Journey Through History: New Topic-based Series Study Notes

Topic 1 Human needs: past and present

Journey Through History: New Topic-based Series

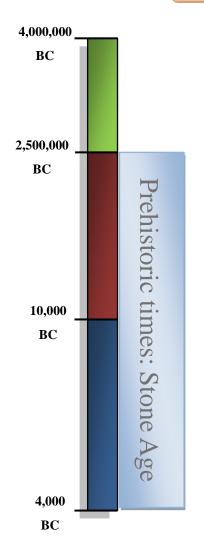
Study Notes

Topic 1
Human needs: past and present



Division of historical periods: prehistoric times and historic times (p.6)

- prehistoric times: the period before the invention of writing (Stone Age)
- historic times: the period after the invention of writing (Ancient civilizations)



The origin of human history: the earliest people (p.6)

- The earliest people appeared more than four million years ago
- The earliest people appeared in Africa, and moved to Asia and Europe later on

The Old Stone Age (p.10)

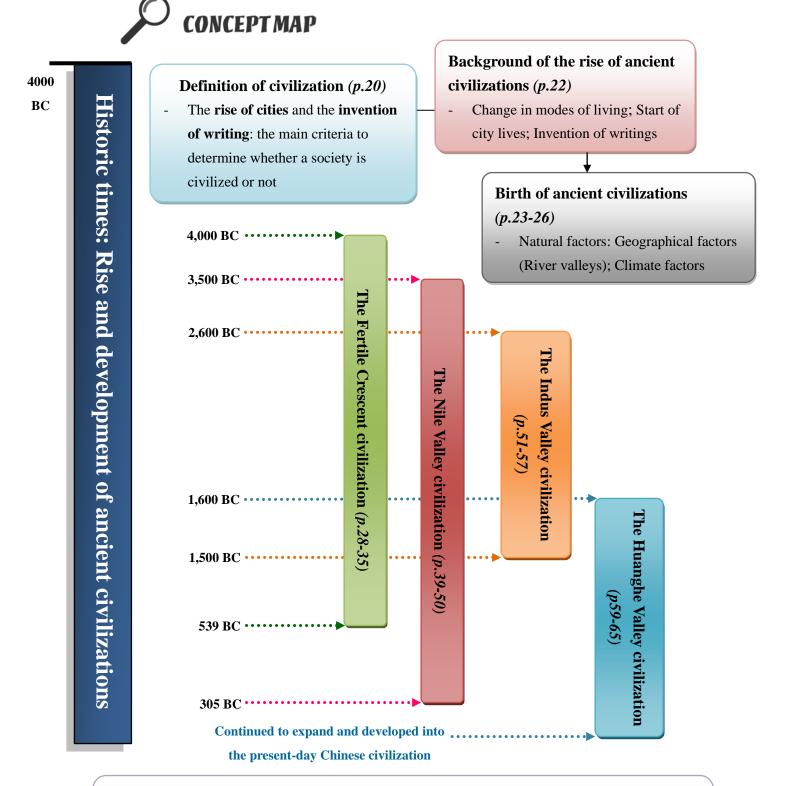
- Around 2,500,000 BC around 10,000 BC
- Ways of getting food: mainly by gathering wild fruits, fishing and hunting
- Nomadic lifestyle: moved from place to place in search of food
- Accumulating survival wisdom: discovered and learned to use fire

The New Stone Age (p.13)

- About 10,000 BC about 4000 BC
- Food production: Because of farming and keeping livestock, food supply became more stable
- Settlement and housed: A village-based agricultural society began
- Skills and cultural life: learned to polish stone tools, make pottery and clothes; developed art and religion

End of the Stone Age (p.16-17)

- From Stone Age to Metal Ages
 - > learned to process different metals
 - Metal tools gradually replaced the coarse stone tools
- From prehistoric times to historic times
 - invented writing for making records and communication
 - Invention of writing: important feature of a civilized society



Conclusion: similarities and differences between past and present human needs (p.66)

- There are continuities and changes of human needs between past and present
- Increasing human needs fosters the birth and development of civilizations

A. Development of the Stone Age

1. The origin of human history: the earliest people

Guiding Questions

- When did the Stone Age start? How can we know about the survival and livelihood of human beings at that time?
- History refers to the record and study of past human events.
- The earliest people appeared in Africa more than four million years ago.
 - > Human history began.
- The earliest people moved to Asia and Europe later on.

Old Stone Age: Started around 2,500,000 BC

Australopithecus

- Existed as early as4 million years ago
- Height below 1.2 m

Homo habilis

- Existed as early as 2.8 million years ago
- Height below 1.45 m

Homo erectus

- Also called ape-man
- Existed as early as 1.9
 million years ago
- Height about 1.5 m

Homo sapiens

- Ancestors of modern people
- Existed as early as 200,000 years ago
- Height above 1.5 m

New Stone Age: Started around 10,000 BC

2. Division of historical periods

- Historians divide history based on when writing was invented.
 - > 'Prehistoric times' and 'historic times'.
- 'Prehistoric times':
 - > the period before writing was invented;
 - ➤ the earliest people did not invent writing. The Stone Age in which they lived belonged to the prehistoric times.
- 'Historic times':
 - > the period after the invention of writing;
 - ➤ around 4000 BC, the Sumerians invented the world's first writing and created the earliest civilization. The 'historic times' started.

3. Introduction to the Stone Age

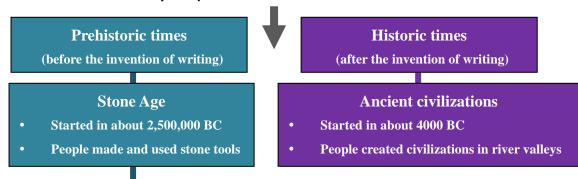
- The Stone Age started in about 2,500,000 BC and ended in about 4000 BC.
- Making and using stone tools was the symbol of this period.
- Based on the major changes in the ways of life of Stone Age people, historians divide the Stone Age into the 'Old Stone Age' and 'New Stone Age'.

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history into prehistoric times and historic times



Old Stone Age

- Started in about 2,500,000 BC
- A nomadic society
- People relocated frequently



New Stone Age

- Started in about 10,000 BC
- An agricultural society
- People settled in one place



Development of human history - evolution of civilization

4. The Old Stone Age

- The Old Stone Age started in about 2,500,000 BC and ended in about 10,000 BC.
- The main features of this period include:

■ Ways of getting food:

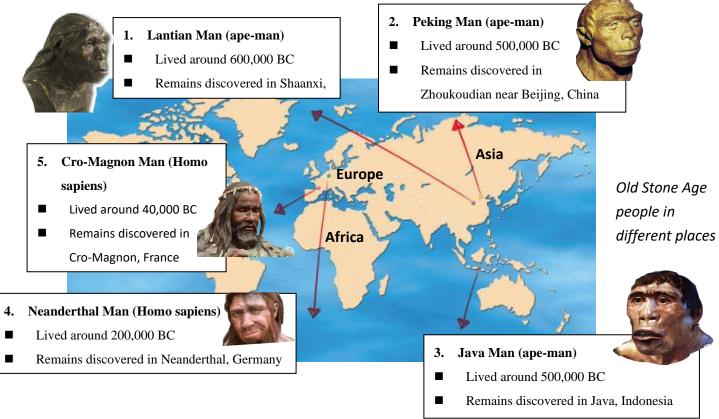
- ➤ Humans got food directly from nature;
- mainly by gathering wild fruits, fishing and hunting.

■ Nomadic lifestyle:

- ➤ Humans moved from place to place in search of food;
- they lived in caves or huts.

Accumulating survival wisdom:

Humans became clever and learned better ways of survival from experience. For example, they discovered and learned to use fire.



5. The New Stone Age

- The New Stone Age started in about 10,000 BC and ended in about 4000 BC.
- The main features of this period include:

■ Food production:

- New Stone Age people learned to grow crops and invented farming tools:
- they also learned to keep livestock They could kill their livestock for food when they needed;
- ➤ because of farming and keeping livestock, food supply also became more stable. The human population increased.

■ Settlement and houses:

- When New Stone Age people learned to farm and keep livestock, they built houses to settle down;
- > villages were formed. A village-based agricultural society began.

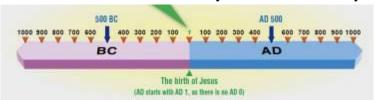
Skills and cultural life:

- New Stone Age people learned to polish stone tools;
- ➤ they learned to make pottery and clothes. They also developed art and religion.

Methods of counting time and years

1. Christian calendar

- People have invented different calendar systems in order to record the dates of events easier.
- Some of these systems are still widely used today.
 - e.g. the Christian calendar, the Islamic calendar and the Chinese calendar.
- The Christian calendar is the most widely used calendar system nowadays. It uses BC and AD to number years with reference to the birth of Jesus Christ.
 - The period before his birth is called BC (Before Christ);
 - the period after his birth is called AD (Anno Domini; Latin for 'in the year of our Lord').
- To avoid reference to Jesus Christ, people have used BCE (Before the Common Era) for BC and CE (Common Era) for AD.
 - More and more countries have officially used BCE and CE systems.



