

TEST ITEM FILE

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The Humanities

Third Edition

Volume I

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Chapter 1: The Rise of Culture: From Forest to Farm

Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Paleolithic cave paintings may have been intended to do all of the following EXCEPT
 - a. serve as magic charms to ensure successful hunting.
 - b. function as lunar calendars, predicting seasonal migration of the animals.
 - c. conjure game by depicting it.
 - d. commemorate the dead buried in the caves.Answer: d page 4 LO: 1.1

2. Why are the Chauvet animal paintings probably NOT associated with the hunt?
 - a. Most of the animals painted on the walls were imaginary.
 - b. Less than half of the animals painted on the walls are believed to have been hunted.
 - c. Few of the animals painted on the walls were domesticated.
 - d. Most of the animals painted on the walls were shown killing humans.Answer: b page 4 LO: 1.1

3. Why did the Chauvet painters utilize perspectival drawing?
 - a. to convey a sense of three-dimensional space
 - b. to demonstrate allegiance to the Mother Goddess
 - c. to foster a sense of communal history
 - d. to increase contrasts in values and colorAnswer: a page 5 LO: 1.1

4. Which of the following statements reflects the changed thinking regarding prehistoric art due to the discovery of Chauvet Cave?
 - a. Art progressed from awkward beginnings to increased sophistication.
 - b. The Paleolithic art in each cave probably was created by a single person.
 - c. Art did not necessarily evolve in a linear progression from its early days in prehistory.
 - d. Paleolithic cave art was a form of graffiti created by young people.Answer: c page 5 LO: 1.1

5. Among prehistoric paintings, what is distinctive about the painting of a bird-headed man, a bison, and a rhinoceros in Lascaux Cave?
 - a. It includes a representation of a large animal.
 - b. It is one of the few cave paintings to depict a human.
 - c. It is painted on limestone.
 - d. It demonstrates a rejection of naturalistic representation.Answer: b page 5 LO: 1.1

6. Why do Paleolithic female figurines vastly outnumber those representing males?
- Males were likely the carvers.
 - Males probably outnumbered females.
 - Females played a central role in the culture.
 - All prehistoric gods were female.
- Answer: c page 6 LO: 1.1
7. Venus of Willendorf's original red color is suggestive of
- sacrifice.
 - menses.
 - autumn.
 - shamanism.
- Answer: b page 6 LO: 1.1
8. Implying a community's sense of historical continuity, what was buried beneath some of the Neolithic Çatalhöyük houses?
- human bodies and skulls
 - fertility goddess statuettes
 - boar tusks, vulture skulls, and weasel teeth
 - large terracotta heads of leaders
- Answer: a page 8 LO: 1.2
9. Why did the Neolithic era witness increased pottery creation?
- More permanent settlements could support artists.
 - Tending crops provided more free time for art than hunting did.
 - Neolithic people had learned to control fire for use in kilns.
 - Fragile pottery was impractical for Paleolithic hunter-gatherers.
- Answer: d page 11 LO: 1.2
10. Why can the potter's wheel be considered one of the first mechanical and technological breakthroughs in history?
- It allowed artisans to produce uniformly shaped vessels in short periods of time.
 - It provided an alternative to creating vessels by casting metal.
 - It enabled clay to be fired to a hot enough temperature to be hardened.
 - It created an adequately smooth surface for pots to be painted.
- Answer: a page 12 LO: 1.2
11. Neolithic Nok heads have an artistry based upon
- animal imagery.
 - burial masks.
 - woven patterns.
 - abstract geometrical shapes.
- Answer: d page 13 LO: 1.2

12. According to the most recent discoveries, Stonehenge was constructed as a
- a. sacrificial altar.
 - b. royal residence.
 - c. burial ground.
 - d. marketplace.

Answer: c page 16 LO: 1.2

13. What is the most basic architectural technique for spanning space?
- a. post-and-lintel
 - b. corbel
 - c. cromlech
 - d. menhir

Answer: a page 18 LO: 1.2

14. What can myths tell about their cultures?
- a. place of origin
 - b. views and beliefs
 - c. social hierarchy
 - d. form of government

Answer: b page 18 LO: 1.3

15. The Anasazi built their kivas with a small, round hole in the floor to
- a. represent a belief that their ancestors emerged from the depths of the Earth.
 - b. collect what little rain fell in the parched desert.
 - c. demonstrate a belief that evil spirits could be flushed into the depths of the Earth.
 - d. dispose of human waste and other refuse.

