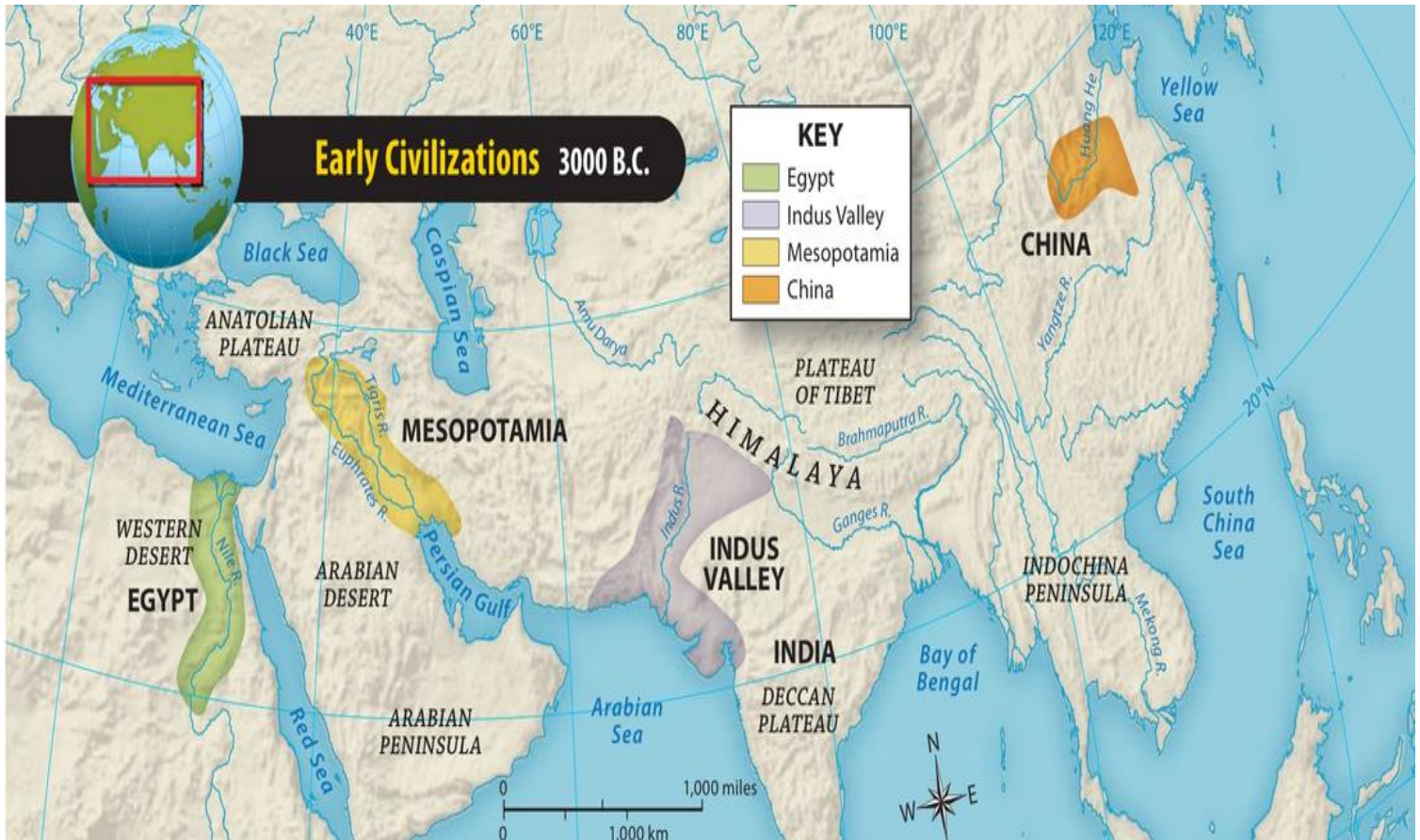


Unit 9.3 Early Civilizations



Name: _____

Period: _____

OPENER:

Introduction to History

Practice 1: *Getting Familiar*

Directions: From the list below **CIRCLE** any words that look familiar

turning point	settlement	revolution	modify	agriculture
dwelling	river valley	fertile	culture	social classes
urban	adapt	crops	reliable	characteristic

Practice 2: *Visualize*

Directions: Given the definition for each word, create an image to represent the definition.

Word	Definition	Symbol/Image
turning point (n.)		
settlement (n.)		
revolution (n.)		

modify (v.)		
agriculture (n.)		
dwelling (n.)		
river valley (n.)		

fertile (adj.)		
culture (n.)		
social classes (n.)		
urban (adj.)		

adapt (v.)		
crops (n.)		
reliable (adj.)		
characteristic (n.)		

Practice 3: *Sorting*

Directions: Sort the vocabulary words into the correct categories below.

turning point	settlement	revolution	modify	agriculture
river valley	dwelling	fertile	culture	social classes
urban	adapt	crops	reliable	characteristic

**Words Related to Interactions
with Other Societies**

Words Related to Geography

**Words Related to the Ways
Society is Organized**

**Words Related to the
Government**

Words Related to Traveling

What evidence do we have about life during the Paleolithic Era?

Objective:

- **Identify** sources historians use to learn about prehistory.
- **Evaluate** the usefulness of sources of information about prehistory.



Introduction

The image below shows Paleolithic people around a fire. An artist created this image to show the Paleolithic life.

Predict

→ Directions: Examine the image below, then fill out the chart with what you see, think and wonder about Paleolithic life.



[Image](#) is courtesy of pixabay and is published under the [CC-0](#) license

See

List three things you **see** in the image above.

Think

Based on your observations, what do you **think** life was like for people during the Paleolithic Era?

Review: Identify one geographic feature in this image above.

Wonder

Write two questions you have about the picture above.

Contextualize the Paleolithic Era

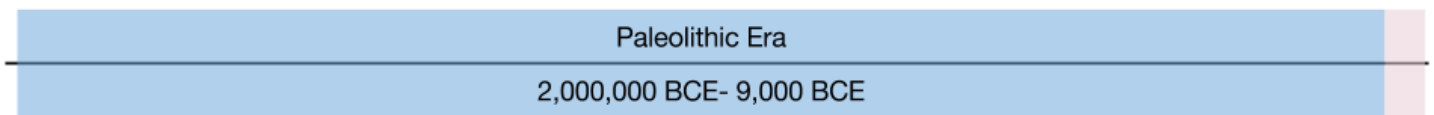


Contextualize

What is B.C.E.? B.C.E. stands for **B**efore **C**ommon **E**ra. This means that the date came before the year "1 C.E. (Common Era)." B.C.E. is commonly written as B.C. which stands for "Before Christ" and represents all time before the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, whom Christians believe was the son of God. C.E. is often referred to as "A.D." which stands for *Anno Domini*, or "in the year of the Lord."

The **Paleolithic Era**, or Old Stone Age, was the time period from 2,000,000 **B.C.E.** to about 9,000 B.C.E.

Timeline of Human Existence*



* the genus "homo" begins around 2,000,000 BCE, but modern humans, "homo sapiens," evolved around 250,000 BCE

The rest of human history after the start of farming

The Paleolithic Era, also known as the Stone Age, is the time period from the evolution of the genus "homo," human-like beings, to around 9,000 BCE when modern day humans started to farm. Modern-day humans evolved around 250,000 BCE, then spread across the world in search of food.