2. Millenniums, centuries and decades

- Millenniums (1000 years), centuries (100 years) and decades (10 years) are also used to count years. We can use the following simple ways to calculate which century a year belongs to:
 - If the number of a year lies between 1-99, and is marked BC, then the year belongs to the 1st century BC. If it is marked AD, then it belongs to the 1st century AD.
 - If the number of a year lies between 100-9999, add '1' to the hundreds digit. For example, AD 621 belongs to the 7th century (6+1=7), and AD 1973 belongs to the 20th century (19+1=20).



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6. End of the Stone Age

(a) From Stone Age to Metal Ages

- In about 4000 BC, humans discovered metal.
- Later, they learned to process different metals and made stronger and sharper metal tools.
 - Metal tools gradually replaced the coarse stone tools.
- The Stone Age came to an end. Humans entered the 'Metal Ages'.

(b) From prehistoric times to historic times

- At the same time, humans invented writing for making records and communication. The 'historic times' started.
- The invention of writing was one important feature of a civilized society.

Evolution of the Stone Age: From nomadic to agricultural

	Old Stone Age	New Stone Age	
Time	Started around 2,500,000 BC; ended around 10,000 BC	Started around 10,000 BC; ended around 4000 BC	
Stone tool-making skills	Made stone tools by striking stones together; stone tools were coarse and unpolished	Improved stone tools by polishing; stone tools were sharper and smoother	
Basic survival needs	 Clothing: naked at first; later used leaves and animal skins to cover bodies and keep warm Food: gathered wild fruits, fished and hunted for food; unstable food supply Settlement: moved from place to place in search of food; lived in caves or simple huts 	 Clothing: used silk, hemp and wool to make clothes Food: grew crops and kept animals to produce food; more stable and abundant food supply Settlement: built stronger houses and settled down; lived together and formed villages 	
Evolution of life	From apes to Homo sapiens Homo sapiens: The evolution of humans, especially the growth of intelligence, differentiated humans from ape. Homo sapiens was the ancestor of modern humans. Use of fire: Human beings learned to make and use fire. It was of great significance to the development of humans.	From nomadic to agriculture Development of agriculture was of great significance to the development of humans: Humans started to produce food by growing crops and settle down. Today, the development of human civilization is still closely related to agriculture. Humans developed science and technology for agricultural development. They invented different farming tools and irrigation skills. They also studied the natural environment.	

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B. Rise of ancient civilizations

1. Definition of civilization

Guiding Questions

- What is civilization? What factors foster the development of civilizations?
- What are common in four ancient civilizations?
- The word 'civilization' comes from the Latin word 'civilis', meaning 'of the city' and 'of the citizens'.
 - In an extended sense, it refers to the living condition of people in cities
- Historians generally think that a civilized society have the following features:
 - People settle in **cities**.
 - People invent **writing** for making records and communication.
 - People set up a **government** to protect their lives and properties. People also make laws to maintain public order.
 - People have **religious** beliefs and practices including objects of worship, religious figures, rituals, and so on.
 - People develop **science and technology** based on their needs and experiences of their predecessors.
- The rise of cities and the invention of writing are the main criteria to determine whether a society is civilized or not. They are also closely related to the birth of ancient civilizations.

2. Background of the rise of ancient civilizations

(a) Change in modes of living

- The development of agriculture greatly changed people's modes of living.
- After their basic needs of survival were met, they began to trade, practice religions, create arts, and so on.

(b) Start of city lives

- Most cities of the ancient civilizations developed from settlements and villages.
- When city population kept increasing, government and governance, urban construction and other features of civilization came into being.

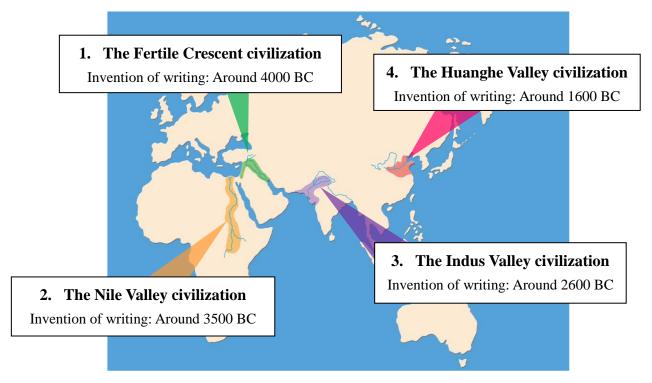
(c) Invention of writings

- Ancient people developed different writing systems from signs.
- As writing was more systematic, it allowed them to record and pass down their knowledge more accurately.
 - The accumulated wisdom led to the birth and development of ancient civilizations.

3. Birth of ancient civilizations

(a) Rise of the four centres of ancient civilizations

- Starting from around 4000 BC, civilizations rose in the Fertile Crescent, the Nile Valley, the Indus Valley and the Huanghe Valley in succession, with the Fertile Crescent the earliest.
- They were called the 'four centres of ancient civilizations'. •



The birthplaces of the four centres of ancient civilizations

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A brief introduction to the four centres of ancient civilizations

	Where did the	When did the civilization	Who created the
	civilization begin?	start and end?	civilization?
The Fertile Crescent	In present-day Iraq,	Around 4000 BC	The Sumerians
civilization	Syria, Turkey and Iran	-539 BC	
The Nile Valley	L 1 F	Around 3500 BC	The ancient Egyptians
civilization	In present-day Egypt	-305 BC	
The Indus Valley	I	Around 2600 BC	The Dravidians
civilization	In present-day Pakistan	-1500 BC	
The Huanghe Valley	In present-day Shanxi	Around 1600 BC	The Shang people
civilization	and Henan, China	-present day	

(b) Natural factors for the rise of the ancient civilizations

■ Geographical factors:

- River valleys have abundant water supply and fertile land, which are favourable
 for human settlement and living. This helped give rise to the four centres of
 ancient civilizations.
- They were also known as 'river valley civilizations'.

■ Climate factors:

- Climate and the rise of the four ancient civilizations were related.
- Scholars state that in those days the climate of the four ancient civilizations was very suitable for living and farming.
 - They had plenty of sunshine. They also had distinctive seasonal climates with wet summers.



Features of the four centres of ancient civilizations

	Fertile Crescent	Nile Valley	Indus Valley	Huanghe Valley
When civilization started and ended	Around 4000 BC -539 BC	Around 3500 BC -305 BC	Around 2600 BC -1500 BC	Around 1600 BC -present day
Birthplace of civilization	The land between the Euphrates and the Tigris; in presentday Iraq	The lower Nile region; in present-day Egypt	Middle and lower regions of the Indus River; in present-day Pakistan	Middle and lower regions of the Huanghe; in presentday China's Shanxi and Henan provinces
People who created the civilization	Sumerians	Ancient Egyptians	Dravidians	Shang people
Features of civilization I: City and architecture	Representative city: Ur Representative architecture: Ziggurats Architectural features: Built different kinds of large buildings and irrigation systems using mathematical and mechanical principles	Representative city: Memphis and Thebes Representative architecture: Temples and pyramids Architectural features: Built different kinds of large buildings using different kinds of building equipment and mathematical and mechanical principles	Representative city: Harappa and Mohenjo-daro Representative architecture: Great Bath (Mohenjo-daro) Architectural features: Well-planned cities; buildings were built with similar size of bricks	Representative city: Bo and Yin Representative architecture: Palace buildings Architectural features: Well-planned cities, mainly divided into 'residence', 'workshop' and 'graveyard'
Features of civilization II: Government and governance	Ruled by kings; kings got power from gods; officials helped the king rule the country	Ruled by kings (pharaohs); officials helped the pharaoh rule the country	Ruled by kings or priests; ruled the city-states with economic power	Ruled by kings; kings got power from Tian Di; officials helped the king rule the country
Features of civilization III: Religion	Believed in many gods	Believed in many gods (including pharaoh)	Believed in many gods (similar to nature worship)	Believed in many gods; worshipped Tian Di and ancestors
Features of civilization IV: Writing	Ideograph (Cuneiform)	Hieroglyphics, hieratic and demotic	Ideograph	Ideograph (oracle
Features of civilization V: Science and technology	Mathematics; astronomy, calendar system and system of counting time; wheels	Mathematics; chemistry and medicine; papyrus; astronomy, calendar system and system of counting time	Urban construction and architecture, mathematics and systems of weights and measures, metallurgy	Astronomy and calendar system; mathematics and systems of weights and measures; metallurgy; medicine



The Fertile Crescent

Location of the Fertile Crescent (p.28)

- It is situated between the Mediterranean Sea and
- It has fertile soil and is shaped like a new moon

The Fertile Crescent civilization and the related peoples (p.29)

- Sumerians, Hebrews, Old Babylonians, etc.

