatening desert nomads.

b. war for the sake of gaining slaves.

c. acquiring new territory.

d. trading for the gold and wealth of western Africa.

e. maintaining access to valuable raw materials.

32. Slavery in ancient Egypt was

a. used primarily for large projects like the pyramids.

b. limited, and of little economic significance.

c. important in all aspects of the economy.

d. a primary aim of foreign policy.

e. the basis for developing government administrators.

33. Fundamental concepts of Egyptian religion were based upon

a. the vision of a cosmic order that the physical environment of the Nile Valley evoked.

b. extending Egyptian control over competing cultures.

c. ideas brought to Egypt from Mesopotamia.

d. each person’s individual reflection on what god is like.

e. the desires of the pharaohs.

34. The Egyptian death ritual is complex because of

a. the concern for the deceased relatives and friends.

b. the specific laws regulating hygienic disposal of corpses.

c. the high-water tables preventing burial.

d. the belief that death was a journey beset with danger.

e. the fear that the dead would return to life.

35. Mesopotamia, Egypt, and the Indus Valley civilizations were all

a. wiped out by a huge drought.

b. based on beer brewing and female labor.

c. derived from an earlier, as yet undiscovered, “watershed” civilization.

d. made possible by large agricultural surpluses.

e. based upon fertile floodplains and river valleys.

36. The two main cities of Early Indian Civilization are

a. Troy and Delhi.

b. Akkad and Thebes.

c. Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro.

d. Riazan and Antioch.

e. Syracuse and Illyria.

37. The Indus Valley system of writing

a. is called cuneiform.

b. has not been deciphered.

c. is called hieroglyphics.

d. is called Sanskrit.

e. is called Linear A.

38. Metal objects unearthed in the Indus Valley

a. belonged to the elite and wealthy classes.

b. were mostly weapons.

c. have been primarily jewelry and other decorative items.

d. were used only in urban areas.

e. have been mostly tools and other useful objects.

39. Which of the following was probably *not* one of the components of the “systems failure” that brought down the Indus Valley cities?

a. Massive flooding.

b. That the Hakra river system dried up.

c. That invaders from the north and east drove out the inhabitants.

d. Salinization of farmland.

e. Increased erosion.

40. According to the chapter, why was China’s development unique?

a. It had a small population.

b. It never developed agriculture.

c. It was geographically separate from the rest of East Asia.

d. China has always lagged behind the rest of the world in development.

e. Most of the country is desert.

41. The crops of China vary by region,

a. yams in the south and rice in the north.

b. barley in the east and hops in the west.

c. wheat and millet in the north and rice in the south.

d. barley in the south and rice in the north.

e. millet in the north and beans in the south.

42. The Chinese acquired silk by

a. hiring Japanese labor to work in textile mills.

b. encouraging Chinese “silk pirates” who raided merchant shipping.

c. raising silk worms, and pioneering silk cloth production.

d. conquest of the neighboring Mongol regions.

e. importing raw silk from Europe.

43. According to the text, what is the legacy of the Chinese writing system developed during the Shang dynasty?

a. Since many could write, power was shared with the majority, resulting in the early development of democracy.

b. It allowed the Chinese to record their own history.

c. It caused a rise in technological development, resulting in a “Chinese Industrial Revolution.”

d. It endured to unify people of essentially different spoken languages (dialects).

e. Writing developed discipline, and universal literacy.

44. During the Shang period, ancestor worship became important because

a. ancestors were necessary to ensure the birth of  male children.

b. ancestors had special influence with the gods.

c. it allowed people to claim specific inheritance of property.

d. it determined the social structure.

e. matrilineal descent was important for fertility.

45. What types of possessions were signs of status and nobility and had important ritual uses?

a. porcelain

b. tin

c. iron

d. silk

e. bronze

46. The Mandate of Heaven meant that the ruler retained the right to rule as long as

a. he remained a wise and principled guardian of his people.

b. he remained the strongest in the kingdom.

c. he produced a male heir.

d. he kept the loyalty of the military.

e. he performed the correct ritual sacrifices.

47. The period at the end of the Zhou Era and just before Chinese unification is called

a. the Era Before Empire.

b. the Spring and Autumn Period.

c. the Golden Age.

d. the Warring States Period.

e. the Time of Harmony.