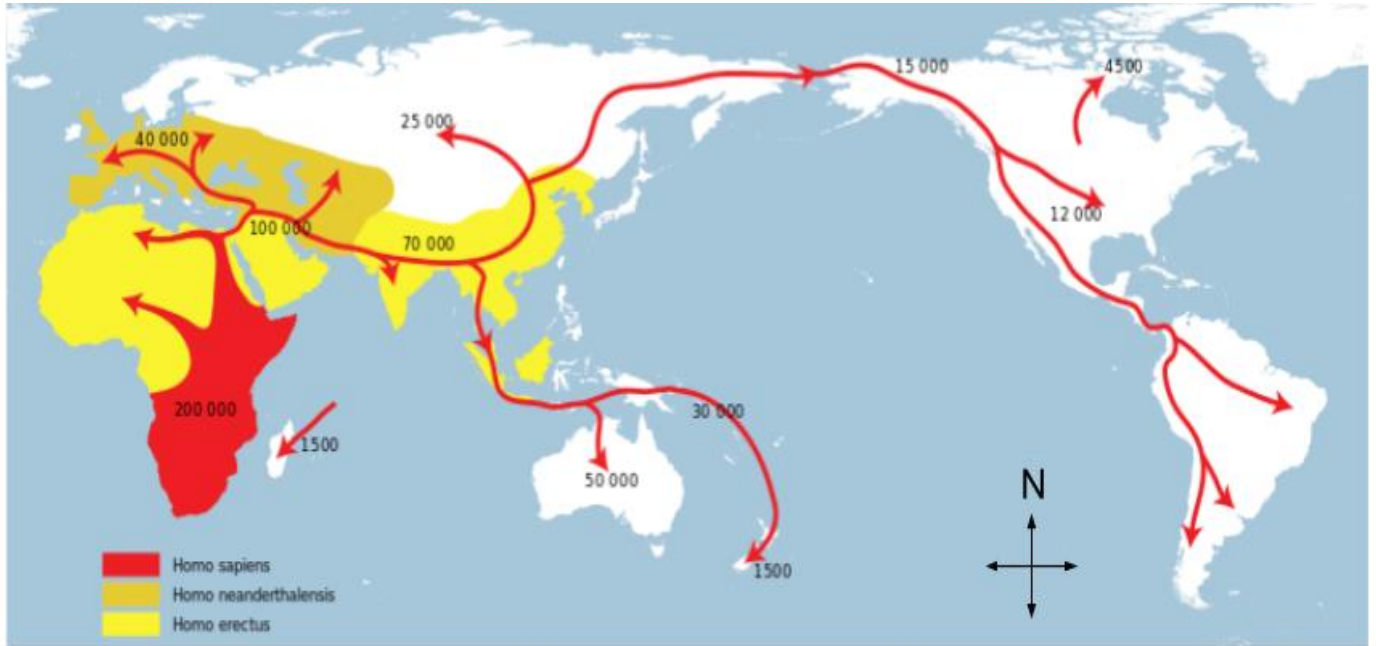
During this time, humans did not live in villages, towns, or cities. Instead, they lived in small groups of less than 100 people and lived a **nomadic** lifestyle. **Nomads** are people who frequently move from place to place in search of food, never living in one place for very long. Paleolithic nomads were **hunter-gatherers**, meaning that they got their food from foraging, the act of finding food, and through hunting or fishing.

This passage was adapted by New Visions from the [Paleolithic Age article](#) on New World Encyclopedia which is published under the [CC-BY-SA 3.0](#) license

1. When was the Paleolithic Era?	2. Why did humans spread around the world?	3. What are nomads?	4. How did Paleolithic people get their food?

Migration of Humans from Africa to the Rest of the World

→ Directions: Examine the map below, then respond to the prompts that follow.



The red arrows on this map depict the spread of modern-day humans (homo sapiens) out of Africa during the Paleolithic Era. Humans followed migrating animal herds and moved into areas with more food to gather until they spread around the world. The numbers identify how many years ago (i.e.: 70,000 years ago) humans arrived in each area.

Image modified by New Visions (CC BY-SA-NC). Original image is from Wikimedia and is in the public domain

<p>1. Label the following bodies of water, continents, and regions on the map above:</p> <p>Atlantic Ocean Mediterranean Sea</p> <p>Pacific Ocean Africa</p> <p>Indian Ocean Asia</p> <p>Southern Ocean Australia</p>	<p>2. Place the following regions and continents in order from the first place where humans lived, to the last place where they settled.</p> <p>North America _____ Europe</p> <p>Africa _____ North America _____ South America</p> <p>_____ South America</p> <p>_____ Middle East _____ South Asia</p> <p>_____ Middle East</p>	<p>3. Based on the map above, about how long did it take for humans to migrate to North America from Africa?</p> <hr/> <p>4. What direction did humans have to travel to get from Asia to North America?</p>
--	---	--



How do we know what we know about prehistory? How is our knowledge limited?

“Prehistory” refers to a time before humans had a written language. The Paleolithic Era took place during prehistory. Since there are no written records, historians rely on other evidence to construct what life was like.

→ Directions: For each of the sources below, identify what historians might be able to learn about the Paleolithic Era and what limitations each source has for historians.



Artifacts are objects made by humans like tools, buildings, weapons, art, pottery, and clothing that are usually found and studied by archaeologists. **Archaeology** is the study of the past through what has been left by behind.

1. What can historians learn from artifacts?

2. What limits do artifacts have as historical sources?

Skeletons



[Crans3.png](#) by Didier Descouens is published under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International license](#)

Anthropology is the study of the origins and development of people and their society. Some anthropologists study human skeletons to figure out how they lived, what they ate, and how they died.

3. What can historians learn from skeletons?

4. What limits do skeletons have as historical sources?

SQ 8: What **evidence** do we have about life during the Paleolithic Era?

→ **Directions:** Based on what you have learned, complete the task below.

Part I

Identify sources historians use to learn about prehistory.



Source



[Image](#) is courtesy of pixabay and is published under the [CC-0](#) license

The picture above is an image of Paleolithic people around a fire. An artist created this image to show the Paleolithic lifestyle that humans once engaged in.

1. What sources might the artist who created this picture have used?

2. How might this picture be useful in determining what life was like during the Paleolithic Era?

3. How might this picture not be useful in determining what life was like during the Paleolithic Era?

What was life like during the Paleolithic Era?

Objective:

- Describe what life was like for humans living during the Paleolithic Era.

Introduction: Vocabulary Review

→ Directions: Match each of the words on the left with the correct definition on the right.

Letter	Vocabulary Word	Definition
_____	hunting and gathering (v.)	A. having to do with the Old Stone Age, the time period from 2 million B.C.E. to about 10,000 B.C.E., characterized by the use of stone tools
_____	nomad (n.)	B. one who gets their food by killing wild animals and collecting wild fruit, vegetables, and nuts
_____	nomadic (adj.)	C. a person who moves from one place to another following food sources
_____	paleolithic (adj.)	D. the act of getting one's food by killing wild animals and collecting wild fruit, vegetables, and nuts
_____	hunter-gatherer (n.)	E. the characteristic of moving from place to place staying in one place temporarily



Based on the vocabulary words above, answer the following question in the space below.

What do you think life was like during the Paleolithic Era?

Predict



→ Directions:

- Annotate the documents below using the key provided.
- Respond to the prompts that follow each document.

Close
Read



Annotate

Annotati on Key

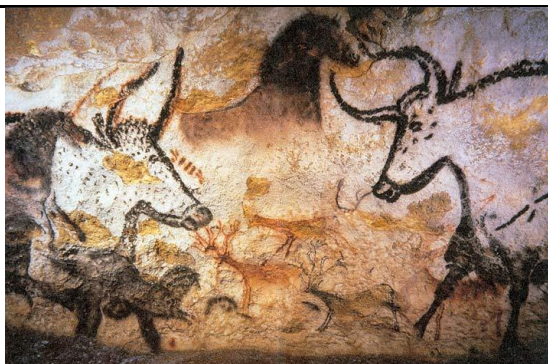
gold and silver in its treasury.
 where a gov't keeps its
 money

Circle words that are unclear and identify possible meanings.

why did Peter the Great want to
 westernize his country?
 Peter th
 were ex
 an econ
 mercan
 increas

Write questions in the margins to clarify misunderstandings.

Document 1



A Paleolithic cave painting in the Lascaux Cave in France depicting a bull and horses, animals that were important to the nomadic hunters that created the images.