The Fertile Crescent civilization (Around 4000 BC-539 BC)

Sumerian civilization

Decline of the Fertile Crescent civilization (p.35)

- In about 539 BC, the Persians conquered the Neo-Babylonian Empire
- The Fertile Crescent civilization was absorbed into and replaced by the Persian civilization

City and architecture (p.30)

- built the world's first cities around 4000 BC; Sumerian cities were called city-states
- used mud bricks as building materials; the Sumerians built ziggurats to worship gods

Government and governance (p.32)

- ruled by kings; social classes: privileged class, commoners and slaves
- the Code of Ur-Nammu: the world's oldest law code which made in around 2100 BC

Religion (p.34)

- believed in many gods; believed in life after death

Writing (*p.34*)

- invented cuneiform: a type of ideograph, the world's first writing
- Many writings of the West Asian peoples developed from Sumerian writing

Science and technology (p.35)

- Mathematics: invented sexagesimal; had a good knowledge of arithmetic, algebra and geometry
- Astronomy, calendar system and system of counting time: made the world's first calendar system according to astronomical records; divided a day into 24 hours and each hour had 60 minutes
- <u>Transportation vehicles</u>: invented the wheel and used reeds to make boats

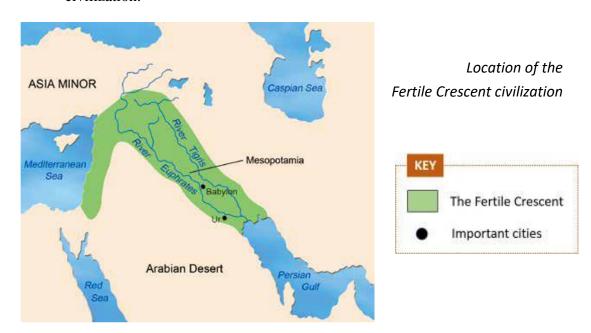
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C. The Fertile Crescent civilization

1. Location of the Fertile Crescent

Guiding Questions

- What are the characteristics of the Fertile
 Crescent civilization? What cultural heritage
 was left by this civilization for today?
- The Fertile Crescent is situated between the Mediterranean Sea and the Persian Gulf.
 - The region has fertile soil and is shaped like a new moon, so it is called the 'Fertile Crescent'.
- The southern part of the region is known as 'Mesopotamia', which means 'the land between the two rivers'.
 - The two rivers refer to the Tigris and the Euphrates.
- In early times, various tribes had settled in the Mesopotamia and relied on the two rivers for water supply.
 - They created a splendid civilization in the region, i.e. the Fertile Crescent civilization.



2. The Fertile Crescent civilization and the related peoples

- In 4000 BC, the Sumerians lived in the Mesopotamia created the world's earliest civilization.
- Other peoples came to the area and settled later on.
 - They inherited the Sumerians civilization and further developed it, thus enriched the Fertile Crescent civilization.

Early peoples living in the Fertile Crescent and their achievements

People	Description		
Sumerians	 They settled in the Fertile Crescent around 4000 BC. They built the world's first city. 		
Hebrews	 They settled in the Fertile Crescent around 3000 BC. They were the first people to believe in one god. 		
Phoenicians	 ★ They settled in the Fertile Crescent around 3000 BC. ★ They were famous for their trade, alphabet and colonies. 		
Akkadians	 They conquered the Fertile Crescent around 2360 BC. They built the world's first empire. 		
Old Babylonians	 ★ They conquered the Fertile Crescent around 1728 BC. ★ They made a more comprehensive law code in ancient times. 		
Assyrians	 They conquered the Fertile Crescent around 1400 BC. They set up a large empire and developed science and mathematics. 		
Neo Babylonians	 They defeated the Assyrian Empire around 612 BC. The city of Babylon became the world's cultural centre at the time. 		

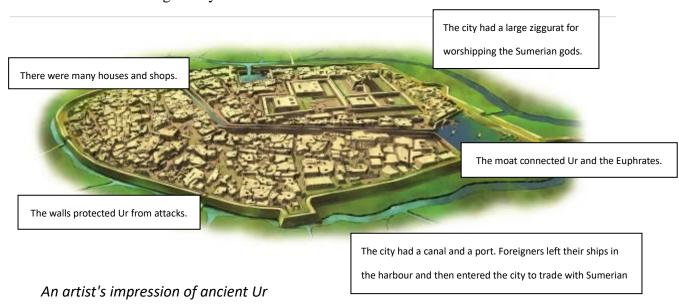
3. Sumerian civilization

- Sumer is situated in the south of the Fertile Crescent, in present-day Iraq.
- The Sumerians were the first people in history to establish cities and invent writing.
- They developed the earliest civilization in the Fertile Crescent and in human history the Sumerian civilization.
 - It was the representative of the Fertile Crescent civilization.

(a) City and architecture

(i) City

- The Sumerians built the world's first cities around 4000 BC.
- Each Sumerian city had its own government and army, like an independent state.
 - Historians call them 'city-states'.
- Ur was the largest city-state in Sumer.



(ii) Architecture

- The plains in the Fertile Crescent lacked stone and wood.
 - The Sumerians used mud bricks as building materials.
- They built large buildings and irrigation systems making use of mathematical and mechanical principles.
- Situated in a flat, low land, Sumer lacked natural barriers. In addition, wars were frequent.
 - Every Sumerian city-state built tall and thick walls for defense.
- Most city-states also built ports and canals for transport.
- Sumerian temples were known as 'ziggurats'.
 - They were the most important buildings of Sumerian city-states.
 - The Sumerians built ziggurats to worship gods. They believed that gods would descend to earth through these high-rise ziggurats to protect them.

(b) Government and governance

(i) Politics and society

- The Sumerians were ruled by kings.
 - At first Sumerian kings were elected. Later they became hereditary.
 - The Sumerians completely obeyed their kings, the representatives of gods.
- Sumerian society was divided into different classes:
 - **Privileged class**: This included the king, priests, nobles and officials. They were the minority in society.
 - Commoners: Most Sumerians, including merchants, craftsmen and farmers, belonged to this class.
 - **Slaves:** They were prisoners of war, orphans or debtors. They were at the bottom of society.
- Commoners had to pay taxes and work for their rulers.
- Slaves did all the hard labour and were not protected by Sumerian law.

(ii) Laws

- Around 2100 BC, the Sumerians made the *Code of Ur-Nammu* to maintain law and order.
 - It was the world's oldest law code.
- The main provisions of the Sumerian law included the following:
 - kings got their power from gods (divine rights of kings) and had duties to protect the people;
 - rules for slave trade;
 - punishments of criminals.

(c) Religion

(i) Belief in many gods

- The Sumerians believed in many gods.
- Each city-state had its own patron god.

- The Sumerian gods were like human beings.
 - They had families;
 - they were divided into different classes such as 'major gods' and 'minor gods'.
- The Sumerians believed in life after death. The souls would stay in the underworld forever.

(ii) Religions rituals

- The Sumerians made offerings and celebrated religious festivals to show their respect to gods.
- Kings and nobles put their statues in temples to get gods' blessings.

(d) Writing

- The Sumerians invented the world's first writing called 'cuneiform' (a type of ideograph).
- They used reed pens to press wedge-shaped signs on a clay tablet.
- They also carved words and pictures on seals to keep records.
- The Sumerians cuneiform was later used and developed by other peoples in the Fertile Crescent. It also spread beyond the Fertile Crescent.
- Many writings of the West Asian peoples developed from Sumerian writing.

(e) Science and technology

(i) <u>Mathematics</u>

- The Sumerians invented 'sexagesimal'.
- Today, we still use sixty as a unit of measurement, such as circle (360 degrees), minute and second.
- The Sumerians had a good knowledge of arithmetic, algebra and geometry.

(ii) Astronomy, calendar system and system of counting time

- The Sumerians were the earliest people to record star movements.
- They then made the world's first calendar system which divided into years, months and days according to these records.
- To count time, the Sumerians divided a day into 24 hours and each hour had 60 minutes.

(iii) <u>Transportation vehicles</u>

- The Sumerians invented the wheel.
 - They used wheels to create two-wheeled and four-wheeled carts pulled by animals.
- They also used reeds to make boats.

4. Decline of the Fertile Crescent civilization

- In about 539 BC, the Persians conquered the Neo-Babylonian Empire.
 - The people of Fertile Crescent dispersed.
- The Fertile Crescent civilization was absorbed into and replaced by the Persian civilization.



