

## Chapter 2 Section 1: City-States of Ancient Sumer

Focus Question: What were the characteristics of the world's first civilization? (Sumer)

### Lesson Objectives

16. Understand how geography influenced the development of civilization in the \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Outline the main features of \_\_\_\_\_ civilization.
18. Explain how the advances in \_\_\_\_\_ made by the Sumerians left a lasting legacy for later peoples to build on.

### 16. Understand how geography influenced the development of civilization in the Fertile Crescent.

#### The Fertile Crescent

- The Fertile Crescent was a region of the Middle East known for its rich \_\_\_\_\_ and golden wheat \_\_\_\_\_.
- Region became a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Within the Fertile Crescent lies a region called \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ was located in the southeastern part of Mesopotamia.

#### Organizing for Floods and Irrigation

- Mesopotamia means “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”; specifically the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ rivers.
- The rivers regularly \_\_\_\_\_ and damaged farms and settlements.
- Settlers had to learn to control the rivers.
  - Built dikes to hold back floodwaters
  - Dug \_\_\_\_\_ ditches to channel water to farmland.

### 17. Outline the main features of Sumerian civilization.

#### Sumerians Build Thriving Cities

- Few natural resources- made the most of it.
- No wood; built with \_\_\_\_\_ and water to make bricks.
- \_\_\_\_\_ brought riches.
  - People traveled along the \_\_\_\_\_ and would go through Sumer.
  - Sumerians may have made the first \_\_\_\_\_ vehicle.

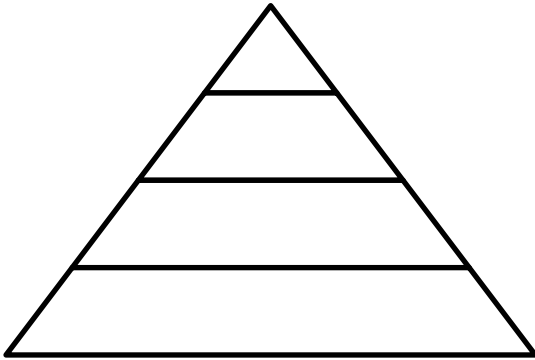
#### Complex Government Unfolds

- In each \_\_\_\_\_ the ruler had complete control.
- The Ruler:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ the city walls and irrigation systems
  - Led armies into \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ the laws
- Employed \_\_\_\_\_ to collect taxes and keep records
- Was seen as the chief servant of the \_\_\_\_\_
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**Sumerians Structure their Society**

- Each Sumerian city-state had a distinct social \_\_\_\_\_, or system of ranking groups of people.



**Sumerians Practice Religion**

- \_\_\_\_\_: believe in...? \_\_\_\_\_
- Gods controlled every aspect of life.
- Duty was to keep gods happy.
- Each city built a \_\_\_\_\_, a large stepped temple.
- Afterlife
  - Grim underworld
  - “the place where they live on dust, their food is mud,...they see no light”.- *Epic of Gilgamesh*

**Sumerians Invent Writing**

- Invented the earliest known writing called \_\_\_\_\_.
- Scribes wrote by making \_\_\_\_\_ shaped marks on a clay tablet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ the exchange of goods, myths, prayers, laws, and business contracts.
- Scribes went to school to learn to write.

**18. Explain how the advances in learning made by the Sumerians left a lasting legacy for later peoples to build on.**

**The Lasting Legacy of Sumer**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_