[Lascaux painting.jpg](#) by Prof saxx is published under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported](#) license

3 Based on the cave painting above, identify one characteristic of Paleolithic life. [1]

Document 2

Tools from Hunter-Gatherer Societies



Hunter-gathering societies have used various types of stones, as well as bone and antler, to make a variety of tools such as scrapers, blades, arrows, spearheads, needles, awls, fishhooks, and harpoons. The 6.5- to 6.7-cm (2.5- to 2.6-inch) flint blades on the left are from North Africa, dating from 5000–4500 BCE. The 5.7- x 4.6-cm (2.2- x 1.8-inch) scraper on the right is made of green jasper, dates from 5200 to 2500 BCE, and was found in the south-central Sahara Desert.

[Image](#) is courtesy of Wikimedia and is in the public domain

4 Based on the images and description above, describe the technology used during the Paleolithic Era.
[1]

A modern day artist created these images to show the paleolithic lifestyle.



Image modified by New Visions (CC BY-SA-NC). Original image is from Wikimedia and is in the public domain.

5 Based on this image, identify **two** characteristics of life the Paleolithic Era. [2]

FA

SQ 9: What evidence do we have about life during the Paleolithic Era?

→ **Directions:** Based on what you have learned, complete the task below.



Part I

Describe what life was like for humans living during the Paleolithic Era.

Construct Arguments



Contextualize



Corroborate

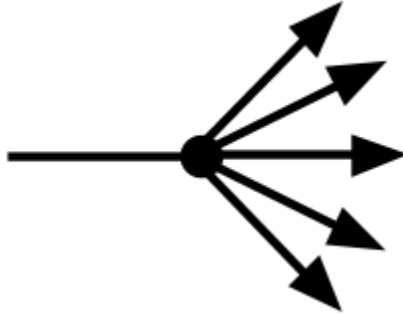
What was the Neolithic Revolution? What effects did it have?

Objective:

- **Explain** what the Neolithic Revolution was and what effect it had.

Introduction

➡ Directions: In the chart below identify two turning points in your life, when they took place, and what their effects were.



A **turning point** in history is a time or an event in which a significant and lasting change occurs.

Turning point	When the turning point took place	What the effects of the turning point was
Example: Taking a singing class	4th grade	I realized I love singing and have practiced weekly ever since.

What was the Neolithic Revolution?


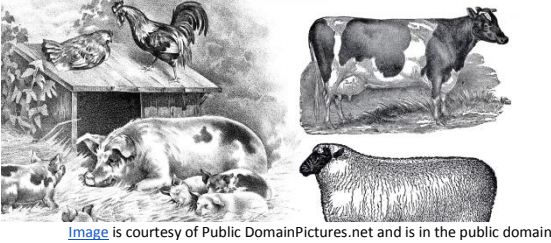

➔ Directions: Read and annotate the definition below and define the review terms on the left hand side. Then, read the words, definitions, and examine the images related to each of the vocabulary words below, then predict the effects of each innovation on Paleolithic people.

The **Neolithic Revolution** was a **turning point** in history that changed the way Paleolithic people lived their lives. People shifted from **hunting and gathering** for food to **agriculture**. Instead of living as **nomads**, people settled down in **permanent settlements**. The Neolithic Revolution led to the **first civilizations**.

Define turning point-

Define hunting and gathering-

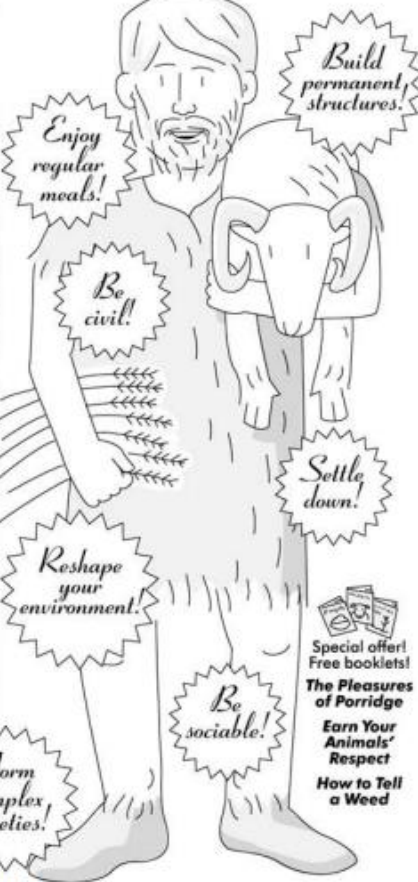
Define agriculture-

Innovation & Definition	Image	What effects might this innovation have had on Paleolithic people?
<p>agriculture- farming</p>	 <p><small>Agriculture in Vietnam with farmers.jpg by Dennis Jarvis is published under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.0 Generic license</small></p>	
<p>domestication- the act of changing a wild plant or animal so it can be grown or raised by humans</p>	 <p><small>Image is courtesy of Public DomainPictures.net and is in the public domain</small></p>	
<p>permanent settlements- places where people live for long periods of time, possibly for their whole lives</p>	 <p><small>Laténium-maquette-village-laustre.jpg by Laténium is published under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license</small></p>	

WHY HUNT?

WHY GATHER?

JOIN THE NEOLITHIC REVOLUTION!



Special offer!
Free booklets!
The Pleasures of Porridge
Earn Your Animals' Respect
How to Tell a Weed

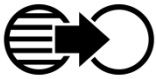
Your KEYS to a BETTER LIFE!

Harness Plant Power!

- Learn how the seeds you drop can become next fall's crop!
- Use seed selection to make future plants more productive and easier to harvest!
- Preserve and store surpluses for hard times!
- Invent new ways of preparing and cooking plant foods!

Put Animals To Work For You!

- Learn which species are slow and submissive!
- Use food and fences to keep them around!
- Influence their choice of mates!
- Breed the best and eat the rest!



Connect
Cause and
Effect



Compare

1. Using the infographic above complete the statement below by filling out the chart:

The Neolithic Revolution was a turning point in which people changed from...

describe how people lived before the Neolithic Revolution, during the Paleolithic Era

describe how people lived after the Neolithic Revolution, during the Neolithic Era

...to...

2. Based on the video and infographic, fill in the charts below with the advantages and disadvantages of hunting and gathering and agriculture.

Hunting and Gathering		Agriculture	
+	-	+	-
advantages	disadvantages	advantages	disadvantages

3. If you were a Paleolithic person faced with the decision to switch from hunting and gathering to agriculture or to keep your nomadic ways, which would you choose? Why?

SQ 10: What was the Neolithic Revolution? What effects did it have?

