

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

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

1. Read this sentence from the book: *Before the Ubaid formed settlements, they and other Sumerian tribes were **nomadic** hunters and gatherers, roaming from place to place.* Which words from this sentence help readers understand the meaning of the word **nomadic**?
  - Ⓐ *the Ubaid formed settlements*
  - Ⓑ *hunters and gatherers*
  - Ⓒ *roaming from place to place*
  - Ⓓ *Sumerian tribes*
2. What can you conclude about the people of Uruk?
  - Ⓐ They had no existing system of communication.
  - Ⓑ They preferred to live in the countryside.
  - Ⓒ They refused to follow the laws.
  - Ⓓ They were religious people.
3. Why did ancient leaders desire to have rare and valuable items?
  - Ⓐ to distribute them to their people
  - Ⓑ to show off their power
  - Ⓒ to use them to pay their taxes
  - Ⓓ to show the quality of work produced by their people
4. Why was the Gutian rule of Sumer known as the Dark Age of Mesopotamia?
  - Ⓐ A large sand storm blocked 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.

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5. 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
6. 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 has very few laws and restrictions.
  - Ⓒ It does not permit trade with outsiders.
  - Ⓓ It is ruled by a president.
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.
8. 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

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

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

10. Uruk was where Mesopotamian **pictographs** first appeared. **Pictographs** are used \_\_\_\_\_.

- Ⓐ as a place of worship
- Ⓑ as a tool to make weapons
- Ⓒ to represent words and ideas
- Ⓓ to bring water to the crops

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. Ⓒ Vocabulary
2. Ⓓ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
3. Ⓑ Cause and Effect
4. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
5. Ⓓ Main Idea and Details
6. Ⓐ Vocabulary
7. Ⓐ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
8. Ⓐ Main Idea and Details
9. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
10. Ⓒ Vocabulary
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.*