

Chapter 1: The Earliest Human Societies: 1-6b Key Terms  
Book Title: World Civilizations  
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## Chapter Review

### 1-6b Key Terms

**agrarian civilization** (Civilizations that are based primarily on peasant farming.)

**anthropology** (The study of humankind as a particular species.)

**archaeology** (The study of cultures through the examination of artifacts.)

**chromosomes** (Pairs of genes that living creatures pass on to their offspring. Human beings have twenty-three chromosomes in their cells.)

**genetic markers** (A mutation that occurs randomly in chromosomes as a result of genetic drift. Once these happen, they are passed down to all offspring. Thus they mark a deviance in a genealogical tree of descent.)

**historiography** (The writing of history so as to interpret it.)

**history** (Human actions in past time, as recorded and remembered.)

**Holocene era** (The period in archeology and climatology that came after c. 10,000 B.C.E. and the last Ice Age.)

**hominid** ((HAH-mih-nihd) A humanlike creature.)

**Homo ergaster** (The earliest *Homo sapiens*, dating to around 150,000 B.C.E.)

**Homo sapiens** ((HOH-moh SAY-pee-yehns) *Thinking man*; modern human beings.)

**matriarchy** (A society in which females are dominant socially and politically.)

**natural selection** (The Darwinian doctrine in biology that change in species derives from mechanistic changes induced by the environment.)

**Neanderthal Man** (A species of *Homo sapiens* flourishing between 100,000 and 300,000 years ago that mysteriously died out; the name comes from the German valley where the first remains were found.)

**Neolithic Age** (The time when humans went from being nomadic food hunters and gatherers to producing food for themselves by domesticating wild plants and animals, c. 10,000–2,000 B.C.E.)

**Neolithic (food-producing) Revolution** ((c. 10,000–3000 B.C.E.) The substitution of farming for hunting-gathering as the primary source of food for a given people.)

**Paleolithic Age** (The period from the earliest appearance of *Homo sapiens* to c. 10,000 B.C.E., though exact dates vary by area; the Old Stone Age.)

**pastoral civilization** (A civilization that is based primarily on pastoralism and pastoral ways of living.)

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