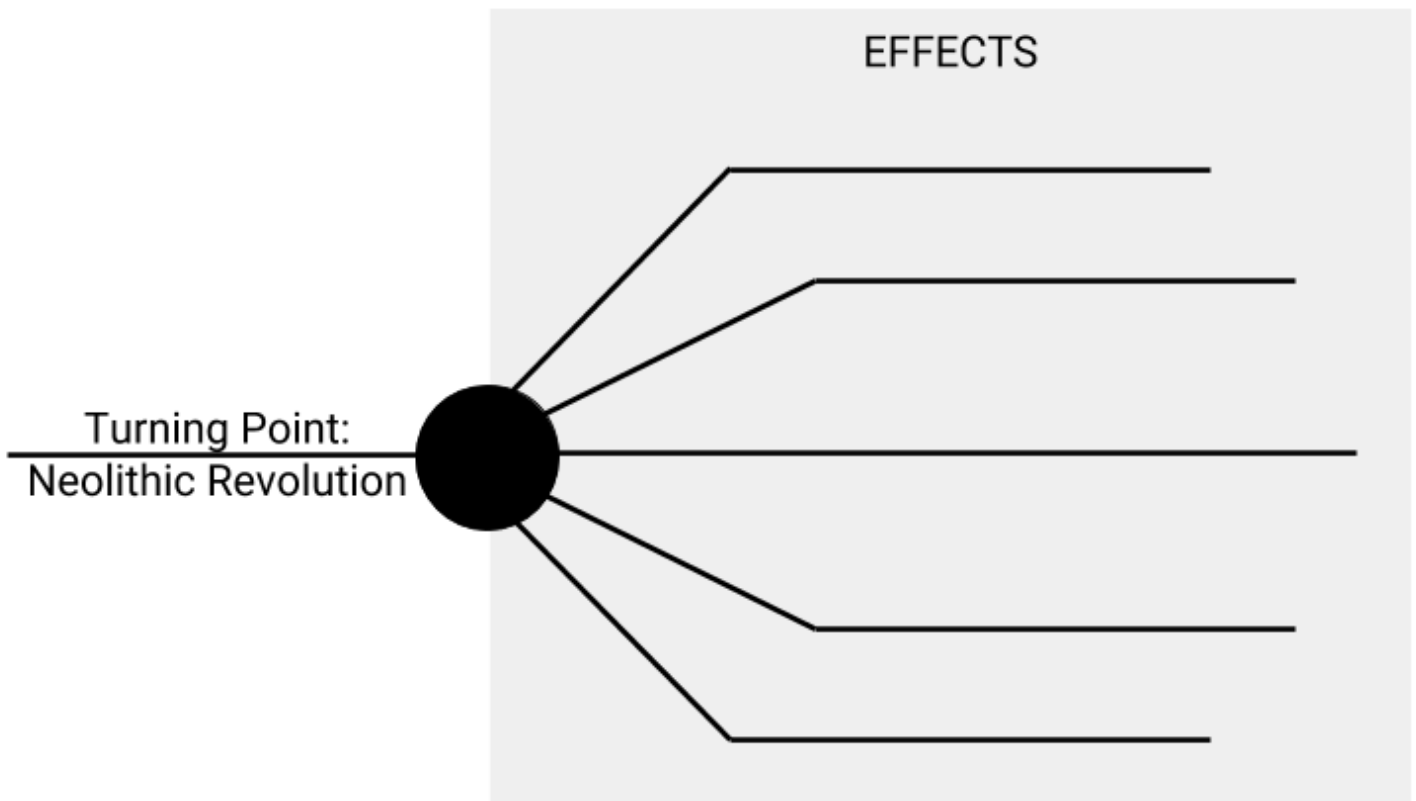
→Directions: Based on what you have learned, complete the task below.



1. Explain what the Neolithic Revolution was.

Connect
Cause and
Effect

2. Identify at least three effects of the Neolithic Revolution in the graphic organizer below.



When and where did the Neolithic Revolution occur first?

Objective:

- **Explain** when and where the Neolithic Revolution started and how it spread.

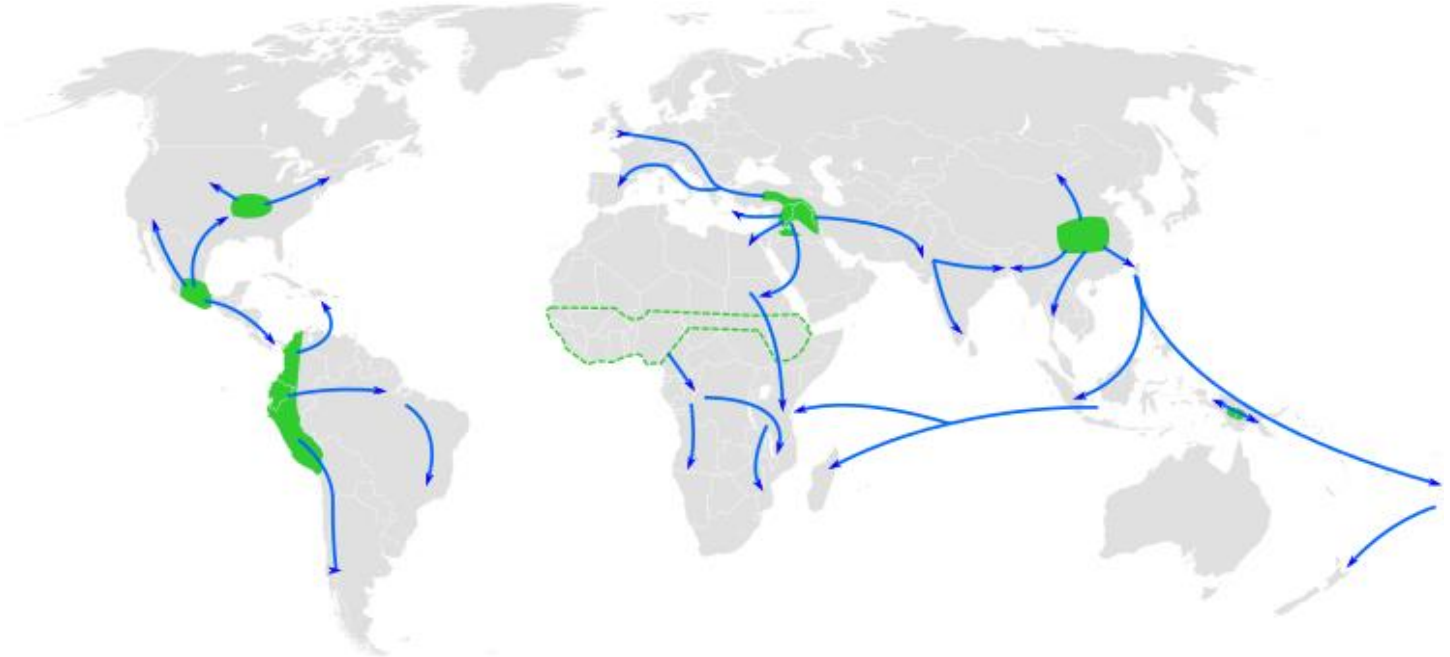


Think Like a Geographer

Introduction: Geography Review

→ **Directions:** Examine the map below and complete the task.

Hotspots of Agricultural Activity





[Centres of origin and spread of agriculture.svg](#) by Joey Roe is published under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported](#) license

1. Label all of the following on the map above:

- Asia
- Africa
- Europe
- North America
- South Africa
- Middle East
- Atlantic Ocean
- Pacific Ocean
- Indian Ocean
- Southern Ocean
- Mediterranean Sea

Key

	Regions where agriculture developed on its own
	Path that agriculture spread from one society to another

2. Predict: How do you think the idea of agriculture spread along the paths on the map?



Contextualize

When and where did the Neolithic Revolution first take place?

→ **Directions:** Reexamine the map from the introduction and read the passages below, then answer the questions that follow.

The **Neolithic Revolution**, the switch that people made from hunting and gathering food and living a nomadic lifestyle to farming and living in permanent settlements, was not one event. Instead, the Neolithic Revolution happened at different times in different areas of the world.

Some societies developed farming independently. Those regions with societies that experienced the Neolithic Revolution on their own are represented on the map above in green. They include the Fertile Crescent, an area in the Middle East between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers which developed agriculture around 11,000 BCE, the Yangtze and Yellow River valleys in China (9,000 BCE), the highlands of New Guinea (9,000-6,000 BCE), Northern South America (5,000- 4,000 BCE), central Mexico (5,000-4,000 BCE), the eastern North America (4,000-3,000 BCE), and sub-Saharan Africa (5,000-4,000 BCE).

All other societies who went through the Neolithic Revolution did so because of contact with the societies who started farming independently. Through contact with settled people, most of the rest of the world learned how to domesticate plants and animals and realized the benefits of building permanent settlements. This process of exchanging goods and ideas is called **cultural diffusion** and it will have a great impact on the rest of human history. The directions the Neolithic Revolution spread are represented by the blue arrows on the map.

