

Use the following to answer questions 1-14:

Select the word or phrase from the Terms section that best matches the definition or example provided in the Definitions section.

Terms

- a. Norte Chico/Caral
- b. Indus Valley civilization
- c. Central Asian/Oxus civilization
- d. Olmec civilization
- e. Uruk
- f. *Epic of Gilgamesh*
- g. Mohenjo Daro/Harappa
- h. Code of Hammurabi
- i. patriarchy
- j. rise of the state
- k. Egypt
- l. Sumer
- m. Paneb
- n. Nubia

1. A major first civilization that emerged around 2200 B.C.E. in central Asia along the Oxus or Amu Darya river in what is now northern Afghanistan. An important focal point for a Eurasian-wide system of intellectual and cultural exchange, it faded away about 1700 B.C.E.
2. A series of laws publicized at the order of a Babylonian king (d. 1750 B.C.E.). A number of laws that proclaim the king's commitment to social order.
3. This country is often known as “the gift of the Nile” because the region would not have been able to support a significant human population without the Nile's annual inundation, which provided rich silt deposits and made agriculture possible.
4. The most famous extant literary work from ancient Mesopotamia, it tells the story of one man's quest for immortality.
5. Major cities of the Indus Valley civilization, both of which flourished around 2000 B.C.E.

6. A region along the central coast of Peru, home of a civilization that developed in the period 3000–1800 B.C.E. and the largest of some twenty-five urban centers that emerged in the area at that time.
7. A civilization to the south of Egypt in the Nile Valley, noted for development of an alphabetic writing system and a major ironworking industry by 500 B.C.E.
8. An early civilization that developed along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico around 1200 B.C.E.
9. An Egyptian foreman, in charge of a crew of tomb workers, whose misdeeds in about 1300 B.C.E. in life were recorded by a rival.
10. Literally “rule of the father”; a social system of male dominance.
11. A process of centralization that took place in the First Civilizations, growing out of the greater complexity of urban life and the need for coordination, regulation, adjudication, and military leadership.
12. The largest city of ancient Mesopotamia.
13. A major First Civilization that emerged in southern Mesopotamia around 3500 B.C.E. to 3000 B.C.E. This civilization likely gave rise to the world's earliest written language, which was used initially by officials to record the goods received by various temples.
14. South Asian civilization that apparently generated no temples, palaces, elaborate caves, kings, or warrior classes. Archaeological evidence provides little indication of a political hierarchy or centralized state, yet many features of this civilization persist to the present.

Answer Key

1. c
2. h
3. k
4. f
5. g
6. a
7. n
8. d
9. m
10. i
11. j
12. e
13. l
14. b

Choose the letter of the best answer.

1. Which of the following have scholars advanced as a possible explanation for the emergence of patriarchy in the First Civilizations?
 - A) Participation of women in animal-drawn, plow-based agriculture
 - B) Increased role of women outside the home
 - C) Decline in birthrates that accompanied civilization
 - D) Emergence of large-scale warfare with professionally led armies

2. Which of the following is usually considered a feature of “civilization”?
 - A) Absence of class and gender hierarchies
 - B) States that use force to compel obedience from subjects
 - C) The use of deliberately set fires for human purposes
 - D) The domestication of plants and animals

3. Which of the following First Civilizations is sometimes referred to as the “mother civilization” of Mesoamerica?
 - A) Mesopotamia
 - B) Olmec
 - C) Norte Chico
 - D) Aztec

4. Which of the following First Civilizations did not rely on grain-based agriculture?
 - A) Norte Chico
 - B) Indus Valley
 - C) China
 - D) Egypt

5. Kingship in the First Civilizations often
 - A) linked the position of the ruler to the divine.
 - B) relied exclusively on physical force and coercion.
 - C) depended on the authority of a written constitution.
 - D) weakened state and religious institutions.

