

AP World History Unit 1 Test Study Guide

Key Terms:

- **Paleolithic**- “Old Stone Age”; characterized by crude stone tools, such as axes and cleavers
- **Neolithic**- “New Stone Age”; characterized by more refined stone tools, and the beginning of agricultural lifestyles
- **Venus Statues**- statues of females with emphasized breasts and buttocks, created by prehistoric people; thought to represent fertility- for people (continuation of population), animals (since they weren’t hunting anymore, they needed animals to reproduce so that they could still have meat, milk, etc.), and soil (for more successful farming)
- **Çatal Hüyük**- A 32-acre city in Anatolia (present Turkey), built on the manufacture and trade of obsidian
- **Obsidian**- a volcanic stone, used to create incredibly sharp tools and weapons
- **Jomon**- an early Japanese hunting-gathering society that had settled but was not primarily agriculture-based; most famous for their art, especially pottery
- **Domestication of animals**- the practice of taming and raising animals
- **Slash and burn agriculture**- a method of farming where an area is first cleared by cutting down and burning the plants already there, then farming in that area
- **Egalitarian**- all people are equal; no class distinctions; everyone has the same rights
- **Hierarchical**- arranged in order of rank; social stratification

- **Urban**- city
- **Urbanization**- the creation/development of cities
- **Metallurgy**- metalsmithing; creation of tools, etc. from metal
- **Bronze Age**- an era marked by advancements in metallurgy
- **Quipu**- knots tied in string, used to record transactions (used by Sumerians, Incans, and a couple other early civilizations)
- **Scribe**- a writer/record keeper; typically an esteemed position
- **Sumerians**- People of the region Sumer, in Mesopotamia
- **Mesopotamia**- “the land between the rivers”; a region between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in the Fertile Crescent, where agricultural lifestyles and the earliest known civilizations began
- **Anatolia**- eastern Turkey
- **Ziggurats**- large, stepped temples; built in Mesopotamia
- **Cuneiform**- an early method of writing, developed by the Sumerians; marks pressed into clay tablets by styluses made of bone or hollow reeds

- **Silt**- fine, fertile sand or clay carried by running water
- **Irrigation**- a system of directing water for farming
- **Cataracts**- rapid waterfalls, which made it difficult for people to travel the Nile River
- **Indigenous**- native
- **Dynasty**- empire; line of kings
- **Monumental structures**- monuments; very large, notable structures

- **Social stratification**- hierarchical system
- **Hieroglyphs**- early Egyptian writing, in the form of pictograms
- **Rosetta Stone**- a stone, discovered by archaeologists under Napoleon Bonaparte, that provided a means of translation of hieroglyphs; contained a passage written in three scripts- hieroglyphic, demotic, and Greek
- **Mummification**- a process of preserving dead bodies for the afterlife
- **Shaduf**- a tool used for irrigation
- **Akhetaten**- a monotheistic capital city of Egypt, under King Amenhotep (Akhenaten); worshipped the sun god Aten
- **Polytheism**- recognizing and worshipping multiple gods
- **Monotheism**- recognizing and worshipping one God

- **Harappa**- one of the largest cities in the Indus Valley, nearly identical to Mohenjo-Daro; used to refer to the entire Indus civilization
- **Mohenjo-Daro**- “Hill of the Dead”; largest city in the Indus, possibly the capital
- **Granary**- a storehouse for grains
- **Citadel**- a raised area on which a fortress is typically built

- **Ban Po**- the best excavated city of the Yangshao culture; had residential area and a large building, most likely for meetings
- **Yangshao**- a culture of ancient China
- **Huang He**- the river on which the Chinese civilizations were based
- **Oracle bones**- bones thrown into a fire, and then read to predict the future
- **Patriarchal society**- a society controlled by men
- **Mandate of Heaven**- an explanation of the kings’ right to rule; states that although there is a close relationship between Heaven and the king, the king can only act in the interest of the people, and that the people can remove a weak king
- **Cavalry**- warriors on horses; first developed by the Zhou
- **Decentralized administration of government**- when a king delegates certain administrative duties and powers to lower governments (ex. city level officials)

- **Chinampas**- raised fields created by piling mud and natural vegetation of swamps into grids criss-crossed by natural irrigation channels
- **Olmecs**- a civilization along the gulf coast in Mexico, based on agriculture
- **Nazca lines**- ancient geoglyphs in the sand of the Nazca desert in Peru; depicted animals, plants, etc.; survived thousands of years
- **Trans-Saharan trade**- trade routes going across the Sahara, between the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean
- **Jenne-jeno**- a group of people who built cities along the Niger river in Africa;

Big Ideas

➔ What are reasons for human migration? How/ where did people migrate?

The biggest reason was climate change. For example, as the Sahara dried up and expanded, people had to move farther away in order to stay close to water. Other possible reasons include humans developing new skills, and increased populations leading to more conflict and eventually to settled agriculture. Current archaeological finds have suggested that the first humans lived in Africa. They probably would have migrated first into Asia, and then north through Russia and into the Americas by way of the Beringia land bridge, but this process would have taken thousands of years.