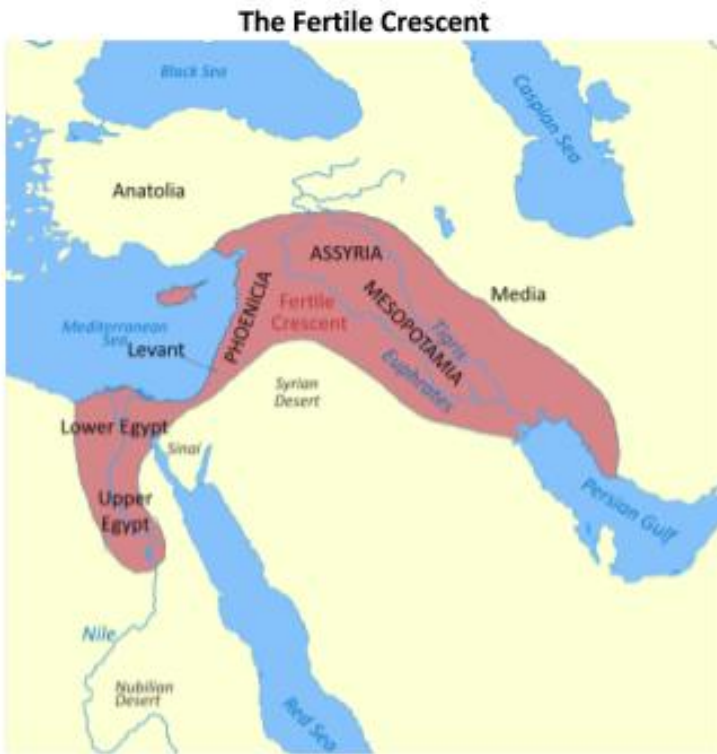
4. Where did the Neolithic Revolution start?

5. In the space below, explain how the Neolithic Revolution spread from the seven locations where people transitioned from hunting and gathering to farming independently.

The Fertile Crescent: Birthplace of Agriculture

fertile (adj.)- good for growing crops

crescent (n.)- a shape that has a single curve on two sides and comes together at each point



The Fertile Crescent is an important region in global history. It is located in modern day Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, and Egypt. Today much the area is not productive for farming, but in the past it was a region that was rich in agriculture. It includes the land between the Tigris and Euphrates river and the Nile river valley.

Some of the first agricultural societies developed in the Fertile Crescent and later the first civilizations started here. After the Neolithic Revolution transformed life for people in the Fertile Crescent around 11,000 BCE, farming practices spread from here to North Africa, the Indian subcontinent, and Europe.

[Map of fertile crescent.svg](#) by Nafsaah is published under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International license](#)

6. What is the Fertile Crescent?

7. Why is the Fertile Crescent an important region in global history?

FA

SQ 11: When and where did the Neolithic Revolution occur first?

→ **Directions:** Based on what you have learned, complete the task below.



Part I

Explain when and where the Neolithic Revolution started and how it spread.

**Connect
Cause and
Effect**

What was life like during the Neolithic Era?

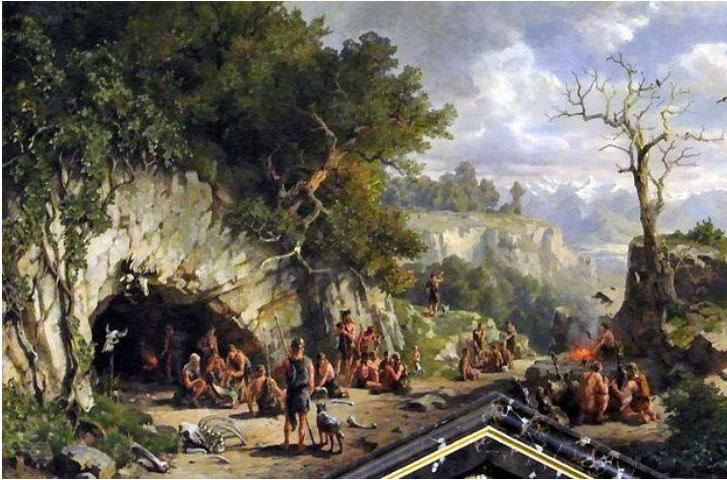
Objective:

- Describe what life was like during the Neolithic Era.

Introduction

➔Directions: Examine the two images below and answer the question that follows.

Artist's Recreation of a Paleolithic Dwelling (place where someone lives)



[Image](#) is courtesy of Wikimedia and is in the public domain

Artist's Recreation of a Neolithic Dwelling



AMK - Linearbandkeramik Modell Hienheim 2.jpg by Wolfgang Sauber is published under the [CC BY-SA 4.0](#) license

If you were to leave a community that lived a Paleolithic lifestyle to join a Neolithic one, what do you think would be the hardest thing to get used to?

What was the Neolithic Era? When was it?

➔ Directions: Examine the timeline and read the passage below, then answer the questions in the right hand column.

The **Neolithic Era**, or New Stone Age, was the time period from about 9,000 B.C.E. to about 3,000 B.C.E.

Timeline of Prehistory

Paleolithic Era	Neolithic Era	Bronze Age
2,000,000 BCE- 9,000 BCE	9,000 - 3,000 BCE	3,000- 1,000 BCE

The **Neolithic** (or "New" Stone Age) was a period in human history that came after the start of agriculture and before the development of the first civilizations during which people started creating and using metal tools, called the "Bronze Age." The inhabitants of a Neolithic village would have farmed using tools made of wood, stone, or bone. The Neolithic Revolution took place at different times in different regions, so the start of the Neolithic Era varies. The development and use of metal tools occurred at different times in different regions, so the start of the Bronze Age also varies.

Adapted by New Visions from [Neolithic Age](#) article on New World Encyclopedia which is published under the [CC-BY-SA 3.0](#) license

1. When was the Neolithic Era?

2. If archaeologists uncover an ancient town in a dig, how can they tell if it was "Paleolithic," "Neolithic," or "Bronze Age?"

Document Investigation



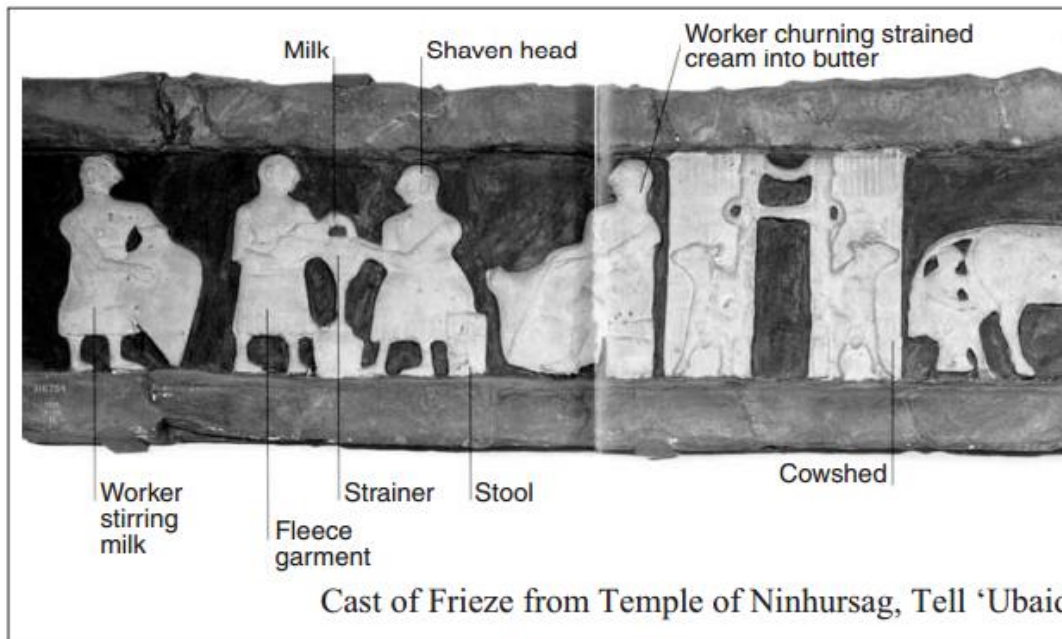
Directions:

- Annotate the documents below using the key provided.
- Respond to the prompts that follow each document.

Close Read

Document 1

Mesopotamia: Everyday Life



A frieze is a horizontal decoration placed on a wall, usually near the ceiling. The frieze above came from Mesopotamia, a region in the Middle East, from around 2500 BCE. It depicts a scene common to Neolithic life.

Source (Image): The Visual Dictionary of Ancient Civilizations, Dorling Kindersley (adapted) from the NYS Global History and Geography Regents Exam, January 2010.

1 Based on this frieze, identify one characteristic of Neolithic life. [1]

Document 2a



[HMB Essen und Kocheerät Jungsteinzeit.jpg](#) by Sandstein is published under the [CC BY 3.0](#) license

Neolithic cutlery and foodstuffs found at sites in Switzerland. The items include: millstones, charred bread, grains and small apples, a clay cooking pot, and containers made of antlers and wood.