6. Which of the following provided the primary economic foundation for civilization?
 - A) Slavery
 - B) Agriculture
 - C) Warfare
 - D) Writing

7. Which of the following was a reason for instability in ancient Mesopotamia?
- A) The failure of Mesopotamia to develop written law codes
 - B) The rivalries between independent city-states that led to warfare
 - C) The collapse of fisheries in the Persian Gulf on which the population relied
 - D) The failure of a patriarchal system to emerge in Mesopotamia
8. Which of the following human accomplishments emerged with the First Civilizations?
- A) Agriculture
 - B) Village life
 - C) Writing
 - D) Art
9. Which of the following First Civilizations experienced the greatest cultural continuity from its earliest formation to modern times?
- A) Indus Valley
 - B) Norte Chico
 - C) China
 - D) Harappa
10. As a descriptive term, “civilization” refers to
- A) a particular and distinctive type of human society organized into cities and states.
 - B) a trend toward greater equality between classes and between men and women.
 - C) the development of political institutions that form the basis for democracy.
 - D) the organization of human communities based on kinship and class.
11. Which of the following has been advanced as a possible explanation for the origins of the First Civilizations?
- A) The absence of limits on the amount of land that could be cultivated
 - B) The end of the practice of slavery in a region
 - C) The emergence of regions where no military elite took shape
 - D) The need to organize large-scale irrigation projects

12. Which of the following was a feature of Egyptian rather than Mesopotamian civilization?
- A) Salinization of the soil, which led to a collapse in the production of wheat
 - B) Frequent and devastating invasions by outsiders because of a lack of physical barriers
 - C) A more cheerful and hopeful outlook on the world, as expressed in part through religious beliefs
 - D) A long tradition of written law codes based on the notion of natural rights
13. Which of the following statements about ancient Egypt is true?
- A) The state was ruled by pharaohs who were believed to be gods in human form.
 - B) Cities were more important in Egypt than in Mesopotamia.
 - C) The erratic floods caused by the Nile regularly destroyed crops.
 - D) Women in Egypt were afforded fewer opportunities than in Mesopotamia.
14. The territory of ancient Mesopotamia is presently occupied by which country?
- A) Iran
 - B) Afghanistan
 - C) Iraq
 - D) India
15. The rulers of which First Civilization based their authority on the Mandate of Heaven?
- A) Egypt
 - B) China
 - C) Olmec
 - D) Norte Chico
16. The rulers of the First Civilizations often drew their power from their roles as
- A) high priests.
 - B) clan elders.
 - C) traders.
 - D) scribes.
17. Which of the following is a feature found in some cities in the First Civilizations?
- A) Libraries
 - B) Large farms
 - C) Sewage systems
 - D) Theaters

18. Which of the following describes gender relations in the First Civilizations?
- A) Women enjoyed the same rights and privileges as men.
 - B) Women were defined by their relationship to a man.
 - C) Men operated in roles defined as feminine.
 - D) Men were considered inferior to women.
19. In the First Civilizations, slaves were drawn from which pool of people?
- A) Artisans
 - B) Merchants
 - C) Female peasants
 - D) Prisoners of war
20. Which of the following represents a way that class distinctions were displayed in the First Civilizations?
- A) Naming practices
 - B) Manner of a person's burial
 - C) Kinship relations
 - D) Women's submission to men
21. Which of the following is an example of how social class affected gender roles?
- A) Women from the upper classes were expected to stay at home, while women from the lower classes had to go out in public to work.
 - B) Women married to wealthy men were forbidden to wear veils, while slaves and prostitutes were required to veil themselves when they went out in public.
 - C) Only women from the upper classes worshipped Inanna, a goddess of love, sexuality, and war.
 - D) Female rulers who came from the lower classes were portrayed dressed in male clothing and wearing false beards.
22. In which First Civilization were women recognized as legal equals to men?
- A) Mesopotamia
 - B) Mesoamerica
 - C) Egypt
 - D) China

