

## Unit 2 Fertile Crescent - Mesopotamia Unit Test Review

### Mesopotamia - Fertile Crescent

#### Multiple Choice

Identify the letter of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

\_\_\_\_ 1. Early humans eventually formed hunter-gatherer societies. What conclusion can you draw from this fact?

- a. Early humans stopped making advancements in spear making.
- b. Early humans wanted to be able to stay in one area.
- c. Early humans became skilled at hunting outside of groups.
- d. Early humans had to rely on collecting plants for food.

\_\_\_\_ 2. Which of the following best defines a land bridge?

- a. mammoth bones laid out over a body of water
- b. a mountain range beside a body of water
- c. a strip of land connecting two continents
- d. a strip of coast along a rocky shore

\_\_\_\_ 3. Which of the following happened first?

- a. the Neolithic Era
- b. the Ice Age
- c. the Paleolithic Era
- d. the Mesolithic Era

\_\_\_\_ 4. Which statement best defines the Neolithic Revolution?

- a. major battle fought between people of Asia and Africa
- b. the shift from food gathering to food producing
- c. the shift from food gathering to hunting
- d. major battle fought between the peoples of Asia

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Crops grew well in Mesopotamia because

- a. the land was in mountainous areas.
- b. farmland was fertile and water was nearby.
- c. the area was near the ocean water supply.
- d. the area received adequate rainfall.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Which two land features gave Mesopotamia its name?

- a. the Fertile Crescent and the Mediterranean Sea
- b. the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean Sea
- c. the northern plateau and the southern plateau
- d. the Tigris River and the Euphrates River

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. Which sequence of events shows how Mesopotamia developed?

- a. People formed divisions of labor. The population grew. Agriculture was the basis of the society.
- b. People built cities. People grew crops. People built canals.
- c. People made laws. People moved to villages and cities. People lived where crops could grow.
- d. People settled where crops could grow. The population grew. Villages and cities formed.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. People came to work as craftsmen in Mesopotamia because of

- a. cattle and sheep herding.
- b. division of labor.
- c. rules set up by the government.
- d. flooding.

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. Which is the best explanation for why Mesopotamians built canals?

- a. They needed a way to control the river's flow.

- b. They needed a way to control flooding.
- c. They needed a way to control low water levels.
- d. They needed a way to control the surplus.

\_\_\_\_ 10. Which statement best represents the development of a civilization?

- a. People rely on hunting and gathering because it is the only way to survive.
- b. The development of cities led to inventions like irrigation.
- c. People prefer government jobs to life as a farmer.
- d. If they have a steady food supply, people can develop a complex society.

\_\_\_\_ 11. One characteristic that Sumerians believed their gods possessed was a need to

- a. help mankind.
- b. conquer other gods.
- c. worship the moon and the sun.
- d. be worshipped and pleased.

\_\_\_\_ 12. Who served a role between the Sumerians and the gods?

- a. farmers
- b. priests
- c. war chiefs
- d. political leaders

\_\_\_\_ 13. Scribes had power in Sumerian society. What can you conclude from this?

- a. People who could read and write were important.
- b. All scribes came from the upper classes.
- c. Scribes could rise through the social classes.
- d. Scribes invented pictographs and cuneiform.

\_\_\_\_ 14. Which of the following best describes cuneiform?

- a. a form of writing using picture symbols
- b. a form of writing using wedge-shaped symbols
- c. a form of writing using complex ideas such as "joy
- d. a form of writing using proverbs and songs

\_\_\_\_ 15. What was most likely the reason that ziggurats were tall?

- a. to honor the gods
- b. so they could easily be found
- c. so architects could display their work
- d. to mark the center of the city

\_\_\_\_ 16. The Sumerians believed in

- a. Monotheism
- b. Polytheism
- c. Priests
- d. Culture

\_\_\_\_ 17. Sumerians religious ceremonies took place in

- a. pyramids
- b. churches
- c. houses
- d. ziggurat

\_\_\_\_ 18. Why was the Hammurabi's Code important?

- a. It helped decode the cuneiform writing.
- b. It helped everyone know the laws and punishments.
- c. Soldiers used it to send secret messages during battle.
- d. It showed archaeologist why writing was important.

\_\_\_\_ 19. Hammurabis code demonstrated the way the Babylonian state attempted to regulate morality to \_\_\_\_\_?

