

Chapter 02

The Ancient Near East

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Neolithic cultures in the Near East developed about _____ years earlier than in Europe.
A. 1,000
B. 2,000
C. 3,000
D. 4,000
E. 5,000

2. The oldest fortified city, and a place of continuous habitation, is
A. Malta.
B. Çatal Hüyük.
C. Stonehenge.
D. Jericho.

3. Plastered Neolithic skulls were found in
A. Uruk.
B. Jericho.
C. Ur.
D. Tell Asmar.

4. The oldest planned town excavated so far is located at
A. Çatal Hüyük.
B. Jerusalem.
C. Jericho.
D. Babylon.

5. The largest Neolithic site so far discovered in the ancient Near East is located in modern

- A. Iraq.
- B. Iran.
- C.** Turkey.
- D. Jordan.

6. Which of the following is NOT a Mesopotamian god?

- A. Anu
- B.** Isis
- C. Ishtar
- D. Inanna

7. Shamash is the Akkadian

- A. moon god.
- B. lightning god.
- C.** sun god.
- D. supreme god.

8. Nergal and Ereshkigal are the

- A.** king and queen of the underworld.
- B. king and queen of the sky.
- C. king and queen of nature.
- D. king and queen of the sea.

9. The Mesopotamians believed in

- A. a heavenly afterlife.
- B.** a gloomy afterlife.
- C. a joyous afterlife.
- D. a materialistic afterlife.

10. The *hieros gamos* refers to

- A. a festival of the new year.
- B. a fertility ceremony.
- C. a sacred marriage.
- D. a holy game.

11. Which of the following was found at Uruk?

- A. the White Temple
- B. the Abu Temple
- C. the Ur Temple
- D. the Stele of Urnammu

12. A ziggurat is a

- A. pyramid.
- B. fort.
- C. building made by Gudea.
- D. Mesopotamian temple platform.

13. Ziggurats are

- A. symbolic temples.
- B. symbolic rivers.
- C. symbolic sculptures.
- D. symbolic mountains.

14. Ziggurats are an example of

- A. post-and-lintel construction.
- B. arcuated construction.
- C. load-bearing construction.
- D. cantilever construction.

15. The earliest known writing is called

- A. cuneiform.
- B. hieroglyphics.
- C. the alphabet.
- D. Akkadian.

16. The first recorded epic is about

- A. Noah.
- B. Odysseus.
- C. Abraham.
- D. Gilgamesh.
- E. Inanna.

17. Sumerian art is characterized by

- A. symmetry when seen from the front.
- B. clasped hands.
- C. large eyes in upturned faces.
- D. All these answers are correct.

18. The staring, wide eyes of the Tell Asmar statues are believed to indicate that the figures are

- A. apotropaic.
- B. praying.
- C. in the presence of a god.
- D. terrified by evil spirits.

19. The beards of the Tell Asmar statues are best described as

- A. red and stylized.
- B. naturalistic and black.
- C. stylized and curvilinear.
- D. black and stylized.
- E. black and curvilinear.

20. "The one who saw the abyss." refers to

- A. Inanna.
- B. Achilles.
- C. Enki.
- D.** Gilgamesh.
- E. Abu.

21. Sir Leonard Woolley discovered evidence of the richness of Early Dynastic culture at the site of

- A.** Ur.
- B. Tell Asmar.
- C. Uruk.
- D. Persepolis.
- E. Lagash.

22. Tigris and Euphrates are

- A. Mesopotamian gods.
- B. Hittite gods.
- C.** Mesopotamian rivers.
- D. Mesopotamian mountains.
- E. Mesopotamian rulers.

23. _____ ruled Akkad and waged war on his neighbors around 3000 B.C.

- A. Ashurnasirpal
- B.** Naram-Sin
- C. Narmer
- D. Alexander the Great

24. Sargon was

- A.** an Akkadian ruler.
- B. a Sumerian ruler.
- C. a Hittite ruler.
- D. the ruler of Lagash.
- E. the ruler of Ur.

25. Which is not true of the Stele of Naram-Sin?

- A. it is a relief
- B. it represents landscape as well as human figures
- C. it commemorates the death of Naram-Sin**
- D. it dates to the third millennium B.C.
- E. it is Akkadian

26. The figure of Naram-Sin is shown

- A. with frontal shoulders and profile legs.**
- B. with a frontal head and shoulders.
- C. with frontal legs and a profile head.
- D. with frontal shoulders and legs.
- E. holding a rod and scepter.