48. The Chinese political system which relied primarily on strict laws and punishments in order to compel the people to behave is called

a. Rationalism

b. Legalism.

c. Maoism.

d. Daoism.

e. Confucianism.

49. Which of the following is *not* one of the ways that Confucian philosophy attempts to create societal harmony?

a. by expanding the traditional feelings of benevolence toward family so that it applied to all of humanity

b. by emphasizing the goodness of human nature, and seeking to promote it through education, particularly of public officials

c. by the avoidance of violence, and the promotion of justice, loyalty, and dignity

d. by emphasizing individual freedoms

e. by emphasizing the idea that the country is parallel to the family

50. Two indigenous Chinese philosophies that emerged from the Warring States Period are

a. Confucianism and Hinduism.

b. Confucianism and Buddhism.

c. Confucianism and Jainism.

d. Confucianism and Daoism.

e. Confucianism and Judaism.

51. The fundamental idea of Daoism can be summarized as:

a. Emphasizing communal action to promote the betterment of society.

b. Technological and social progress can solve all social ills.

c. Emphasizing aggressive action and radical change.

d. Unquestioning obedience to authority, and reverence for structure brings success.

e. Accepting the world as you find it, avoiding useless struggles, and adhering to the “path” of nature.

52. The fundamental social unit during the later Zhou period was the

a. three-generational family.

b. territorial or regional alliances.

c. individual.

d. extended clan-based kinship network.

e. village-based or tribal system.

53. The concept of yin and yang represented the complementary nature of

a. religion and the state to Chinese society.

b. the wisdom of age and strength of youth.

c. male and female roles in the natural order.

d. warrior and emperor in times of trouble.

e. good and evil in Chinese morality.

**Short Answer Study Questions**-use these questions and the comparison chart to prepare for the Unit 1 test on Tuesday. Any handwritten notes can be used on the test. These questions are not required to complete. This is a study tool/guide for you to prepare for possible questions on Tuesday ☺

**Unit 1 Topics-** Migration and Paleolithic period, Neolithic Revolution, and rise of complex societies (Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus, Shang and Zhou China)

1. Describe the social, political, economic, and technological factors necessary for a human society to be considered a civilization. Is there any problem with the word *civilization*? Why do people equate the term with their own way of life?

2. Trace the development of agriculture/Neolithic Revolution. How was it invented? How did it change the lifestyles of the people who practiced it? Did it spread, or was it reinvented in different regions of the world? How did farming become a dominant lifestyle of people in the world? How is this different from the Paleolithic (hunter-gathering) period?

3. Explain the Mesopotamian gov’t structure. What could account for how this developed? Advantages/disadvantages?

4. Describe the process by which the main framework of civilization was created in Mesopotamia (SPICE themes)

5. Social divisions are a persistent feature in civilization. Define the term *social divisions* as it is used in the text. Describe the social divisions within Mesopotamian society, and indicate the reasons for those divisions.

6. How did the status and experience of women change as Mesopotamian society developed into a civilization?

7. Discuss the importance of technology and the various Mesopotamian and Egyptian technological advances. Would you describe the Mesopotamians and or/Egyptians as “advanced”? Why?

8. Explain how the first Egyptian civilization was shaped by its natural environment.

9. One of the most enduring symbols of Egypt is the pyramids. Discuss the image of the pharaoh and the reason for construction of the pyramids.

10. Discuss the Egyptian religious beliefs and death rituals.

11. Identify and explain the role of women in each of the societies studied. How are they similar/different to each other? Why do you think they developed in this way?

12. Compare the civilizations in the Indus Valley with the civilizations in Mesopotamia, China, and Egypt. If you were a historian writing on the Indus Valley Civilization, how would you describe this society without the benefit of a deciphered written language? Possible reasons for decline of the Indus society?

13. How did the geography of China influence the development of Chinese patterns and the Chinese worldview of themselves and others outside the Chinese culture?

14. Describe early Chinese divination during the Shang dynasty.

15. Explain the importance of the Mandate of Heaven and the transition of power between dynasties in Chinese history.

16. Compare and contrast the Shang and Zhou dynasties. How did society change and/or stay the same (SPICE)?