The Nile Valley civilization

Location of the Nile Valley (p.39)

- The large region of land surrounding the Nile in Africa

The Nile Valley civilization and the related peoples (p.39)

The ancient Egyptians and the Kushites

The Nile Valley civilization (Around 3500 BC-305 BC)

The Ancient Egyptian civilization

Decline of the Nile Valley civilization (p.50)

- In the 4th century BC, ancient Egypt was conquered by the Macedonians
- The ancient Egyptian civilization was no longer valued by the ruling class

City and architecture (p.40)

- built several major cities such as Memphis and Thebes
- buildings were built of mud bricks and stones; the most well-known buildings: pyramids and temples

Government and governance (p.44)

- ruled by pharaohs
- civilian government: government officials were formed by a few educated people
- made and passed laws in the name of the pharaohs

Religion (p.46)

- believed in many gods; believed in life after death; made mummies

Writing (*p.49*)

- invented hieroglyphics, hieratic and demotic

Science and technology (p.49)

- <u>Mathematics</u>: invented the numeral system and decimal system
- <u>Chemistry and medicine</u>: metallurgy, brewing, medicine and mummy
- <u>Papyrus</u>: used reeds to make 'papyrus' for writing.
- <u>Astronomy, calendar and counting time</u>: made a calendar system by observing star movements and the flood cycle of the Nile; invented the sundial and the water-clock to count time

D. The Nile Valley civilization

Guiding Questions

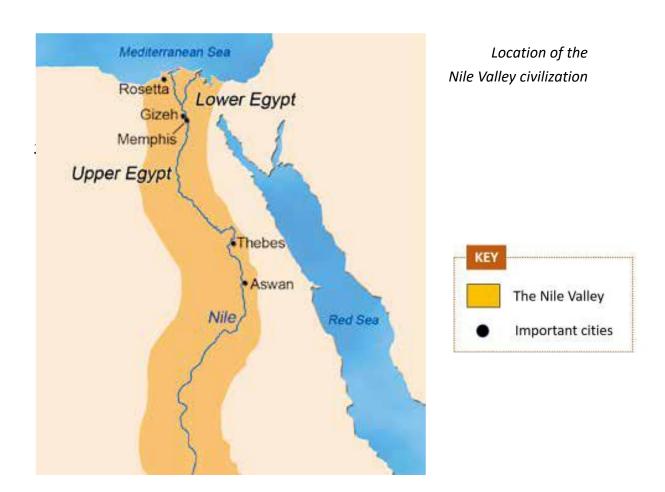
1. Location of the Nile Valley

What are the characteristics of the Nile Valley civilization?
 What cultural heritage was left by this civilization for

- The Nile Valley refers to the large region of land surrounding the Nile in Africa.
- The Nile flows from the highlands in east Africa to the Mediterranean Sea.
 - It is the longest river in the world. It is about 6,650 km long.

2. The Nile Valley civilization and the related peoples

- The ancient Egyptians and the Kushites lived in the Nile Valley in ancient times.
- In about 3500 BC, the ancient Egyptians civilization started in the lower regions of the Nile. It then spread over the Nile Valley through the expansion of ancient Egypt.
- The neighbouring Kushites were influenced by ancient Egyptian culture, lifestyle and religion. They eventually developed their own civilization as well.



Location of the Nile Valley civilization

- In about 3200 BC, King Menes set up the first unified kingdom in Egypt.
- By 332 BC, the ancient Egyptians had established thirty-one dynasties in the Nile Valley. They had carried forward their civilization.
 - The ancient Egyptian civilization thus became the representative of the Nile Valley civilization.

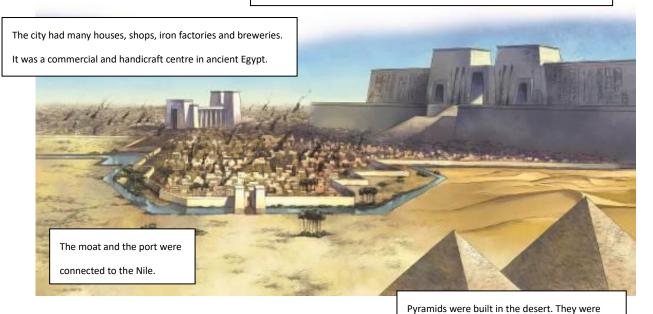
(a) City and architecture

(i) City

- The ancient Egyptians built several major cities such as Memphis and Thebes to meet political and religious needs.
- Besides these big and populous cities, the ancient Egyptians also built small cities near pyramids to provide living facilities for construction workers.

An artist's impression of Memphis in about 2000 BC

There were many temples in the city. The largest temple worshipped Ptah. The walls surrounding the temples and palace were even huger than city walls.



the tombs of the pharaohs and royal members.

(ii) Architecture

- As timber was rare in the Nile Valley, ancient Egyptian buildings were built of mud bricks and stones.
- Among the ancient civilizations, ancient Egypt had the most advanced architectural skills.
- The ancient Egyptians built different great buildings using building equipment and principles of mathematics and mechanics.
- Pyramids and temples were the most well-known buildings in ancient Egypt.
 - The pharaoh (ancient Egyptian ruler) ordered the construction of huge pyramids as tombs for himself and royal members.
 - He also built grand and huge statues of gods to show his respect to them.

(b) Government and governance

(i) Pharaohs

- Ancient Egypt was ruled by pharaohs.
 - The ancient Egyptians believed that the pharaoh was the representative of the gods on earth.
- The pharaoh also acted as the chief priest in religious rites.

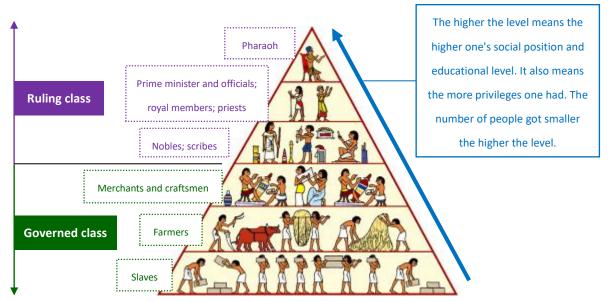
(ii) Officials and laws

- In ancient Egypt, ministries were set up to handle government administration.
- Form of governance: 'civilian government'
 - Government officials were formed by a few educated people, including priests, nobles and scribes, and so on.
- The ancient Egyptians made and passed laws in the name of the pharaohs.
- Punishments were severe in ancient Egypt.
 - Criminals who committed serious crimes would be executed. Their dead bodies could not be buried, meaning that their souls were not able to be reborn.

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A diagram showing the ancient Egyptian society



(c) Religion

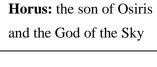
(i) Belief in many gods

- The ancient Egyptians believed in many gods.
- They set up altars at home and built temples in city centre to worship their gods.
- Worship ceremonies were held after harvest and during festivals.
- Every city had its own patron god. Every ancient Egyptian dynasty also worshipped a specific god.
- The ancient Egyptians believed that the pharaoh was the descendant of the Sun God Ra and worshipped him as god.

Osiris: the God of Life and the Underworld







Isis: the wife of Osiris and the Goddess of Fertility





Anubis: the God who protects people's souls after death

(ii) Afterlife and mummy

- The ancient Egyptians believed that the soul would survive after someone died.
 - When he was allowed to be reborn, the soul had to use his body.
- The ancient Egyptians would make mummies for dead people.
 - It aimed to preserve their dead bodies forever.
 - It was complicated to make a mummy and the whole process took about 70 days. Lots of spices, salt, medicine and fine linen were needed.
- As it was very expensive to make mummies, only royal family members, nobles and wealthy people could afford the cost.
- Ordinary people used simple ways to preserve dead bodies, and then buried them in the dry desert. These dead bodies were not as well preserved as the mummies.
- The ancient Egyptians made animal mummies as grave goods or offerings to the gods.

(d) Writing

- In about 3500 BC, the ancient Egyptians invented hieroglyphics.
 - This writing was complicated and only a few people such as royal members, nobles, officials and scribes knew how to use it.
- In about 1780 BC, the ancient Egyptians simplified hieroglyphics to hieratic.
 - Hieroglyphics were used in religious ceremonies while hieratic was used in government administration, commerce, education and so on.
- In about 650 BC, hieratic was simplified as demotic.
 - Demotic was simpler and quicker to write.
 - The ancient Egyptians gradually forgot how to read and write hieroglyphics.

(e) Science and technology

(i) <u>Mathematics</u>

- The ancient Egyptians invented the numeral system and decimal system.
- They knew how to calculate the areas of a square, circle and triangle, and make fractions
- Different measurement methods and tools were invented as well (e.g. using cubits and palms to measure length).

(ii) Chemistry and medicine

Journey Through History: New Topic-based Series Study Notes

Topic 1 Human needs: past and present

- The ancient Egyptians applied their knowledge of chemistry and medicine in various aspects.
 - **Metallurgy**: The ancient Egyptians mastered refining and metalworking skills. They could make different alloys.
 - **Brewing**: They had fermentation knowledge and made different types of wine and beer.
 - **Medicine**: They performed operations and used herbal medicines to cure diseases and relieve pain.
 - **Mummy**: The mummies show that they had advanced preservation and anatomical techniques.

(iii) Papyrus

- In about 3000 BC, the ancient Egyptians used reeds to make 'papyrus' for writing.
- Papyrus was then widely used in the Mediterranean region, West Asia and Europe.

(iv) Astronomy, calendar and counting time

- The ancient Egyptians made a calendar system by observing star movements and the flood cycle of the Nile.
 - According to the calendar, each year had 365 days and July was the beginning month.
- The ancient Egyptians invented the sundial and the water-clock to count time.

4. Decline of the Nile Valley civilization

- In the 4th century BC, ancient Egypt was conquered by the Macedonians.
- Ancient Greek civilization spread rapidly and Greek even replaced Egyptian as the official language.
- The ancient Egyptian civilization was no longer valued by the ruling class.
 - The Nile Valley civilization thus declined.



