

World Civilizations: The Global Experience, AP Edition, 6e (Stearns)
Chapter 1 From Human Prehistory to the Earliest Civilizations

Multiple-Choice Questions

- 1) Hunting and gathering societies
A) are not able to produce art.
B) organize rather small groups into political units.
C) could not survive after Middle Eastern people developed agriculture.
D) generally produce a food surplus.

Answer: B

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Topic: Human Life in the Era of Hunters and Gatherers

Skill: Conceptual

- 2) The Paleolithic Age refers to
A) the period at which agriculture was developed.
B) the period in which simple stone tools were developed.
C) the period before the full development of the *Homo sapiens* species.
D) the latest of the two stone ages.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 10

Topic: Human Life in the Era of Hunters and Gatherers

Skill: Factual

- 3) A characteristic of the human species before the advent of civilization was
A) the ability to spread to various geographic settings and climate zones.
B) the ability to organize large political units.
C) the inability to communicate about abstractions such as death.
D) that all tasks were shared equally by men and women.

Answer: A

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Topic: Human Life in the Era of Hunters and Gatherers

Skill: Conceptual

- 4) The development of agriculture caused important changes in all of the following EXCEPT
A) population size and life expectancy.
B) the tendency to believe in many gods.
C) the stability of human settlements.
D) the development of complex social patterns.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 13

Topic: The Neolithic Revolution

Skill: Conceptual

5) The Neolithic revolution occurred first in

- A) Egypt.
- B) the Middle East.
- C) Central America.
- D) China.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 13

Topic: The Neolithic Revolution

Skill: Factual

6) Once developed, metal tools were preferred over stone tools for all of the following reasons EXCEPT

- A) they were easier for ordinary people to make at home.
- B) they were sharper and more precise.
- C) they permitted more diverse shapes.
- D) they could be used to make accurate weapons.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 15

Topic: The Neolithic Revolution

Skill: Conceptual

7) A society is almost certainly a civilization if

- A) it practices sedentary agriculture.
- B) it involves tool use.
- C) it has some political structure.
- D) it gathers food to survive.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 17

Topic: Civilization

Skill: Conceptual

8) The earliest known writing in a civilization first developed in

- A) Egypt
- B) China
- C) the Middle East
- D) India

Answer: C

Page Ref: 17

Topic: Tigris-Euphrates Civilization

Skill: Factual

9) The development of writing

A) resulted from new technologies, notably the invention of paper.

B) helps explain why agriculture could develop.

C) helps explain why governments could become more formal and bureaucratic.

D) resulted from the needs of the various river valley civilizations to communicate with one another.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 17

Topic: Civilization

Skill: Conceptual

10) The strongest competitor to sedentary agriculture during the Neolithic Age was

A) a nomadic herding way of life.

B) continued hunting societies.

C) slash and burn agriculture.

D) fishing and aquatic agriculture.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 18

Topic: The Neolithic Revolution

Skill: Conceptual

11) The characteristic political organization of the Tigris-Euphrates civilization was

A) large, durable empires.

B) village-level government.

C) regional city-states.

D) hunting bands.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 20-21

Topic: Tigris-Euphrates Civilization

Skill: Factual

12) Periodic nomadic invasions in the early history of the Middle East

A) caused disruptions but facilitated innovations and prompted synthesis.

B) were easily beaten back by the technologically advanced sedentary peoples.

C) caused mass popular migrations throughout the Middle East.

D) failed to upset the established political and social patterns of the region.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 21

Topic: Tigris-Euphrates Civilization

Skill: Factual

13) Egypt differed from Mesopotamian civilization by its

- A) a government-controlled economy.
- B) extensive trade.
- C) firm religious beliefs.
- D) greater social equality.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 21, 22

Topic: Egyptian Civilization

Skill: Conceptual

14) Which river valley civilization's culture remains largely unknown due to invasions and destruction by natural disasters such as climate change?

- A) Huang he
- B) Indus
- C) Nile
- D) Tigris-Euphrates
- E) Mekong

Answer: B

Page Ref: 22

Topic: Indian and Chinese River Valley Civilization

Skill: Factual

15) In river valley societies priests developed considerable social power because they

- A) controlled agriculture.
- B) dominated government.
- C) served as intermediaries between the people and gods and goddesses.
- D) regulated trade between cities and regional centers.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 23

Topic: The Great Cities of the Indus Valley

Skill: Factual

16) In early China, unity and cultural identity were provided by

- A) divine monarchs.
- B) shared religious ceremonies.
- C) a uniform language.
- D) a common system of writing.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 25

Topic: Early Civilization in China

Skill: Factual

17) Jewish monotheism

A) was spread actively by Jewish missionaries throughout the Middle East.

B) proposed a less human-like and more abstract God.

C) included worship of various lesser gods.

D) emerged at the high point of Sumerian civilization.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 28

Topic: The Heritage of the River Valley Civilizations

Skill: Conceptual

Essay Questions

1) What advantages does an agriculturally based society have over a hunter-gatherer based society?

Answer: The greatest advantage is reliable food supply, and hence, the capacity to support larger populations. Agriculture produces surpluses, and those and agriculture's sedentary nature open the door to specialization and a more elaborate culture, etc. Less satisfactory answers may exaggerate "progress," a concept of bias less useful to careful study of history.

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Topic: The Neolithic Revolution

Skill: Conceptual

2) Compared to non-civilized societies, what are the major drawbacks of civilization?

Answer: Responses may include inequality in social structure and gender as well as disease and war.

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Topic: Civilization

Skill: Conceptual

3) Why is the development of writing important in the history of the river valley civilizations?

Answer: Writing is essential for record keeping, bureaucracy, commerce, and accumulating knowledge; it also makes possible more varied cultural forms. Writing also led to new social divisions based on selective literacy.

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Topic: Civilization

Skill: Conceptual

4) Compare the main features of Egyptian and Mesopotamian civilizations. What did the two civilizations have in common as early civilizations? What were their main differences in values and organization?

Answer: Common features include writing, surplus food, cities, and established governments; differences, as highlighted in text, involve cultural tone, specific cultural features like ideas of death, artistic forms, and literary emphases, government organization and stability, and mobilization of labor.

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Topic: Tigris-Euphrates Civilization

Skill: Conceptual

5) Why was Jewish monotheism a significant development in the religious history of early civilization?

Answer: Monotheism represented a significant departure from polytheism in its concept of ethics and ideas of justice and in the extent to which the world was viewed as orderly.

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Topic: The Heritage of the River Valley Civilizations

Skill: Conceptual

Document-based Questions

- 1) Aryan warriors prized their horses for their
A) docile nature.
B) love of falconry.
C) speed.
D) use in agriculture.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 23

Topic: Aryan Poetry in Praise of a War Horse

Skill: Factual

- 2) What does this poem imply about the world of nomadic people?
A) It was a quiet life.
B) Warfare played no part in their culture.
C) Horses were used solely in agriculture.
D) Horses made nomadic life possible.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 23

Topic: Aryan Poetry in Praise of a War Horse

Skill: Conceptual