23. Which of the following is an example of the way that patriarchy was expressed in the First Civilizations?
- A) Laws that regulated female sexuality
 - B) Symbols of kingship linked to the divine
 - C) The state's exclusive right to use violence
 - D) The use of gifts to reinforce political authority
24. Which of the following shows the relationship between religion and government in the First Civilizations?
- A) Farmers were required to turn over a portion of their crops to support city-dwellers.
 - B) The Hebrew scriptures attributed the act of creation to a single male deity, Yahweh.
 - C) The demotion of the goddess resulted from the extension of the power of creation and fertility to male gods.
 - D) Hammurabi claimed that his law code was inspired by Marduk, the chief god of Babylon.
25. What was one purpose that writing served in the First Civilizations?
- A) To record the stories of ordinary commoners
 - B) To keep track of who paid their taxes to the state
 - C) To confine women to the home
 - D) To entertain an increasingly literate population
26. Which of the following is an example of a way that rulers in the First Civilizations displayed their power?
- A) Writing poetry
 - B) Freeing slaves
 - C) Constructing temples
 - D) Engaging in farm work
27. Which of the following best describes the Mesopotamian outlook on life and death?
- A) People are caught in an inherently disorderly world without much hope of a blessed life beyond.
 - B) The afterlife was accessible to all who followed proper procedures and lived a morally upright life.
 - C) Life is full of pain and suffering, but the afterlife will offer eternal happiness and tranquility.
 - D) God has already determined those who will go to heaven, and nothing people do during their lifetime can change their divinely ordained fate.

28. Which of the following contributed to the declining power of the Egyptian pharaohs by 2400 B.C.E.?
- A) Rivalry over land and water created a number of warring city-states.
 - B) Egypt was defeated in a series of wars with invaders from the east.
 - C) Egyptian pharaohs adopted a policy of seclusion.
 - D) Local officials and nobles assumed greater authority.
29. Which of the following provides evidence of interaction and exchange among the First Civilizations and surrounding regions in the ancient world?
- A) Gunpowder
 - B) Horse-drawn chariots
 - C) The abacus
 - D) Tea
30. Refer to Map 2.1, "First Civilizations," in the textbook. Which of the following civilizations had limited contact with other First Civilizations?
- A) Indus Valley
 - B) Nile Valley
 - C) Olmec
 - D) Mesopotamia

Answer Key

1. D
2. B
3. B
4. A
5. A
6. B
7. B
8. C
9. C
10. A
11. D
12. C
13. A
14. C
15. B
16. A
17. C
18. B
19. D
20. B
21. A
22. C
23. A
24. D
25. B
26. C
27. A
28. D
29. B
30. C

Answer each question in three or four sentences.

1. Name at least three elements that a civilization must have in order to produce monumental works on the scale of the Mesopotamian ziggurats or Egyptian pyramids.
2. What new products and technology did Egypt's interaction with the outside world bring?
3. Name at least three features typical of a king in one of the First Civilizations.
4. Identify the different social classes in the First Civilizations, and give specific examples of people within each class.
5. How did class differences create different roles and expectations for women?
6. Give examples of the ways in which men's and women's roles in the First Civilizations were gendered masculine or feminine.
7. Explain how religion or association with the divine in the First Civilizations could be used to both legitimize and restrain the authority of the state.
8. Identify the different purposes of writing in the First Civilizations.
9. Explain how the civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt affected the environment.
10. Give specific examples of the movement of goods, ideas, and people in the ancient world.