27. Gudea ruled

- A. c. 2100 B.C.**
- B. c. 1800 B.C.
- C. c. 3000 B.C.
- D. c. 1500 B.C.
- E. c. 2600 B.C.

28. Gudea thought of himself mainly as a patron of

- A. cuneiform tablets.
- B. sculpture.
- C. temples.**
- D. paintings.
- E. poetry.

29. Lagash was

- A. a Persian city.
- B. an important city in Babylon.**
- C. the center of the Neolithic Anatolia.
- D. an Assyrian city.

30. The statues of Gudea are best described as

- A. of diorite, stylized and organic.
- B. of marble and naturalistic.
- C. idealized and naturalistic.
- D. naturalistic and organic.
- E. of gold, and with long, flowing hair.

31. A stele is

- A. a knife.
- B. a weapon.
- C. a boundary marker.
- D. a clay tablet.
- E. a city wall.

32. Hammurabi is known for

- A. the *Epic of Gilgamesh*.
- B. building the walls of Uruk.
- C. worshipping the sun god.
- D. making stelai.
- E. a law code.

33. The Hittite civilization was located in

- A. modern Israel.
- B. modern Jordan.
- C. modern Iraq.
- D. modern Iran.
- E. modern Turkey.

34. Lions were traditional guardians because

- A. they were kings of the animals.
- B. they were thought never to sleep.
- C. they were powerful enough to keep enemies away.
- D. they symbolized the human king.
- E. they protect their cubs.

35. Lamassu are

- A. guardian lions.
- B. guardian bulls.
- C.** guardian genii.
- D. guardian kings.
- E. guardian angels.

36. Which of the following does a Lamassu NOT have?

- A. five legs.
- B. wings.
- C. horned cap.
- D.** a sword.
- E. a beard.

37. Most Assyrian wall decoration included

- A. domestic scenes.
- B.** war scenes.
- C. royal hunting scenes.
- D. both war scenes and royal hunting scenes.

38. Assurbanipal was known for

- A.** his cruelty and culture.
- B. his cruelty and virtue.
- C. his culture and learning.
- D. his power and his generosity.
- E. his charm and his diplomacy.

39. Palace reliefs are most likely to have been found in

- A. Uruk.
- B. Lagash.
- C. Babylon.
- D.** Khorsabad.
- E. Hattusas.

40. The Ishtar Gate is from

- A. Paris.
- B.** Babylon.
- C. Akkad.
- D. Persepolis.

41. The Ishtar Gate used

- A. glazed brick.
- B. a true arch.
- C. patterns of horses.
- D.** both glazed brick and a true arch.

42. The Ishtar Gate was dedicated to

- A. the god of war.
- B.** the goddess of fertility.
- C. the goddess of the moon.
- D. the god of the underworld.
- E. the goddess of the hearth.

43. The Scythians are best known for

- A.** gold.
- B. diorite.
- C. pottery.
- D. temples.
- E. irrigation.

44. A documented, excavated object is said to have a

- A. provenance.
- B. value.
- C.** provenience.
- D. valuation.
- E. meaning.

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45. Which of the following are most logically connected?

- A. Darius, Gudea, Sargon, Hammurabi
- B. Ishtar, Sargon, Woolley, Ur
- C. Cyrus, Darius, Persepolis, Susa**
- D. Gilgamesh, Susa, Tell Asmar, Uruk
- E. Urnammu, Abu, Inanna, Ishtar

46. The Apadana was

- A. a gateway.
- B. a storage room.
- C. a sanctuary.
- D. an audience hall.**
- E. an altar.

47. Whereas early Mesopotamian figures are shown with twisted perspective, Persian human figures

- A. show shoulders in profile.**
- B. have extremely large eyes.
- C. have their hands clasped.
- D. appear on bas-relief.

48. A bull capital is most likely found at

- A. Persepolis.**
- B. Lagash.
- C. Babylon.
- D. Anatolia.
- E. Assyria.

49. *Cuneiform* literally means

- A. cone-shaped.
- B. cylindrical.
- C. wedge-shaped.**
- D. rectangular.
- E. triangular.