The Indus Valley civilization

Location of the Indus Valley (p.51)

- the large region of land surrounding the
Indus in South Asia

The Indus Valley civilization and the related peoples (p.51)

the Dravidians

The Indus Valley civilization (Around 2600 BC-1500 BC)

Dravidian civilization

Decline of the Indus Valley civilization (*p.57*)

- From 2000 BC onwards, the Dravidians left their cities in the Indus Valley.
- Some archaeologists think that this might have been caused by natural disasters, changes in river courses or invasion of the Indo-Aryans

City and architecture (p.52)

- Each Dravidian city had its own government or ruler; Mohenjodaro and Harappa were well-established
- Buildings were built with baked bricks and timber; cities had similar urban designs; cities were surrounded by walls

Government and governance (p.54)

- Rulers ruled as kings or priests (could take up the two posts)
- Four social classes: intellectuals, soldiers, merchants and craftsmen, and labourers
- made a set of laws to maintain social order

Religion (p.46)

- similar to nature worship; made statues and seals of gods

Writing (*p.49*)

invented writing which was a type of ideograph and mainly contained symbols; left few written records

Science and technology (p.49)

- <u>Urban planning and construction</u>: Their cities were well linked by roads. They had comprehensive water supply system, sanitary system and independent toilets; invented stepwell
- Mathematics and weights and measures system: a good system of weights and measures
- Metallurgy: knew how to refine gold, brass, lead and other metals; made bronze vessels with advanced casting techniques

Topic 1 Human needs: past and present

E. The Indus Valley civilization

Guiding Questions

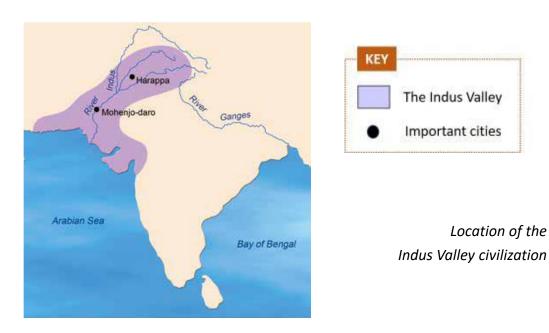
What are the characteristics of the Indus Valley civilization?
 What cultural heritage was left by this civilization for today?

1. Location of the Indus Valley

- The Indus Valley refers to the large region of land surrounding the Indus in South Asia.
- The Indus originates in the Himalayas and mainly flows through present-day Pakistan into the Arabian Sea. It is about 3,200 km long.

2. The Indus Valley civilization and the related peoples

- In about 4000 BC, the Dravidians gradually moved to and settled in the Indus Valley.
- In about 2600 BC, the Dravidians developed their civilization and spread along the Indus.



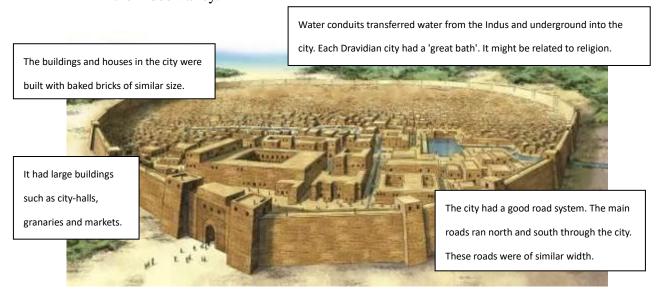
3. Dravidian civilization

- The Dravidians built many cities in the middle and lower regions of the Indus Valley. They also invented writing.
 - The Indus Valley's historic times began.
- The Dravidian civilization continued to develop until about 1750 BC.
 - The Indus Valley became one of the origins of ancient civilization.

(a) City and architecture

(i) City

- Each Dravidian city had its own government or ruler.
- Among the Dravidian city-states, Mohenjodaro and Harappa were well-established and the most representative.
 - They were the administrative, religious and international trading centres of the Indus Valley.



An artist's impression of the city in about 2500 BC

(ii) Architecture

- Dravidian cities had similar urban designs.
- Buildings were built with baked bricks and timber. The bricks were of similar size.
 - This showed the outstanding brick making skills at that time.
- Dravidian cities seldom used stone as building material, different from the cities in other ancient civilizations.
- Dravidian cities were surrounded by walls.
 - There were only a few big buildings, including city-halls, granaries, markets and 'great baths'. Other buildings were ordinary flat-roofed houses.
 - Some cities were located close to the sea or river. These cities had piers for trade with other cities.

(b) Government and governance

(i) Government and society

- Dravidian rulers came from powerful tribes or families.
 - They ruled as kings or priests (could take up the two posts).
 - They controlled the city-states with economic rather than military power.
- The Dravidian society was divided into four classes.
 - They were intellectuals, soldiers, merchants and craftsmen, and labourers.
- The Dravidian society did not have great class differences. It also did not have slaves. It was uncommon in ancient civilizations.

(ii) Laws

- The Dravidians made a set of laws to maintain social order. The main provisions included:
 - rules for appointing and dismissing government officials;
 - items and amount of taxes collected by the government;
 - religious practices followed by the people (such as fasting and bathing).

(c) Religion

- The religion of the Dravidians was similar to nature worship.
 - They worshipped the Goddess of Fertility, the sun, water and even plants.
- They made statues and seals of gods.
- Dravidian women would dance and sing in religious activities and festivals to pay their respects to gods.

(d) Writing

- Around 2600 BC, the Dravidians invented their own writing.
 - It was a type of ideograph and mainly contained symbols.
- The Dravidian civilization left few written records.
- About 2,000 seals were discovered in the Indus Valley remains.
 - The words and symbols on these seals were mainly about numerals, units of measurement and religion.

(e) Science and technology

(i) <u>Urban planning and construction</u>

- The Dravidians were good at urban planning.
 - Their cities were well linked by roads. They had comprehensive water supply system, sanitary system and independent toilets.
 - These were rare in ancient civilizations.
- In about the 5th century BC, the Romans developed road networks and sanitary systems, more than 1,000 years after the end of the Indus Valley civilization.
- The Dravidians had good construction techniques. Stepwell was their most representative invention.
 - They built stepped reservoirs in places where underground water flowed through. The steps made it easy for people to get water.
 - The base had a slide gate to control water levels.
 - Stepwells became a typical architecture in India and Asia later.

(ii) Mathematics and weights and measures system

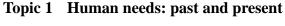
- The Dravidians had developed a good system of weights and measures.
- They used the human palm, arm and sole as units of measurement. This was similar to the ancient Egyptians.

(iii) Metallurgy

- The Dravidians knew how to refine gold, brass, lead and other metals.
- They also made bronze vessels with advanced casting techniques.

4. Decline of the Indus Valley civilization

- From 2000 BC onwards, the Dravidians left their cities in the Indus Valley.
- Some archaeologists think that this might have been caused by natural disasters, changes in river courses or invasion of the Indo-Aryans.
 - The Indus Valley civilization gradually declined.





The Huanghe Valley civilization

Location of the Huanghe Valley (p.59)

- a large area of land along Huanghe in China

The Huanghe Valley civilization and the related peoples (p.59)

- the Shang people, a branch of the Huaxia people

The Huanghe Valley civilization (Around 1600 BC-present day)

Shang civilization

City and architecture (p.60)

- Bo and Yin were the representative capitals
- Timber was the main building material; cities were mainly divided into three districts 'residence', 'workshop' and 'graveyard

From Huanghe Valley civilization to the Chinese civilization (p.65)

- the Huanghe Valley civilization absorbed and mixed with other regional civilizations
 (e.g. the Changjiang Valley civilization)
- It continued to expand and developed into the present-day Chinese civilization.

Government and governance (p.62)

- ruled by hereditary kings; the king would give land to nobles and officials
- Three social classes: the upper class, commoners and slaves
- Shang laws: Tian Di sending Shang kings to rule the people, etc.

Religion (p.62)

- worshipped many gods such as Tian Di, their ancestors, rivers, mountains and the sun; divination was popular

Writing (*p.64*)

- oracle inscription: record Tian Di's messages on turtle shells and animal bones

Science and technology (p.64)

- <u>Astronomy and calendar system</u>: detailed astronomical records carved on the oracle bones; invented a calendar system
- Mathematics and system of weights and measures: invented a numeral system and decimal system
- Metallurgy: great metal (bronze) making and artistic skills
- Medicine: believed that the five internal organs of the human body were related to the five elements

F. The Huanghe Valley civilization

Guiding Questions

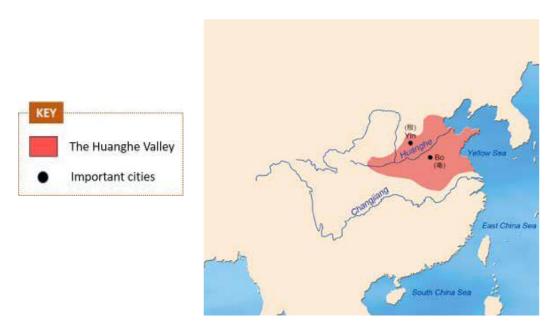
What are the characteristics of the Huanghe Valley civilization?
 What cultural heritage was left by this civilization for today?