Document 2b



[CuouteniAgriculture.JPG](#) by CristianChirita is published under t

These tools were used by Neolithic farmers to plough and harvest the plants. The tools are made out of de

2a Based on the images and description above, describe the technology used during the Neolithic Era. [1]

2b. Based on the images and description above, what were the tools pictured used for? [1]

Document 3



Catal Hüyük 10.JPG by Stipich Béla is published under the [CC BY-SA 3.0 Unported](#) license

Catal Hüyük EL.JPG by Eleicht is published under the [CC BY-SA 3.0 Unported](#) license

Catal Huyuk, in modern Turkey, was one of the first places in the world where humans lived in dense settlements. From about 7500 to 5700 BCE, an estimated average of between 5,000 and 8,000 people lived in mud-brick houses with rooftops serving as streets. The first image is a photograph of the excavation site of Catal Huyuk. The second image is a photograph of a recreation of a room from Catal Huyuk.

3 Based on the images and description above, describe a Neolithic village. [1]

Document 4

Specialization of Labor

Within the villages, towns and cities, it was possible for people to specialize in the sort of work they could do best. Many stopped producing food at all, making instead tools and other goods that farmers needed, and for which they gave them food in exchange. This process of exchange led to trade and traders, and the growth of trade made it possible for people to specialize even more...

Source: D.M. Knox, *The Neolithic Revolution*, Greenhaven Press, adapted from the January 2004, NYS Regents Exam.

4 According to D.M. Knox, what is one way the development of agriculture affected life in the Neolithic Era? [1]

FA

SQ 12: What was life like during the Neolithic Era?

→ **Directions:** Based on what you have learned, complete the task below.



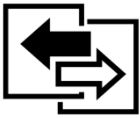
Part I

Describe what life was like during the Neolithic Era.

**Construct
Arguments**



Contextualize



Corroborate

Objective:

What is a civilization? What led to the establishment of civilizations?

- **Identify** the characteristics of a civilization.
- **Describe** what led to the development of civilizations.

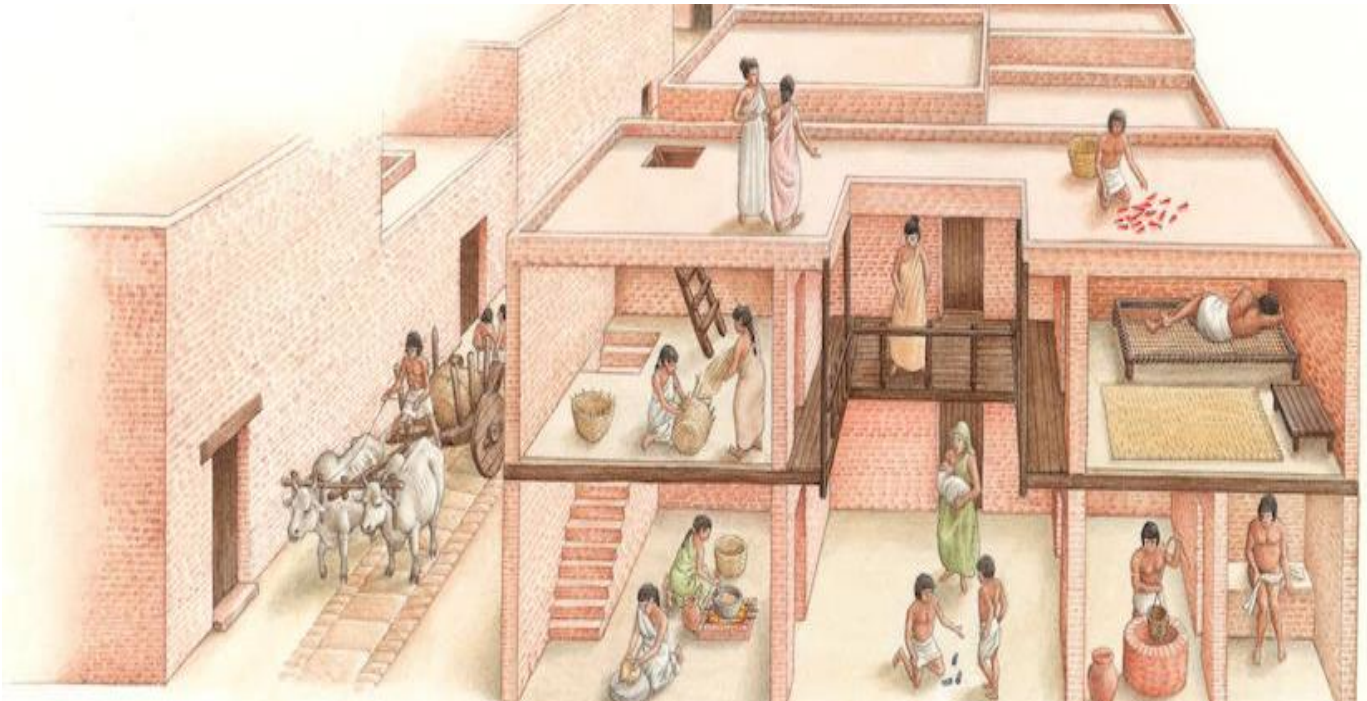


Predict

Introduction

A **civilization** is a complex society in which a large number of people live. The first civilizations which emerged after the Neolithic Revolution between 5500 and 2000 BCE were **Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, Shang China, and the Indus River Valley Civilization**. These first civilizations began as cities. These cities were larger, more populated, and more complex than Neolithic villages.

➔ **Directions:** Examine the image below, then fill out the chart with what you see, think and wonder about civilizations.



Source: http://www.ancient.eu/Indus_Valley_Civilization/

See

List three things you **see** in the image above.

Think

Based on your observations, what do you **think** life was like for people in early civilizations?





Wonder




Write two questions you have about the picture above.

Do you live in a civilization?

Historians have identified several characteristics that most civilizations have in common, including: **religion, job specialization, government, language/writing systems, technology, and social hierarchy.**



→ **Directions:** For each of the following characteristics of civilizations, provide evidence from the town, city, state, and/or country you live in to prove that you live in a civilization.

<p>Religion</p>  <p><small>Image courtesy of Wikimedia and is in the public domain</small></p>	<p>Job Specialization</p>  <p><small>Image courtesy of openclipart.org and is in the public domain</small></p>	<p>Cities</p>  <p><small>Image courtesy of openclipart.org and is in the public domain</small></p>	<p>Government</p>  <p><small>Image courtesy of pixabay and is in the public domain</small></p>

<p>Language/Writing Systems</p>  <p><small>Image courtesy of openclipart.org and is in the public domain</small></p>	<p>Technology</p>  <p><small>Image courtesy of openclipart.org and is in the public domain</small></p>	<p>Social Hierarchy</p>  <p><small>Image is courtesy of openclipart.org and is in the public domain</small></p> <p>The division of society based on wealth, religion, ethnicity, or other factors</p>

What led to the establishment of civilizations?

→ Directions: Read the excerpt below. Then, respond to the questions.

 <p>Contextualize</p>	<p>The earliest civilizations developed after 3000 BCE. The first civilizations appeared in a place called Mesopotamia which is located in modern-day Iraq. Civilizations developed on every continent except Antarctica and shared common characteristics like written language, legal systems, job specialization, and a form of government.</p>	<p>1. Where did the first civilizations appear?</p>
 <p>Connect Cause and Effect</p>	<p>Prior to civilizations with cities, there was the Paleolithic Age during which time people hunted and gathered food. There was not a stable supply of food. Sometimes, they were able to find enough plants or kill enough animals in order to keep everyone alive. However, there were other times when they were unable to find plants and animals, and the population died off.</p> <p>In 10,000 BCE, there was a major turning point called the Neolithic Revolution. During the Neolithic Revolution, people learned how to domesticate animals and develop agriculture. This provided a predictable supply of food. Not only was there a predictable supply of food, there was a surplus. A food surplus is extra food. This extra food not only helped keep people alive, it also meant that the population could grow even larger because there was enough food to keep people alive and to produce more children. As the population grew, cities began to form. In these cities, there were legal codes and social classes to organize society. There was also job specialization which meant that different people performed specific tasks. For example, some people were farmers, while others may have made clothes, or built homes. As cities grew larger, they became more complex.</p>	<p>2. Was there a stable food supply during the Paleolithic Era? Explain.</p> <p>3. How did the Neolithic Revolution create a predictable food supply?</p> <p>4. What is a food surplus?</p> <p>5. How did food surpluses lead to the development of civilizations?</p>

FA

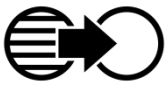
SQ 13: What is a civilization? What led to the establishment of civilizations?