Answer Key

1. *Answer would ideally include:*

- A large labor force
- A leader with the power and authority to compel labor
- An assured food supply for the workers, who cannot produce their own food while working
- Building materials
- An ideology that makes monumental architecture desirable, with emphasis on grandeur and the belief that gods are entitled to or may demand such structures

2. *Answer would ideally include:*

- Mesopotamia (wheat, barley, its system of writing)
- Sudan (gourds, watermelon, domesticated donkeys, the practice of divine kingship)
- Hittites (horse-drawn chariots, new armor and weapons, new techniques for textile production, new musical instruments, olive and pomegranate trees)

3. *Answer would ideally include:*

- Gave authority to the state
- Monumental architecture
- Elaborate clothing
- Magnificent burials
- Claim of divinity or divine approval

4. *Answer would ideally include:*

- Upper classes: rulers and the royal family, nobles, high-ranking officials
- Free commoners: artisans, lower-level officials, soldiers, police, servants, farmers
- Slaves: prisoners of war, criminals, debtors

5. *Answer would ideally include:*

- Upper-class women
 - o Led restricted but privileged lives
 - o Limited to the home
 - o Managed household servants
- Lower-class women
 - o Often out in public
 - o Worked in the fields
 - o Tended livestock
 - o Bought and sold goods in the streets
 - o Worked as servants in homes of the upper class
- In Mesopotamia, respectable women (those under the protection and sexual control of one man) were required to be veiled in public, while nonrespectable women (slave prostitutes) were punished if they veiled themselves.

6. *Answer would ideally include:*

- Men's roles and masculinity were associated with public life and superiority.
 - o Rulers: political power, state, government
 - o Warriors: organized violence, state, war
 - o Priests: religion, spirituality

- o Scholars: literacy, learning, education
 - o Farmers: fieldwork
 - o Police: protection of society
 - Women's roles and femininity were associated with domestic life and inferiority.
 - o Daughter, wife, mother, widow: defined in relation to their relationship to a man
 - o Weavers: work conducted in the home
 - o Caretakers: child care confined women to the home
 - o Slaves: the first slaves were female prisoners of war
7. *Answer would ideally include:*
- Examples of how religion could be used to legitimize state authority:
 - o Class and gender inequalities were ordained by the gods.
 - o In China, the emperor was portrayed as the Son of Heaven.
 - o In Mesopotamia, rulers were viewed as stewards of their city's patron gods
 - o In Egypt, pharaohs were believed to have divine qualities and supernatural powers.
 - o The symbols of kingship were said to be of divine origin.
 - o The gods established monarchy.
 - Examples of how religion could be used to restrain state authority:
 - o Hammurabi's law code was said to have been inspired by Marduk, the chief of Babylon.
 - o The Mesopotamian monarch Urukagina in the city of Lagash invoked the authority of the city's patron god to launch reforms.
 - o In China, emperors in the Western Zhou could be overthrown if their bad behavior resulted in their loss of the Mandate of Heaven.
8. *Answer would ideally include:*
- Propaganda celebrated the deeds of kings.
 - Literacy defined elite status.
 - Writing served an accounting function (it was used to keep track of taxes, debts, and wages).
 - Calendars indicated when certain rituals should be performed.
 - Written orders, regulations, and laws gave more weight to state decrees.
 - Writing gave rise to literature, philosophy, astronomy, mathematics, and history.
 - Writing could be used to criticize the state.
9. *Answer would ideally include:*
- Mesopotamia
 - o The timber required for construction of walls, temples, and so on, led to deforestation.
 - o Over the long term, intensive irrigation increased the salinization of the soil making it unsuitable for cultivation.
 - Egypt
 - o The regularity and relative gentleness of the Nile's annual flooding require regulation of its natural flow.
 - o As a result, the environmental degradation in Egypt was minor when compared with Mesopotamia.
10. *Answer would ideally include:*
- Mesopotamia to Egypt: wheat and barley