1. Location of the Huanghe Valley

- The Huanghe Valley is located in China. It refers to a large area of land along Huanghe.
- Huanghe is about 5,464 km long. It originates in the Tibetan Plateau and flows into the Bohai Sea.
- The Huanghe Valley was regarded as the cradle of the present-day Chinese civilization.

2. The Huanghe Valley civilization and the related peoples

- About 5,000 years ago, many tribes lived in the middle and lower regions of Huanghe.
 - They gradually joined together to form the 'Huaxia people'.
- In 1600 BC, the Shang people, a branch of the Huaxia people, developed civilization.
 - It marked the start of the Huanghe Valley civilization.
 - Since then, the Huaxia people kept and developed the Huanghe Valley civilization.



Location of the Huanghe Valley civilization

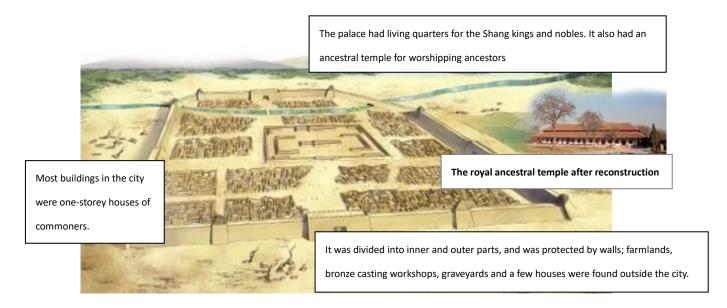
3. Shang civilization

- In about 1600 BC, the Shang people set up the Shang Dynasty and invented writing.
 - China's historic times began.
- Shang's rule and civilization continued until 1046 BC.
 - It laid the foundation for the Huanghe Valley civilization and even the Chinese civilization.

(a) City and architecture

(i) <u>City</u>

- There were two main types of Shang cities: the capitals ruled by Shang kings and other cities rule by nobles.
- The capitals were important political, economic and military centres.
- The Shang Dynasty moved its capitals several times.
 - Bo and Yin, were the representative capitals of the early and late Shang Dynasty respectively.



An artist's impression of Bo in about 1500 BC

(ii) Architecture

- Timber was the main building material in the Shang Dynasty.
- Concrete, made from red mud and coarse sand, was used to build city walls.
- The roads in cities were mainly built with mud. Later, roads were covered with stones and broken pottery.
- The construction of the Shang cities was planned.
 - They were mainly divided into three districts 'residence', 'workshop' and 'graveyard'.
- The palace was the most important building in every capital. Other buildings included houses of commoners.
- There were pottery and bronze casting workshops, drains and reservoirs.

(b) Government and governance

(i) Politics and society

- The Shang Dynasty was ruled by hereditary kings.
- The Shang kings were sent by Tian Di, and thus they had great political and religious powers.
- To gain their loyalty, the king would give land to nobles and officials, and allow them to rule their cities.
- The Shang society was divided into three social classes:
 - the upper class (the king, priests, nobles and officials);
 - commoners;
 - slaves (prisoners of war or people who had sold themselves into slavery).

(ii) Laws

- According to historical records, the Shang laws included the following points:
 - Tian Di sending Shang kings to rule the people;
 - marriage and inheritance laws;
 - criminal punishment.

(c) Religion

- The Shang people worshipped many gods such as Tian Di, their ancestors, rivers, mountains and the sun.
 - They also believed that Tian Di was all-powerful.
- The Shang people were very religious.
 - They also used cows, horses and even humans as offerings.
- Divination was popular at that time.
 - The Shang people would seek the instructions of Tian Di about battle, punishment, marriage, disease and so on.

(d) Writing

- Shang writing was a type of ideograph.
- The Shang people would record Tian Di's messages on turtle shells and animal bones.
 - Shang writing was thus called 'oracle inscription'.
- Shang writing influenced the development of Chinese writing.
 - Many modern Chinese characters developed from the oracle inscription.





Shang characters and modern Chinese characters (left) and an oracle bone found in Henan (right)

(e) Science and technology

(i) Astronomy and calendar system

- There were detailed astronomical records including solar and lunar eclipses carved on the oracle bones.
- The Shang people invented a calendar system.
 - They divided a year into four seasons and 12 months.
 - A leap month was used to adjust the number of days in a year.
 - The calendar system was important for farming. T

• The Shang people also invented 'Heavenly Stems' and 'Earthly Branches' to count years. This method is still used today.

(ii) Mathematics and system of weights and measures

- The Shang people invented a numeral system and decimal system.
- They invented the Chinese foot, litre and catty as units of measurement.
 - They were used by later Chinese dynasties.

(iii) Metallurgy

- The Shang people had great metal making and artistic skills.
- They used bronze to make utensils, musical instruments and weapons.

(iv) Medicine

- The Shang people believed that the five internal organs of the human body were related to the five elements (gold, wood, fire, water, soil).
- This idea was one of the theoretical foundations of Chinese medicine.

4. From Huanghe Valley civilization to the Chinese civilization

- In about 1046 BC, the Shang Dynasty was overthrown, and the Zhou Dynasty was set up.
 - The Zhou Dynasty carried on the civilization of the Shang Dynasty.
 - The middle-lower region of Huanghe was still the political centre until the fall of the Zhou Dynasty in 256 BC.
- Some scholars state that the Huanghe Valley civilization did not decline, but absorbed and mixed with other regional civilizations (such as the Changjiang Valley civilization).
 - It continued to expand and developed into the present-day Chinese civilization.

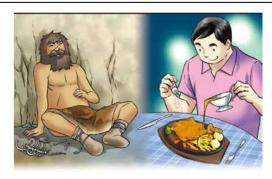
Topic 1 Human needs: past and present

G. Conclusion:

similarities and differences between past and present human needs

Guiding Questions

- What are the similarities and differences of human needs between the past and the present?
- There are continuities and changes of human needs between past and present.
 - The earliest people needed food, shelter and clothing to survive.
 - Today we all have these basic survival needs, and our desires keep growing and evolve.
- Human needs and civilizations have been closely related.
 - Both ancient and modern people purse better life.
 - More knowledge and technologies have been thus developed to meet the increasing needs (see the cartoons below).
 - This further fosters the birth and development of civilizations.



 Stone Age people ate food to fill the stomach; other than that, we now eat for pleasure and nourishment. Various cooking methods are thus created.



 The Sumerians invented writing to keep records; other than that, we now demand a higher accuracy. Many technological products are thus invented.



 The ancient Egyptians set up a government to maintain law and order; other than that, we now desire more public participation. Political systems are thus getting improved.



4. The Dravidians planned their cities for convenience; other than that, we now call for the protection of nature. More green cities are thus emerged.



REVISION TIMELINE

Time	Important event	Extended point
4 million years ago	The earliest people appeared in Africa	Human history began
2,500,000 BC	Old Stone Age started	A nomadic society
		People relocated frequently
10,000 BC	New Stone Age started	An agricultural society
		People settled in one place
4000 BC	Stone Age ended; Metal Age started	Metal tools replaced stone tools
	The Sumerians developed the Sumerian	• The birth of the earliest civilization in the
	civilization in the Fertile Crescent	Fertile Crescent and in human history
	The Sumerians built the world's first cities	• Sumerian cities were called 'city-states'
	Prehistoric times ended; Historic times started	• The Sumerians invented the world's first
		writing called 'cuneiform'
3500 BC	The ancient Egyptians civilization started	• It then spread over the Nile Valley
	The ancient Egyptians invented hieroglyphics	
3200 BC	King Menes set up the first unified kingdom in	The ancient Egyptians had carried
	Egypt	forward their civilization
3000 BC	The ancient Egyptians made papyrus for writing	
2600 BC	The Dravidian civilization started	
	The Dravidians invented their own writing	• It was a type of ideograph and mainly
		contained symbols
2100 BC	The Sumerians made the Code of Ur-Nammu	It was the world's oldest law code
2000 BC	The Dravidians left their cities	The Indus Valley civilization declined
1780 BC	The ancient Egyptians simplified hieroglyphics	
	to hieratic	
1600 BC	The Shang people set up the Shang Dynasty and	The Huanghe Valley civilization started
	invented writing	China's historic times began
650 BC	Hieratic was simplified as demotic	◆ The ancient Egyptians gradually forgot
		how to read and write hieroglyphics
539 BC	The Persians conquered the Neo-Babylonian	The Fertile Crescent civilization was
	Empire	replaced by the Persian civilization
4th century BC	The Macedonians conquered the ancient Egypt	• The ancient Egyptian civilization was no
		longer valued by the ruling class
		◆ The Nile Valley civilization thus declined



Development of the Stone Age

1. Prehistoric times

- The period before the invention of writing.

2. Historic times

- The period after the invention of writing. Around 4000 BC, the Sumerians invented the world's first writing. The historic times started.

3. Stone Age (about 2,500,000 BC - about 4000 BC)

- People made and used stone tools. This period can be divided into the 'Old Stone Age' and 'New Stone Age'.

4. Farming and keeping livestock

- The ways of getting food in the New Stone Age. Because of farming and keeping livestock, food supply became more stable. The human population increased.