- a. please Marduk.
- b. keep the state strong.
- c. keep trade alive.
- d. maintain social order.

\_\_\_\_ 20. Hammurabi create a code of nearly 300 laws to do all of the following except:

- a. further the welfare of the people
- b. destroy evil and wicked
- c. cause justice to prevail in the land
- d. encourage the strong to oppress the weak

Mesopotamia - Fertile Crescent

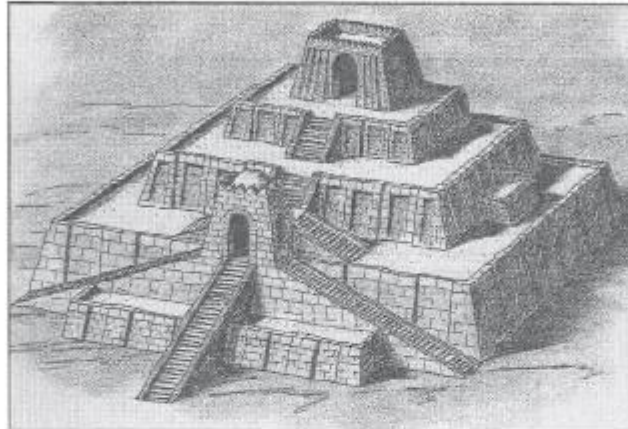
## Answer Section

### MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. ANS: B DIF: 3 OBJ: 2.1.4
2. ANS: C DIF: 1 OBJ: 2.2.1
3. ANS: C DIF: 3 OBJ: 2.3.1
4. ANS: B DIF: 1 OBJ: 2.3.1
5. ANS: B DIF: 1 OBJ: 3.1.1
6. ANS: D DIF: 1 OBJ: 3.1.1
7. ANS: D DIF: 2 OBJ: 3.1.2
8. ANS: B DIF: 1 OBJ: 3.1.2
9. ANS: A DIF: 3 OBJ: 3.1.2
10. ANS: D DIF: 3 OBJ: 3.1.1
11. ANS: D DIF: 3 OBJ: 3.2.2
12. ANS: B DIF: 1 OBJ: 3.2.2
13. ANS: A DIF: 3 OBJ: 3.3.1
14. ANS: B DIF: 1 OBJ: 3.3.1
15. ANS: A DIF: 2 OBJ: 3.3.3
16. ANS: B
17. ANS: D
18. ANS: B
19. ANS: D
20. ANS: D

**DOCUMENT #1**

Sumerians and Akkadians practiced polytheism, the worship of many gods. They believed that keeping the gods happy was key to their own happiness and prosperity. On the other hand, if the gods were angry, they might bring suffering and disaster. Sumerians built huge temples called ziggurats. They believed these temples linked Earth with the heavens and linked people with the gods.



1. Look at the illustration. Notice the number of stairs. What does the size of the temple tell you about the value the Sumerians placed on their gods?

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2. From the reading passage, what did the Sumerians and Akkadians look to their gods for?

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**Document #2**

The Epic of Gilgamesh, one of the oldest pieces of literature, is made up of ancient folklore, tales, and myths. It was written in Mesopotamia about a strong and powerful king named Gilgamesh, who was believed to be part god, part man. The story describes his desire, to live forever. Gilgamesh goes on a long journey to find the secret to immortality but in the end, he realizes that he must die like other humans.

*When the gods created Gilgamesh they gave him a perfect body. Shamash the glorious sun endowed him with beauty, Adad the god of the storm endowed him with courage, the great gods made his beauty perfect, surpassing all others, terrifying like a great wild bull. Two thirds they made him god and one third man.*

*Source: The Epic of Gilgamesh, translated by N.K. Sandars*

1. Looking at the passage from the Epic of Gilgamesh, name at least two gifts the gods gave Gilgamesh.

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2. Despite these gifts, what does Gilgamesh learn about himself at the end of the story?

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### Document 3



Sumerians created cuneiform script over 5000 years ago. It was the world's first written language. Sumerians invented this writing system to keep track of business dealings because they traded with people who lived in lands that were hundreds and even thousands of miles away. Writing was a giant leap forward in the development of civilization. People kept records and new ideas were now able to be passed easily from generation to generation. Sumerians also wrote stories, proverbs, and songs too. Cuneiform was written on clay tablets, and then baked hard in a kiln(oven).

1. What was cuneiform and who invented it?
2. Name three ways that Sumerians made use of cuneiform.