Part I

Identify the characteristics of a civilization.

Contextualize



**Connect Cause
and Effect**

Part II

Describe what led to the development of civilizations.

Where were early river valley civilizations located?

Objective:

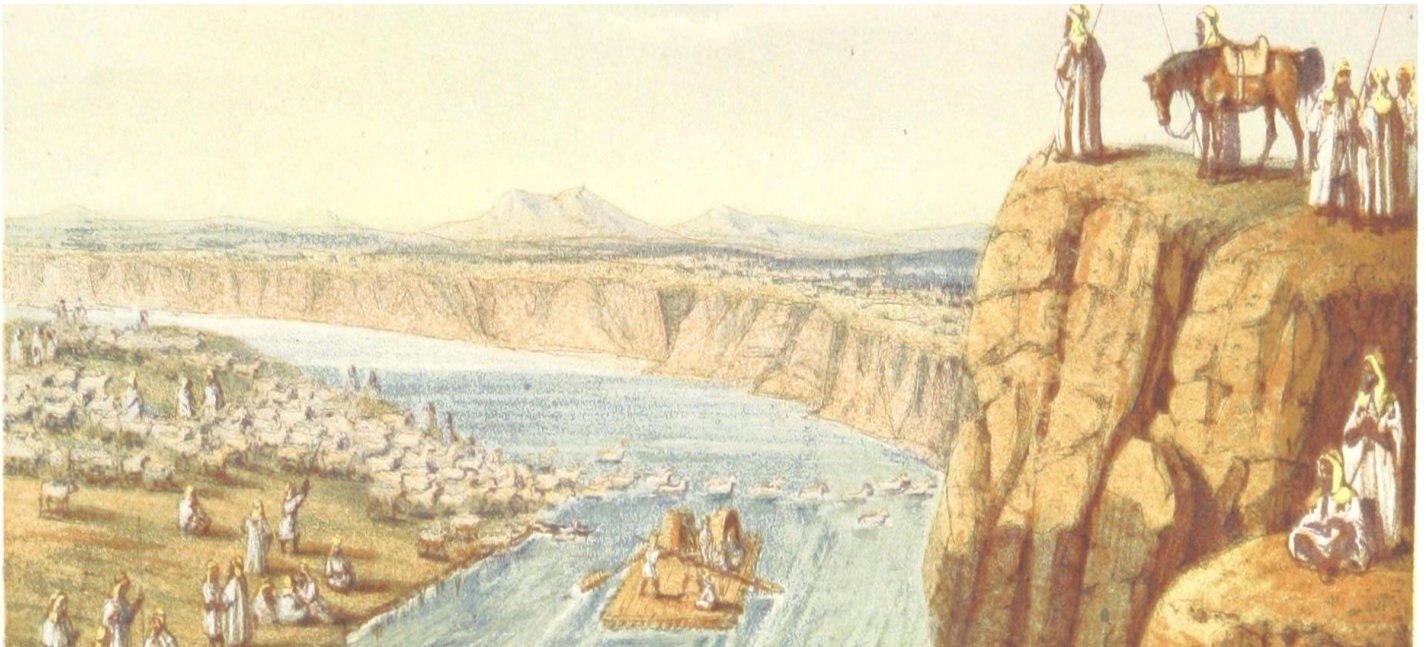
- Identify where early river valley civilizations were located.



Introduction

→ Directions: Examine the image below, then fill out the chart with what you see, think and wonder about early river valley civilizations.

Predict



[Image](#) courtesy of Wikimedia and is in the public domain

See

List three things you *see* in the image above.

Think

Based on your observations, what do you *think* life was like in early river valley civilizations?

Wonder

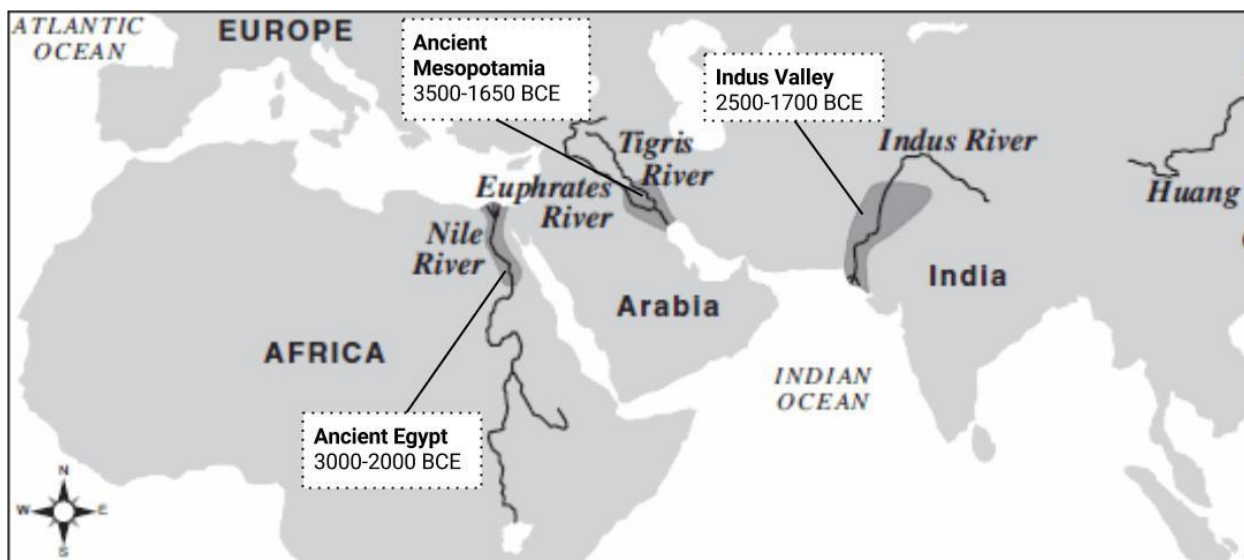
Write two questions you have about the picture above.



Think Like
a
Geographer

Where were early river valley civilizations located?

→Directions: Read the map below. Respond to the questions.



Source: Charles F. Gritzner, *Exploring Our World, Past and Present*, D.C. Health and Company (adapted) from the NYS Global History and Geography Regents Exam.

1. Based on the map above, what geographic feature did the early civilizations settle near?

2a. Which civilization is the furthest east?

2b. Which civilization is the furthest west?

3. Which river was the ancient Egyptian civilization located near?

4. Which rivers were the ancient Mesopotamian civilization located near?

5. Which river was the ancient Chinese civilization located near?

6. Which river was the ancient Indus River Valley Civilization located near?

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7. Which continent was the ancient Egyptian civilization located in?

8. Which continent was the ancient Mesopotamian civilization located in?

9. Which continent was the ancient Chinese civilization located in?

10. Which continent was the ancient Indus Valley civilization located in?

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+	11a. What are the advantages of settling near rivers?	-	11b. What are the disadvantages of settling near rivers?

FA

SQ 14: Where were early river valley civilizations located?

→ **Directions:** Based on what you have learned, complete the task below.



Think Like a Geographer

Part I

1. Which geographic feature did early river valley civilizations settle near?
2. Why would civilizations settle near this geographic feature?
- 3a. Which civilization is located between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers?
- 3b. Which civilization is located near the Nile river?
- 3c. Which civilization is located near the Indus river?
- 3d. Which civilization is located Huang He river?

Objective:

How did inhabitants of Early River Valley Civilizations innovate to meet their needs?