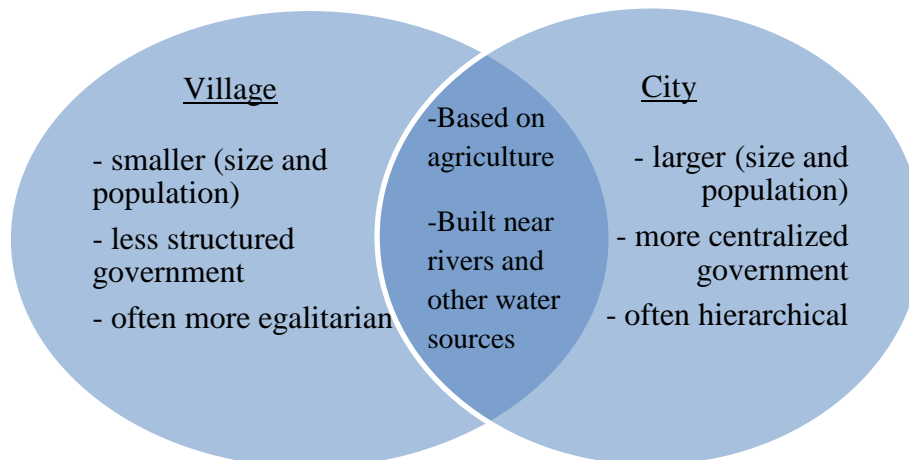
➔ Why did people settle down and begin farming, and how did this provide a foundation for the first civilizations?

Increasing populations needed larger, more sustainable food supplies. Once people cultivated plants and domesticated animals, they found that they had more time to do other things, such as develop art, form a religion, create new technologies, and organize a government. These are all aspects of many early civilizations. Moreover, farming created a surplus of food, which led to an increasing population and lifespan.

➔ How did the shift from Paleolithic to Neolithic affect people's lives?

People learned how to create more refined stone tools and weapons. These made their hunting and gathering tasks much easier, but also led to the development of agriculture, which was absolutely essential to the growth of civilizations. Also, this change meant that people had more time to develop new technology, and also specialize labor. Everyone could have had a different job- farmers, artisans, scribes, etc.

➔ Compare and contrast an agricultural village and a city.



→ What are some characteristics of early civilizations?

Mesopotamia	Egypt	Indus Valley	China	Africa	Mesoamerica	South America
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tigris and Euphrates rivers -First evidence of civilizations, settled agriculture -Developed first writing system, wheel -Lived in warring city-states, unified by one king -Hierarchy -Religious leaders held a lot of power -King considered bridge between gods and humans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Nile river: regular flooding aided farming, natural protection, natural irrigation -Hieroglyphs -Social, political hierarchies -Unified culture -Pyramids -Elaborate tombs for pharaohs and upper class people -Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms -Polytheistic religion; kings were considered gods -Cities founded on agriculture -Peaceful, then everything changed when the Assyrian empire attacked 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Indus River -Writing not yet deciphered -Biggest cities: Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro -Egalitarian society- all houses had a well, bathing space, and toilet; no class distinctions -Sewage systems -Regular constructions (ex. uniform bricks) indicate a systematic and strong government -Worshipped a Mother Goddess among other gods (polytheism); roots of Hinduism and Buddhism -Built citadels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Huang He and Yangtze rivers -Social hierarchy and patriarchy -Yangshao and Longshan cultures -Primarily domesticated animals and grains -Created pottery and tiny flutes -First dynasties: Xia, Shang, Zhou -Zhou developed cavalry -Oracle bones -Kings gave power over cities to their relatives -Practiced human sacrifice, ancestral worship -Mandate of Heaven - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Niger River -Built on agriculture -Iron smelting and artistic traditions (ex. terracotta sculptures, particularly of human heads) -Bantu people spread knowledge/culture almost as far south as the tip of Africa -Jenne-jeno people: first known indigenous group in Sub-Saharan Africa -Lived in neighboring, interdependent clusters -Reverence of ancestors -Egalitarian 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Built on lakes or mountains, rather than large river systems -Cities began as religious centers -No system of writing (except Mayans) -Practiced slash-and-burn agriculture; used chinampas -Many sites destroyed or deserted -Built temples and pyramids -Teotihuacán in the valley of Mexico marked the beginning of an urban revolution in the Americas; their grid city suggests a strong government -Close relationship between religion and administration -Aztecs: large, militaristic empire; practiced human sacrifice, overthrown by conquistadores -Maya: hieroglyph system, calendar, based on Olmec and Teotihuacán influences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Pacific Coast and Andes mountains -Few established trade link with Mesoamerica- -Had small city-states and large urban empires -Shared ceremonial centers -Inca: adapted gods, artwork, and textiles from earlier states; had a 25,000 mile road system; hereditary monarchy; massive empire; no writing system; used quipu to record transactions -Forced public labor

→ Why did warfare become a regular part of life among city-states?

Particularly in Mesopotamia, the city-states were always fighting (until Sargon came along and unified them) over control of the rivers, boundary disputes, and acquisition of resources. Some city-states also had the goal of conquering others to have more power, which would eventually lead to the formation of empires.