Answer: a page 21 LO: 1.3

16. In the Zuni emergence tale, the Pueblo people originated in
- a. clay mounds formed by Himura, the potter goddess.
 - b. the womb of Mother Earth.
 - c. tears falling from the Sun Father's eyes.
 - d. the Spruce Tree House

Answer: b page 21 LO: 1.3

17. Which of the following beliefs is NOT reflected in Pueblo emergence tales?
- a. The forces of nature are inhabited by living spirits.
 - b. Humans can communicate with natural spirits.
 - c. Humans can take on animal form if they offer proper sacrifices.
 - d. Nature's behavior can be compared to human behavior.

Answer: c page 22 LO: 1.3

18. Japanese emperors claimed divinity as

- a. heads of the Shinto religion.
- b. direct descendants of the sun goddess.
- c. authors of the *Kojiki*.
- d. Manifestations of future *kami*.

Answer: b page 22 LO: 1.3

19. The Shinto main sanctuary at Ise is always built of wood to
- a. demonstrate reverence for the natural world and tradition.
 - b. avoid the cost of stone.
 - c. deter the *kami*.
 - d. effectively insulate against a cold climate

Answer: a page 23 LO: 1.3

20. The Ise shrine is razed and then rebuilt every 20 years to
- a. prevent deterioration of its materials.
 - b. ritually celebrate renewal.
 - c. demonstrate disinterest in the material world.
 - d. symbolize the lifespan of the goddess Amaterasu.

Answer: b page 23 LO: 1.3

21. In prehistoric times, communication with the spiritual world is thought to have been largely conducted in
- a. groves.
 - b. semi-permanent huts.
 - c. river valleys.
 - d. Caves.

Answer: d page 24 LO: 1.4

22. The Olmec's giant mounds where the priests dwelled are thought to have possibly represented
- a. volcanoes.
 - b. pregnant wombs,
 - c. mountains.
 - d. female breasts.

Answer: a page 24 LO: 1.4

23. Why might the Olmec have carved their leaders' heads in colossal size?
- a. to intimidate potential attackers away from their sacred sites
 - b. to show the leaders as larger than life, like the gods
 - c. to provide supports for their sacred sites' roofs
 - d. to serve as markers for the leaders' graves

Answer: b page 24 LO: 1.4

24. What do the Hopewell culture's elaborate burials tell about them?
- a. They considered bear teeth sacred.
 - b. They created beautiful works of pottery.
 - c. They believed in reincarnation of the dead.

d. They had an extensive trade network.

Answer: d page 25 LO: 1.4

25. The Great Serpent Mound differs from most Hopewell mounds in its

- a. spiral shape and raised embankments.
- b. alignment with the sun at the equinoxes.
- c. absence of burial sites.
- d. mysterious abandonment.

Answer: c page 26 LO: 1.4

26. With what astronomical event might the Great Serpent Mound be associated?

- a. the summer solstice
- b. Halley's Comet
- c. a solar eclipse
- d. alignment of the planets

Answer: b page 26 LO: 1.4

Matching

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 27. Chauvet Cave | a. Scotland |
| 28. Venus of Willendorf | b. Gulf of Mexico |
| 29. Stonehenge | c. Ohio |
| 30. Nok | d. American Southwest |
| 31. Skara Brae | e. England |
| 32. Anasazi | f. Austria |
| 33. Olmec | g. France |
| 34. Great Serpent Mound | h. Nigeria |

Answers: 27-g (LO: 1.1), 28-f (LO: 1.1), 29-e (LO: 1.2), 30-h (LO: 1.2), 31-a (LO: 1.2), 32-d (LO: 1.3), 33-b (LO: 1.4), 34-c (LO: 1.4)

Essay Questions

- 35. Discuss the implications of Chauvet Cave's revelations about art not developing linearly and early Paleolithic artists not being as primitive as we previously thought. LO: 1.1
- 36. Examine the Paleolithic female figurines—the Laussel Woman Holding an Animal Horn, the Venus of Willendorf—as “images of beauty in a cold, hostile world.” LO: 1.1
- 37. Describe the picture of Paleolithic daily life that the human artifacts provide. LO: 1.1
- 38. Discuss the view of society that construction of the megalithic dolmens, Carnac, and Stonehenge reveal. LO: 1.2
- 39. Explain the reasons pottery making facilitated advancement for Neolithic agriculture-based people. LO: 1.2
- 40. The indigenous Japanese religion of Shinto shares much with Pueblo religions. Compare the two on their emergence tales and their general beliefs about the gods and nature. LO: 1.3

41. Describe the afterlife beliefs that the mound burials of the Hopewell people present. LO: 1.4
42. Explore what the colossal heads guarding the Olmec ceremonial centers seem to tell us about that culture's sacred sites. LO: 1.4
43. Think of a current myth—a story grounded in observed experience that a culture assumes is true—and consider what this myth reveals about our society. LO: 1.3