- **Describe** how early river valley civilizations innovated to meet their needs



Introduction

→ Directions: Water is one of the most important resources in our society. Answer the questions below about our current uses of water.

Predict

1. What do we use water for?

Identify at least five uses we have for water in the space below.

2. How do you think that water gets to where we need it?

--	--

During the **Neolithic era**, people stopped moving around and settled down in one place. Once people settled down in one place, they had to **modify** their environments to meet their needs.



Connect Cause and Effect




Think Like a Geographer


When humans ADAPT to or MODIFY their environment, they change their behavior and change the world around them to meet their needs.

→ **Directions:** Describe how the scenarios below are examples of humans modifying or adapting to their environment.

Example	This is an example of humans modifying or adapting to their environment because...
domesticating animals and creating farms to have a stable food supply	
building bridges to connect remote villages	
building canals to get water to areas without access to water	
removing or adding trees or shrubs	

The Neolithic Revolution and Water Access

 **All civilizations need access to water.** However, in some places there are not reliable water supplies. To meet the needs for reliable water access, early civilizations made modifications to their environment.

 The **Neolithic Revolution** was a major turning point in human history around 10,000 BCE. This was the point when humans began to cultivate crops and domesticate certain animals. People abandoned hunting and gathering and permanent settlements were established.

Why did humans need access to more water after experiencing the Neolithic Revolution?

Example 1: Irrigation

The environmental problem was that there was ...

so

Early River Valley Civilizations modified their environments to create ...

unreliable access to water



IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

What is irrigation?

Irrigation is the process of bringing water from a natural source like a river to an area without water.



Watch the [“What is irrigation?”](#) video to see examples of irrigation across the world.

1. Based on the video, identify advantages and disadvantages to using irrigation in the chart below.

Advantages to Using Irrigation

Disadvantages to Using Irrigation

Irrigation in Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia



Directions: Watch this [Discovery Education Video on irrigation in Ancient Egypt](#) and [this video on Irrigation in Ancient Mesopotamia](#) then complete the tasks the follow.

2. Describe the techniques used by Ancient Egyptians and people living in Mesopotamia to meet their water and food needs.

3. Explain the effects of using these techniques on these civilizations.

Example 2: Terrace Farming

The environmental problem is that there is ...

50

Early River Valley Civilizations modified their environments to create ...

not enough flat land to farm because of mountains

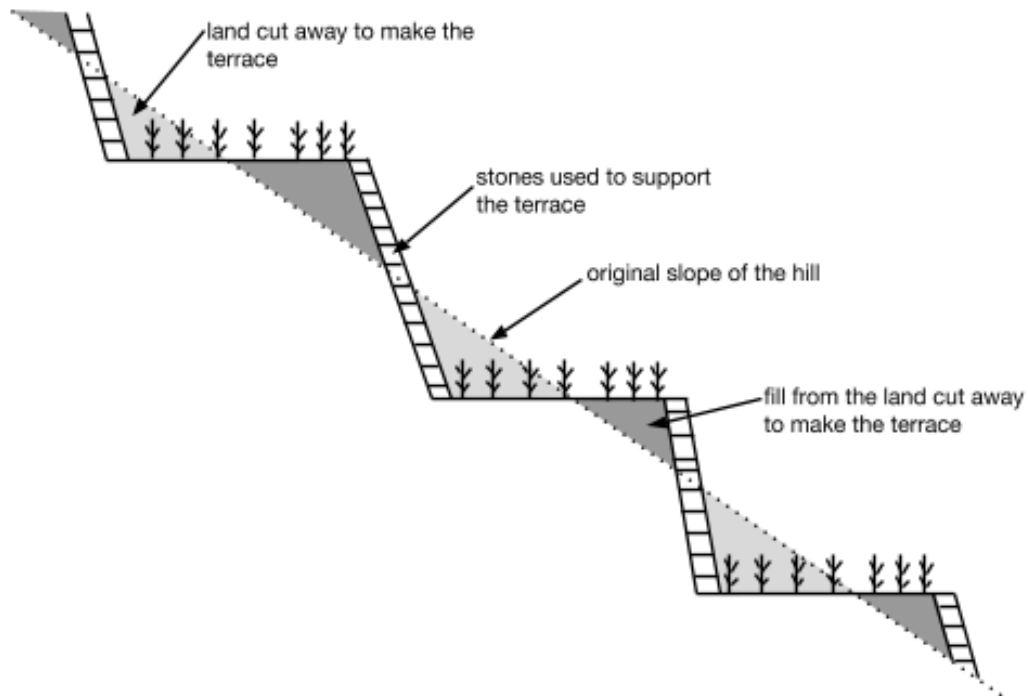


TERRACE FARMING

Terrace Farming in Ancient China

Directions: Examine the image below and watch [this video on the rice terraces in Yunnan, China](#) then complete the tasks the follow.

Terrace Farming



FA

SQ 15: How did inhabitants of Early River Valley Civilizations innovate to meet their needs?

→ **Directions:** Based on what you have learned, complete the task below.

Part I

Describe how early river valley civilizations innovated to meet their needs. (Be sure to define the need and describe how their innovation addressed the problem)



**Connect
Cause and
Effect**



**Think Like a
Geographer**

Innovation	Problem Addressed

Objective:

How did the innovations of the early river valley civilizations affect their inhabitants and later periods in history?

- **Describe** the innovations of early river valley civilizations
- **Explain** how these innovations impacted inhabitants and later periods in history



Predict

Introduction

A **civilization** is a complex society in which a large number of people live. The first civilizations which emerged after the Neolithic Revolution between 5500 and 2000 BCE were **Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, Shang China,** and the **Indus River Valley Civilization**. These first civilizations began in cities. These cities were larger, more populated, and more complex than Neolithic villages.


Innovations and Contributions of Early River Valley Civilizations

In this activity, you will learn about various ways that early river civilizations affected their inhabitants and set the stage for later developments.

→ Directions: Complete the chart below using the [gallery walk posters](#).



Connect
Cause and
Effect

	Description	Name of Civilization	Impact
<p>Cuneiform</p>  <p><small>Image courtesy of Wikimedia and is in the public domain</small></p>		<p>Mesopotamia</p> <p>Egypt</p> <p>China</p> <p>Indus Valley</p>	

Mohenjo-Daro, Indus River Valley Civilization



[Mohenjo-daro.jpg](#) by Saqib Qayyum is published under the [CC BY-SA 3.0 Unported](#) license

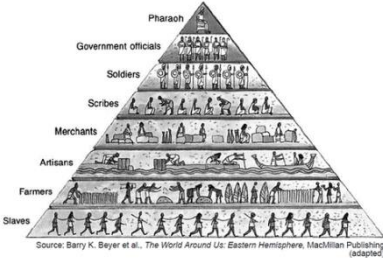
Mesopotamia

Egypt

China

Indus Valley

Social Class Hierarchy in Ancient Egypt



Source: Barry K. Beyer et al., *The World Around Us: Eastern Hemisphere*, MacMillan Publishing (adapted)

Citation 3

Mesopotamia

Egypt

China

Indus Valley

Egyptian Book of the Dead






[Image](#) courtesy of Wikimedia and is in the public domain

Mesopotamia

Egypt

China

Indus Valley

<p>Code of Hammurabi</p>  <p><small>Citation 1</small> Top Quarter / Fingernail</p> <p><small>Citation 2</small> Lower Portion / Inscription</p>		<p>Mesopotamia</p> <p>Egypt</p> <p>China</p> <p>Indus Valley</p>	
<p>Egyptian Shaduf</p>  <p><small>Source: James Barter, The Nile, Lucent Books from the NYS Global History and Geography Regents Exam, January 2014.</small></p>		<p>Mesopotamia</p> <p>Egypt</p> <p>China</p> <p>Indus Valley</p>	
<p>Oracle Bones- Shang China</p>  <p><small>Shang dynasty inscribed scapula.jpg by BabelStone is published under the CC BY-SA 3.0 Unported license</small></p>		<p>Mesopotamia</p> <p>Egypt</p> <p>China</p> <p>Indus Valley</p>	