➔ Describe gender roles in early civilizations.

In the hunting-gathering societies, men and women were basically equal. Men hunted and women gathered. Actually, it is probable that women were more valued because gathering yielded more food than hunting. However, this all changed when people began to farm. In Mesopotamia, men were rulers but women were not. Gender distinctions are most clearly found in the Code of Hammurabi. Men and women were given very different punishments for the same crime. For example, if a woman was caught cheating on her husband, she would be thrown into the river. On the other hand, if a man was caught cheating on his wife, he would have to pay a fine. In Egypt, paintings depict men as dark-skinned and women as pale-skinned. This implies that men got to do outdoor work, such as construction, and women had to stay inside and do household work. Egypt had very few female pharaohs. China had a patriarchal society. In the Jenne-jeno tribe of Africa, a man lived in a central hut, surrounded by his wives, which means polygamy was a common practice.

➔ Why were most early civilizations built in river valleys? How did the rivers help or hurt each group?

People built their civilizations along major river systems so that they could have access to water. This was important because they needed water for everyday tasks such as drinking and bathing, but it also provided a means of irrigation, transportation, and trade. Since early civilizations were agriculture-based, they needed to be near a source of water in order to create irrigation systems. The Nile was probably the most beneficial of the rivers, because its regular flooding meant that the Egyptians had natural irrigation and fertile silt every year. Rivers could also connect people to other places in order to trade. The Nile may have been a bad means of transportation, but its impassable rapids and cataracts meant that outside invaders couldn't get to Egypt either.

➔ What did early people use metal for? Who was the first to develop metallurgy? Why was this significant?

People used only stone for tools and weapons until around the end of the Neolithic era, when metallurgy was first developed. Mesopotamia was the first to use metals, but the Chinese were the first to use bronze. Metal was used in tools, weapons, ornaments, jewelry, currency, and chariots. The use of bronze and iron was especially important because these metals were stronger than other metals, and made for better weapons in warfare.

➔ What does Hammurabi's Code tell us about Mesopotamia?

Hammurabi's Code gives us insight into gender roles (detailed above) and class distinctions. It tells us that Hammurabi was a harsh leader, but his methods were probably pretty effective. Who wants to have their hands cut off or their eyes put out? However, punishments were doled out differently based on social status. For example, one of the laws states that "If any one strike the body of a man higher in rank than he, he shall receive sixty blows with an ox-whip in public." Yikes! Also, slaves were treated as property, and punishments were dealt for helping a slave escape, or stealing another man's slave.

➔ What were some effects of civilizations on the environment?

The methods used by early people impacted the environment in many ways. For one, they created irrigation systems and canals which altered the environment. Second, their practice of slash-and-burn

agriculture was a form of deforestation, which hurt the environment. Third, they started to mine and collect other resources such as various plants, which stripped the earth of its natural resources. Fourth, people used terrace farming in the Americas, which was a method where they cut into mountainsides to create flat surfaces to farm on. Fifth, in the Indus, people developed sewage systems, which involved digging underground. Sixth, walls isolated cities from the rest of the world, which meant that animals and other species that previously dwelled there couldn't get in.

➔ How did the design of the Indus Valley cities differ from cities in other civilizations?

Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro are known for being well-planned cities. This means that they were very structured, thought-out and not just randomly constructed. Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro, despite being far apart, were nearly identical. They both consisted of equal-sized cores organized in a grid pattern, and Mohenjo-Daro seems to have had a suburban area outside the city. The buildings were all pretty much the same, and made out of uniform prefabricated bricks (see the characteristics chart above). There weren't really distinguishable palaces or temples. These cities were very different from Egyptian cities in that the Egyptian cities showed very clear signs of social stratification. For example, the wealthy and powerful were buried in very elaborate tombs in pyramids, while the lower class citizens were given less notable burials. Moreover, Egyptian cities did not have any clear grid pattern; they just built their pyramids wherever they wanted to.

➔ What kinds of sources can archaeologists and historians use to learn about ancient cities?

Archaeological finds, such as writings, ruins of buildings, human and animal bones, statues, and paintings have been absolutely pivotal in learning about early people. These can provide insight into how people lived- their traditions, values, social and political structures, imports and exports, among other aspects. The Rosetta Stone is a key example of this: this artifact helped archaeologists and historians decipher Egyptian scripts.

➔ What was the role of government in early civilizations?

Governments existed to keep order and to provide public works. For example, Hammurabi's Code shows us the king kept order in Mesopotamia. The Indus Valley civilization's well-planned cities, uniform structures, and sewage systems show that their government was systematic.

➔ What was the role of religion in early civilizations?

Religion provided the answers for phenomena that people couldn't explain, mostly because they didn't know science! For example, they attributed flooding of rivers to the will of the gods.

➔ What are the differences between agricultural, pastoral, and foraging societies?

Agricultural societies lived in one place and domesticated plants and animals; pastoral societies were mostly nomadic, and their main duty was to tend their herds; and foraging societies were nomadic, and obtained their food by hunting and gathering.