- Sudan to Egypt: gourds, watermelon, domesticated donkeys, and cattle; idea of divine kingship
- Mesopotamia to the Hebrews: “eye for an eye” principle in law; story of the flood that destroyed the world
- Mesopotamia to Phoenicians: worship of Asarte, a local version of the Mesopotamian fertility goddess Istar; adaptation of the Sumerian cuneiform
- Mesopotamia to Anatolia: Indo-European peoples in Anatolia incorporated Sumerian deities; bronze metallurgy and the wheel
- Egypt to Nubia: intermarriage; Nubians buried in Egyptian style; construction of Egyptian-style pyramids; worship of Egyptian gods; use of Egyptian hieroglyphic writing
- Nubia to Egypt: Nubian archers fought as mercenaries in Egyptian armies
- Egyptian influence in art of Minoan civilization
- Hittites to Egypt, Mesopotamia, China: horse-drawn chariot; bronze metallurgy
- Asia to Egypt: new kinds of armor, bows, daggers, and swords; improved methods of spinning and weaving; new musical instruments; olives and pomegranates
- Babylon to Egypt: women

Choose the letter of the best answer.

1. Which of the following was depicted in many of the seals found in the Indus Valley civilization that flourished around 2000 B.C.E.?
 - A) Rulers
 - B) Animals
 - C) Plants
 - D) Temples

2. The statue of a man found in Mohenjo Daro has led some scholars to suggest that the city was controlled by
 - A) Mesopotamia.
 - B) Egypt.
 - C) a single ruler.
 - D) elite men.

3. The statue of the dancing girl provides evidence that the Indus Valley civilization
 - A) had a well-developed copper and bronze industry.
 - B) required women to veil their entire face.
 - C) trained young girls to be entertainers.
 - D) traced descent through the mother.

4. Which of the following provides evidence that the Indus Valley civilization was a literate society?
 - A) Palaces
 - B) Monuments
 - C) Seals
 - D) Statutes

5. The discovery of Indus Valley seals in Mesopotamia suggests that the seals were used
 - A) in diplomacy.
 - B) in trade.
 - C) in rituals.
 - D) as tribute.

Answer Key

1. B
2. D
3. A
4. C
5. B

Answer each of the following questions in a few paragraphs. Include specific examples to support your thesis and conclusions.

1. **Comparative Analysis:** Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the early writing systems depicted in Snapshot, “Writing in Ancient Civilizations,” in the main text.
2. **Comparative Analysis:** Compare and contrast life in a Neolithic village to life in a city in one of the First Civilizations.
3. **Comparative Analysis:** Compare and contrast the life of a woman in Egypt to that of a woman living in Mesopotamia.
4. **Personal Reflection:** Do you think that, on the whole, the emergence of the First Civilizations was a positive or negative development for humankind?

Answer Key

1. *Answer would ideally include:*

- Consideration of *all* writing systems included in the Snapshot, not just one or two
- What the writing system could do—could it express all human thought?
- How difficult it would be to read and write using each system, and the length of time needed to learn each one
- How long it would take to write a message using each system
- The expense of writing materials (especially considering the cheapness of Mesopotamian clay compared to Egyptian papyrus)
- The relative advantages of pictographs compared to symbols representing sounds, syllables, or consonants

A *really* good response will make a meaningful comparison to our modern alphabet.

2. *Answer would ideally include:*

- Size of population
- Occupation of inhabitants
- Issues of social status
- Government and ceremony
- Defense
- Issues of gender equality or inequality

3. *Answer would ideally include:*

- The legal status of women
- Evidence of affection between the sexes

A *really* good essay will go beyond these points to a consideration of *why* women in Egypt enjoyed a much more equal position to men, possibly bringing in issues such as:

- Urban (Mesopotamia) versus village (Egypt) life
- Relative prosperity of the two lands
- Belief in powerful goddesses (Egypt) versus increasingly weak goddesses (Mesopotamia)

4. *Answer would ideally include:*

Positive:

- The development of “culture” (writing, monumental art, literature, etc.)
- Defense
- Cooperation for the good of many (irrigation works, flood control)
- Increased productivity

Negative:

- The institutionalization of inequality—social, economic, gender
- Large-scale warfare
- Epidemic disease