5. Metal Ages

- In about 4000 BC, humans discovered metal. Later, metal tools gradually replaced the coarse stone tools. Humans entered the 'Metal Ages'.

Rise of ancient civilizations

1. Civilization

- The word 'civilization' comes from the Latin word 'civilis', meaning 'of the city' and 'of the citizens'. In an extended sense, it refers to the living condition of people in cities.

2. Four centres of ancient civilizations

The earliest centres of civilizations in human history, including the Fertile Crescent civilization, the Nile Valley civilization, the Indus Valley civilization and the Huanghe Valley civilization.

Topic 1 Human needs: past and present

3. River valleys

- River valleys have abundant water supply and fertile land, which are favourable for human settlement and living. This helped give rise to the four centres of ancient civilizations.

The Fertile Crescent civilization: Location of the Fertile Crescent

1. The Fertile Crescent

- It is situated between the Mediterranean Sea and the Persian Gulf. The region has fertile soil and is shaped like a new moon, so it is called the 'Fertile Crescent'.

2. Mesopotamia

- It means 'the land between the two rivers'. The two rivers refer to the Tigris and the Euphrates.

The Fertile Crescent civilization: The Fertile Crescent civilization and the related peoples

1. The Sumerians

- The first people in history to establish cities and invent writing.

2. Old Babylonians

- They conquered the Fertile Crescent around 1728 BC. They made a more comprehensive law code in ancient times.

The Fertile Crescent civilization: Sumerian civilization

1. Ur

- It was the largest city-state in Sumer.

2. Ziggurats

- They were Sumerian temples and were the most important buildings of Sumerian city-states. The Sumerians built ziggurats to worship gods.

3. The Code of Ur-Nammu

- Around 2100 BC, the Sumerians made the Code of Ur-Nammu to maintain law and order. It was the world's oldest law code.

Topic 1 Human needs: past and present

4. Cuneiform

- The world's first writing invented by the Sumerians.

The Nile Valley civilization: Location of the Nile Valley

1. The Nile Valley

- The large region of land surrounding the Nile in Africa.

The Nile Valley civilization: The Ancient Egyptian civilization

1. Pyramids

- The most well-known buildings in ancient Egypt. The pharaoh ordered the construction of huge pyramids as tombs for himself and royal members.

2. Pharaohs

- The ruler of ancient Egypt. The ancient Egyptians believed that the pharaoh was the representative of the gods on earth.

3. Civilian government

- The form of governance in ancient Egypt. Government officials were formed by a few educated people, including priests, nobles and scribes, and so on.

4. Afterlife

- The ancient Egyptians believed that the soul would survive after someone died. When he was allowed to be reborn, the soul had to use his body.

5. Mummy

- It was made to preserve dead bodies forever. Lots of spices, salt, medicine and fine linen were needed. As it was very expensive to make mummies, only royal family members, nobles and wealthy people could afford the cost.

6. Hieroglyphics

This writing was invented by the ancient Egyptians in about 3500 BC. It was complicated and only a few people such as royal members, nobles, officials and scribes knew how to use it.

Topic 1 Human needs: past and present

7. Papyrus

- In about 3000 BC, the ancient Egyptians used reeds to make 'papyrus' for writing. Papyrus was then widely used in the Mediterranean region, West Asia and Europe.

The Indus Valley civilization: Location of the Indus Valley

1. The Indus Valley

- The large region of land surrounding the Indus in South Asia.

The Indus Valley civilization: Dravidian civilization

1. Mohenjodaro and Harappa

- Among the Dravidian city-states, they were well-established and the most representative. They were the administrative, religious and international trading centres of the Indus Valley.

2. Stepwell

- The most representative invention of the Dravidians. The Dravidians built stepped reservoirs in places where underground water flowed through.

The Huanghe Valley civilization: Location of the Huanghe Valley

1. The Huanghe Valley

- A large area of land along Huanghe in China.

The Huanghe Valley civilization: Shang civilization

1. Shang Dynasty (1600 BC – 1046 BC)

- It was set up by the Shang people. It laid the foundation for the Huanghe Valley civilization and even the Chinese civilization.

2. Oracle inscription

- Shang writing was a type of ideograph. The Shang people would record Tian Di's messages on turtle shells and animal bones. Shang writing was thus called 'oracle inscription'. Shang writing influenced the development of Chinese writing. Many modern Chinese characters developed from the oracle inscription.



HUNTING FOR HISTORICAL FIGURES



1. King Hammurabi (reigned around 1792 BC-1750 BC)

The king of the Old Babylonian Empire. He made the *Code of Hammurabi* based on the laws of the Sumerians.

2. King Assurbanipal (reigned around 668 BC-627 BC)

The king of the Assyrian Empire. He founded a royal library which was the earliest systematic library in history.





3. King Menes

In about 3200 BC, he set up the first unified kingdom in Egypt.

4. Osiris

The God of Life and the Underworld.





5. Anubis

The God who protects people's souls after death.



★ Old Stone Age

Time		-	Started around 2,500,000 BC Ended around 10,000 BC
	Ways of getting food	-	Got food directly from nature Mainly by gathering wild fruits , fishing and hunting
Main features	Nomadic lifestyle		Moved from place to place Lived in caves or huts
	Accumulating survival wisdom		Discovered and learned to use fire

★ New Stone Age

Time		Started around 10,000 BCEnded around 4,000 BC
	Food production	 Learned to grow crops and invented farming tools Learned to keep livestock The food supply became more stable The human population increased
Main features	Settlement and houses	 Built houses to settle down Villages were formed A village-based agricultural society began
	Skills and cultural life	 Learned to polish stone tools Learned to make pottery and clothes Developed art and religion

***** End of the Stone Age

From Stone Age to Metal Ages	-	In about 4000 BC, humans discovered metal Metal tools gradually replaced the coarse stone tools
From prehistoric times	-	Humans invented writing for making records and communication
to historic times		The invention of writing was one important feature of a civilized society

***** Definition of civilization

		People settle in cities
	•	People invent writing for making records and communication
	•	People set up a government to protect their lives and properties. People also
Main features of a		make laws to maintain public order
civilized society		People have religious beliefs and practices including objects of worship,
		religious figures, rituals, and so on
		People develop science and technology based on their needs and experiences of
		their predecessors

***** The rise of the ancient civilizations

Background	Change in modes of living	■ Basic needs of survival were met ■ People began to trade, practice religions, create arts, etc.
	Start of city lives	■ City population kept increasing, government and governance, urban construction and other features of civilization came into being
	Invention of writings	 Ancient people developed different writing systems from signs could record and pass down knowledge more accurately the accumulated wisdom led to the birth and development of ancient civilizations
Natural factors	Geographical factors	River valleys have abundant water supply and fertile land, which are favourable for human settlement and living
	Climate factors	■ Plenty of sunshine and had distinctive seasonal climates with wet summers: suitable for living and farming

★ The Fertile Crescent civilization: Sumerian civilization

City and architecture				
City	 Around 4000 BC: the Sumerians built the world's first cities Sumerian cities: city-states Ur: the largest city-state in Sumer 			
Architecture	 Built tall and thick walls for defence; ports and canals for transport Most important buildings: ziggurats (temples) 			
	Government and governance			
Politics and society	 Ruled by kings Social classes: privileged class, commoners and slave 			
Laws	■ Around 2100 BC: the <i>Code of Ur-Nammu</i> ➤ the world's oldest law code			
	Religion			
Belief in many gods	 Believed in many gods. Each city-state had its own patron god Believed in life after death 			
Religions rituals	 Made offerings and celebrated religious festivals Kings and nobles put their statues in temples 			
	Writing			
	BC: invented 'cuneiform' (the world's first writing) s of the West Asian peoples developed from Sumerian writing			
	Science and technology			
Mathematics	 Invented 'sexagesimal' Had a good knowledge of arithmetic, algebra and geometry 			
Astronomy, calendar system and system of counting time	 The earliest people to record star movements Made the world's first calendar system Divided a day into 24 hours and each hour had 60 minutes 			
Transportation vehicles	 Invented the wheel and used wheels to create two-wheeled and four-wheeled carts pulled by animals Used reeds to make boats 			

★ The Nile Valley civilization: The ancient Egyptian civilization

	City and architecture
City	 Built several major cities such as Memphis and Thebes Built small cities near pyramids
	 The most well-known buildings: pyramids and temples Pyramids: the pharaoh ordered the construction of huge pyramids as tombs for himself and royal members.
	Government and governance
Pharaohs	■ Ancient Egypt was ruled by pharaohs
Officials and laws	 Civilian government: Government officials were formed by a few educated people, including priests, nobles and scribes, etc. Made and passed laws in the name of the pharaohs
	Religion
Belief in many gods	■ Believed that the pharaoh was the descendant of the Sun God Ra and worshipped him as god
Afterlife and	 Believed that the soul would survive after someone died Made mummies (specially preserved dead bodies) for dead people: aimed to preserve their dead bodies forever.
	Writing
■ About 3500 E	BC: invented hieroglyphics (simplified as hieratic and demotic)
	Science and technology
Mathematics	 Invented the numeral system and decimal system Using cubits and palms to measure length
Chemistry and medicine	■ Applied their knowledge of chemistry and medicine in various aspects: metallurgy, brewing, medicine and mummy
Papyrus	■ About 3000 BC: used reeds to make 'papyrus' for writing
Astronomy, calendar and counting time	 Made a calendar system by observing star movements and the flood cycle of the Nile Invented the sundial and the water-clock to count time

