

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. Mesopotamia was located \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Ⓐ where the United States is now
  - Ⓑ where Greece, Italy, and Spain are now
  - Ⓒ where Egypt is now
  - Ⓓ where Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Kuwait are now
2. The book states that it took a long time for humans to form **civilized** societies. A **civilized** society is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Ⓐ one that moves from place to place without a permanent home
  - Ⓑ one with rules and laws that help people live together
  - Ⓒ one with people who are hunters and others who are gatherers
  - Ⓓ one that is peaceful and where everyone agrees
3. Why did ancient leaders desire to have rare and valuable items?
  - Ⓐ to share with their people
  - Ⓑ to show off their power
  - Ⓒ to use them to pay their taxes
  - Ⓓ to show the quality of the work of their people
4. What can you conclude about the people of Uruk?
  - Ⓐ They had no system of communication.
  - Ⓑ They preferred to live in the countryside.
  - Ⓒ They did not like to follow the laws.
  - Ⓓ They were religious people.

*Quick Check continued on following page*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why was the Gutian rule of Sumer known as the Dark Age of Mesopotamia?

- Ⓐ A large sand storm blocked out the Sun, and all the crops died.
- Ⓑ Many people were taken as slaves and lost their homes and families.
- Ⓒ The land and canals were not taken care of, and many people starved.
- Ⓓ All the artwork was destroyed, and people were not allowed to be creative.

6. What was King Sargon's influence on the Sumerians?

- Ⓐ He encouraged fighting because he enjoyed being in battle.
- Ⓑ He enslaved anyone who participated in war.
- Ⓒ He stopped the fighting and chose leaders he trusted to keep the peace.
- Ⓓ He stopped all trade and therefore stopped all fighting.

7. After reading the section "Prosperity and Advancement," what can you conclude about Mesopotamia?

- Ⓐ Times of peace allowed people in Mesopotamia to create new systems, such as a mail system.
- Ⓑ Money made during wartimes helped create a numerical place system.
- Ⓒ The people of Mesopotamia resettled in new places based on an increase in trade routes.
- Ⓓ During times of peace, there was little money for the people, so leaders encouraged war.

*Quick Check continued on following page*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

8. Read this sentence from the book: *Before the Ubaid formed settlements, they were **nomadic** hunters and gatherers.* Which sentence from the text helps readers understand the meaning of the word **nomadic**?
  - Ⓐ *The Ubaid were the first people to settle the land known as Sumer.*
  - Ⓑ *They named these early settlers the Ubaid after the site where the items were discovered.*
  - Ⓒ *They roamed from place to place in search of food and water.*
  - Ⓓ *They built canals to bring water to drier areas.*
9. Some settlements in the Fertile Crescent became **city-states**. Which of the following is true of a **city-state**?
  - Ⓐ It acts like its own country.
  - Ⓑ It does not have any laws.
  - Ⓒ It does not allow trade.
  - Ⓓ It is run by a president.
10. The name *Mesopotamia* means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Ⓐ the land between two rivers
  - Ⓑ the land between two mountain ranges
  - Ⓒ the land between two seas
  - Ⓓ the land between two deserts
11. **Extended Response:** Why was the land where ancient Mesopotamia was located called the “Fertile Crescent”?
12. **Extended Response:** In what ways did trade affect warfare among the Sumerian people?

## Quick Check Answer Sheet

## Ancient Mesopotamia

Main Comprehension Skill: Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions

1. Ⓓ Main Idea and Details
2. Ⓑ Vocabulary
3. Ⓑ Cause and Effect
4. Ⓓ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
5. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
6. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
7. Ⓐ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
8. Ⓒ Vocabulary
9. Ⓐ Vocabulary
10. Ⓐ Main Idea and Details
11. Answers will vary, but students should note that Mesopotamia was called the Fertile Crescent because the land provided well for the people who were able to farm and trade, which allowed their civilizations to flourish.
12. Answers should include the following: *Trade routes supplied materials needed to craft the tools of war, including metals, such as copper and tin. Blocking trade routes was a way to keep weapons out of the hands of an opposing army.*