★ The Indus Valley civilization: Dravidian civilization

City and architecture		
City	 Each city had its own government or ruler Mohenjodaro and Harappa were well-established 	
Architecture	 Cities had similar urban designs Cities were surrounded by walls and there were only a few big buildings Some cities had piers for trade with other cities 	
	Government and governance	
Politics and society	 ■ Rulers ruled as kings or priests (could take up the two posts) ■ Social classes: intellectuals, soldiers, merchants and craftsmen, and labourers ♦ The society did not have great class differences and did not have slaves 	
Laws	■ Made a set of laws to maintain social order	
	Religion	
■ The religion wa ■ Made statues an	s similar to nature worship (the Goddess of Fertility, the sun, water, etc.) and seals of gods	
	Writing	
■ Around 2600 Be ■ Left few writter	C: invented writing (a type of ideograph and mainly contained symbols) a records	
	Science and technology	
Urban planning and construction	 Urban planning: cities were well linked by roads; comprehensive water supply system, sanitary system and independent toilets The most representative invention: stepwell Stepped reservoirs in places where underground water flowed through 	
Mathematics and weights and measures system	 A good system of weights and measures similar to the ancient Egyptians Used the human palm, arm and sole as units of measurement 	
Metallurgy	 Knew how to refine gold, brass, lead and other metals Made bronze vessels with advanced casting techniques 	

★ The Huanghe Valley civilization: Shang civilization

	City and architecture			
City	 Capitals ruled by Shang kings; other cities rule by nobles Bo and Yin were the representative capitals 			
Architecture	 Cities were divided into 'residence', 'workshop' and 'graveyard' The most important building: the palace 			
	Government and governance			
Politics and society	 Ruled by hereditary Shang kings The king would give land to nobles and officials Social classes: the upper class, commoners and slaves 			
Laws	■ Laws included Tian Di sending Shang kings to rule the people			
	Religion			
 Worshipped many gods: Tian Di, their ancestors, rivers, mountains and the sun Used cows, horses and even humans as offerings Divination was popular to seek the instructions of Tian Di Writing Oracle inscription: record Tian Di's messages on turtle shells and animal bones Many modern Chinese characters developed from the oracle inscription 				
	Science and technology			
Astronomy and calendar system	 Detailed astronomical records carved on the oracle bones Invented a calendar system: divided a year into four seasons and 12 months; a leap month was used to adjust the number of days in a year Invented 'Heavenly Stems' and 'Earthly Branches' to count years 			
Mathematics and system of weights and measures	 Invented a numeral system and decimal system Invented the Chinese foot, litre and catty as units of measurement 			
Metallurgy	■ Had great metal (bronze) making and artistic skills			
Medicine	 Believed that the five internal organs of the human body were related to the five elements (gold, wood, fire, water, soil) One of the theoretical foundations of Chinese medicine 			



1.	How do historians divide history into prehistoric times and historic times?	
	A. The birth of Jesus Christ	
	B. Humans discovered and learned to use fire	
	C. The invention of writing	
	D. Humans learned to process metals	
2.	Which of the followings was a characteristic of the Old Stone Age?	
	A. Humans learned to make simple stone tools	
	B. Humans learned to keep livestock	
	C. Humans learned to make clothes	
	D. Humans learned to made metal tools	
3.	Which of the followings was <u>NOT</u> a correct description of the New Stone Age?	
	A. The New Stone Age started in about 10,000 BC	
	B. Humans evolved from ape-man to Homo sapiens	
	C. Humans learned to grow crops and invented farming tools	
	D. Humans developed religion	
4.	Which of the following ancient civilizations was the latest to be developed?	
	A. The Fertile Crescent civilization	
	B. The Huanghe Valley civilization	
	C. The Indus Valley civilization	
	D. The Nile Valley civilization	
5.	Which of the followings is <u>NOT</u> primary sources?	
	A. Diaries	
	B. Official records	
	C. Archaeological finds	
	D. Biographies	

6.	Which of the following peoples is the inventors of the Nile Valley civilization? A. Shang people B. Sumerians C. Ancient Egyptians D. Dravidians	
7.	Which of the followings is the scientific and technological achievement of the Sumerians?	;
	A. Invention of decimal system	
	B. Invention of a calendar system	
	C. Invention of papyrus	
	D. Performance of operations to cure diseases	
8.	Which of the following peoples conquered the Neo-Babylonian Empire? A. Sumerians B. Hebrews	
	C. Assyrians	
	D. Persians	
9.	Which of the followings was the main reason for the ancient Egyptians to make mummies?	:
	A. To show their social status	
	B. To worship gods	
	C. To follow the law made by the pharaoh	
	D. To preserve dead bodies	
10.	. Which of the followings was a characteristic of Dravidian cities?	
	A. Some cities had piers for trade with other cities	
	B. Dravidian cities mainly used stone as building material	
	C. There were many big buildings in the Dravidian cities	
	D. Dravidian cities had different urban designs	

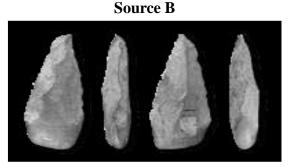
11. V	Which of the following writings is <u>NOT</u> invented by the ancient Egyptians?	
A	A. Hieroglyphics	
В	3. Hieratic	
C	C. Cuneiform	
Γ	D. Demotic	
12. V	Which of the followings was <u>NOT</u> a correct description of the Shang politic?	
A	A. The Shang Dynasty was ruled by kings	
В	3. The Shang kings had great political and religious powers	
C	C. The Shang kings would give land to nobles and officials	
Г	D. The Shang kings were elected	
13. V	Which of the followings is a heritage of the Indus Valley civilization?	
A	A. Stepwell	
В	3. 'Heavenly Stems' and 'Earthly Branches'	
C	C. Sexagesimal	
Γ	D. Reed boat	
14. V	Which of the followings led to the decline of the Indus Valley civilization?	
A	A. Invasion of the Phoenicians	
В	3. Severe class differentiation	
C	C. Frequent natural disasters	
Г	D. Inability of the rulers	
15. V	Which of the followings was <u>NOT</u> a correct description of the Shang religion?	
A	A. The Shang people believed in one god	
В	3. The Shang people believed Tian Di was all-powerful	
C	C. The Shang people used horses and even humans as offerings.	
D	D. Divination was popular	



Study the Sources and answer the questions that follow. (12 marks)

Source A

Smooth stone tools



Coarse stone tools

Source C



Humans farm

Source D



Humans hunt

1. Which age, the Old or New Stone Age, are the objects and the incidents shown in Source A-D belong to? Fill in the letters in the table below. (4 marks)

The Old Stone Age	The New Stone Age

2. What were the differences between Old Stone Age people and New Stone Age people in **stone making** and **ways of getting food**? Explain your answer according to Source A-D, and using your own knowledge. (8 marks)

Topic 1 Human needs: past and present

1. Which age, the Old or New Stone Age, are the objects and the incidents shown in Source A-D belong to? Fill in the letters in the table below. (4 marks)

The Old Stone Age	The New Stone Age

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	people in stone making and ways of getting food? Explain your answer according
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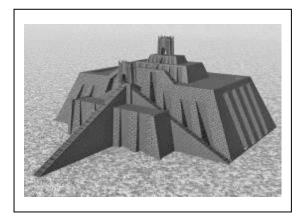
•	Clues	from	the	Source	٠.

- Your own knowledge:
- Clues from the Source:
- Your own knowledge:
- **■** Differences in <u>ways of getting food</u>
- Clues from the Source:
- Your own knowledge:
- Clues from the Source:
- Your own knowledge:

Topic 1 Human needs: past and present

Study the Source and answer the questions that follow. (9 marks)

Source: A description about the Sumerian civilization.



X was constructed by the Sumerians. This building had a central nave with passages on both sides. There was also a podium (高台) and a mudbrick table. Animals and vegetables were put on the table as offerings.

Each city-state in Sumer had its own gods. They believed that serving gods was an important purpose for their birth.

- 1. Identify building X shown in the Source. (1 mark)
- 2. Why did the Sumerians build X? Explain your answer according to the Source, and using your own knowledge. (2 marks)
- 3. What are the characteristics of a civilized society? Point them out with reference to the Source, and using your own knowledge. (6 marks)

	rney Through History: New Topic-based Series Study Notes ic 1 Human needs: past and present
1.	Identify building X shown in the Source. (1 mark)
•	Building X:
2.	Why did the Sumerians build X? Explain your answer according to the Source, and using your own knowledge. (2 marks)
•	Purpose of construction:
•	Clues from the Source:
•	Own knowledge:
3.	What are the characteristics of a civilized society? Point them out with reference to the Source, and using your own knowledge. (6 marks)
•	Clues from the Source:
•	Own knowledge related to the source:
•	Other own knowledge: