



Mesopotamia Study Guide Review

1. How did the Mesopotamians use AND control the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers?

○ Flood Control

- Built levees, dams, and storage basins to store excess flood water and to protect fields and homes.



○ Irrigation

- Built irrigation canals to bring water to the fields.



2. Why did people settle in Mesopotamia?

○ Fertile Crescent:

- **Silt** from Tigris & Euphrates Rivers made the land good for farming.
- The location of the rivers allowed for **irrigation**.
- There was enough room for growing a surplus of crops.
- Rivers provided transportation and trade routes
- Rivers provided fish for food



3. What were the major inventions and advancements of the Sumerians and later peoples?

- **Wheel**
- **Irrigation**
- **Plow**
- **Cuneiform**
- **Hammurabi's Code**
(Babylonian)
- **Epic Poems**
- **Potter's Wheel**
- **Math- Base 60 (circles)**
- **Astronomy**
- **12 Month Calendar**
- **Ziggurat**
- **Lyre**
- **Chariot**



4. What does Mesopotamia mean? What part of the word “Mesopotamia” means “middle”?

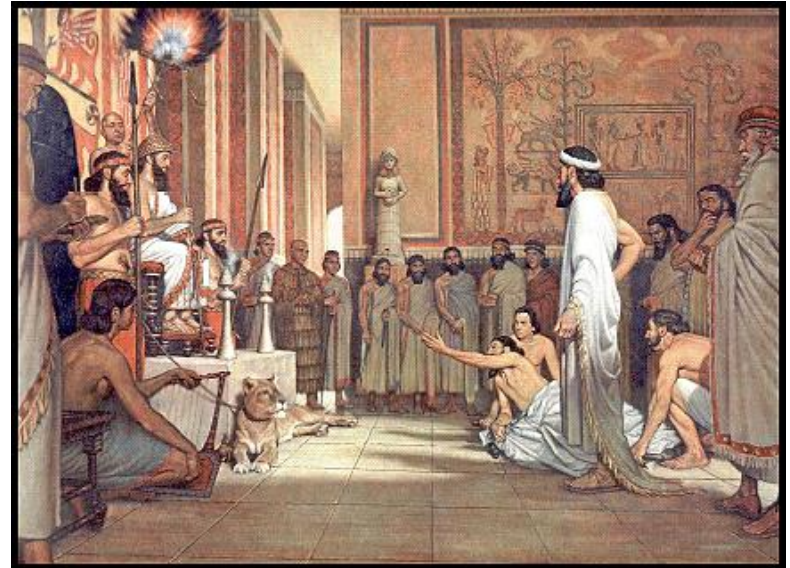
- Land between the rivers.

- Meso means middle



5. Who was Hammurabi? What was the name of his empire? What did he create?

- Hammurabi was a king from Babylonia.
- He developed the first set of written laws called, Hammurabi's Code.



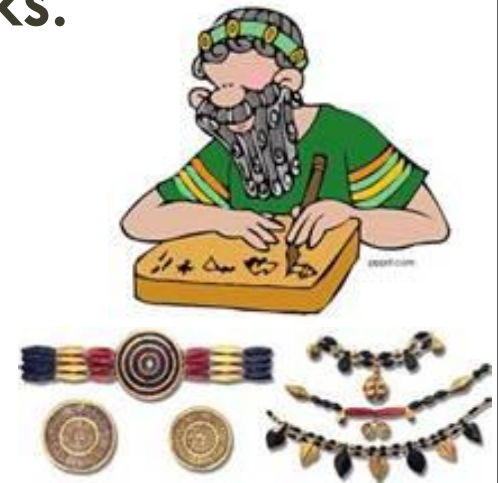
6. What is a Ziggurat? What did they look like?

- Ziggurats were temples for the gods of Sumer.



7. What is division of labor? Why was it important?

- Division of labor: when each worker specializes in a particular task or job.
- Because of the plow and irrigation, not everyone had to be farmers, so people could have other jobs and specialize in particular tasks.



8. What are the GRAPES of Civilization? Give Sumerian examples of each.

Look at your GRAPES Graphic Organizer



1. Geography= Fertile Crescent, stable food supply

2. Religion= polytheism, ziggurat

3. Achievements= cuneiform, irrigation, wheel, etc.

4. Politics= King, empire, laws

5. Economics= Trade, barter

6. Social Structure= social classes reflect power



9. What is cuneiform? Why was it first used? What does it look like?

- Cuneiform was the world's first system of writing.
- It was first used to keep business records.
- It looks like →



10. What type of religion did the Sumerians have?

- The Sumerians were polytheistic, they believed in many gods.



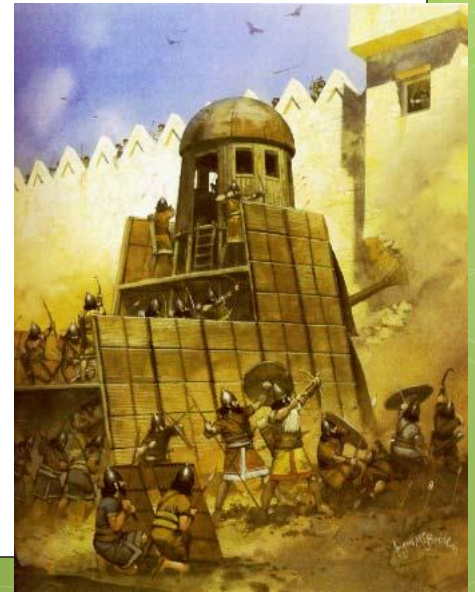
11. What did Sargon & the Akkadians “build?”

- King Sargon built the world’s first empire, or land with different territories and people under a single rule.
- The Akkadians were the first people to create an empire.



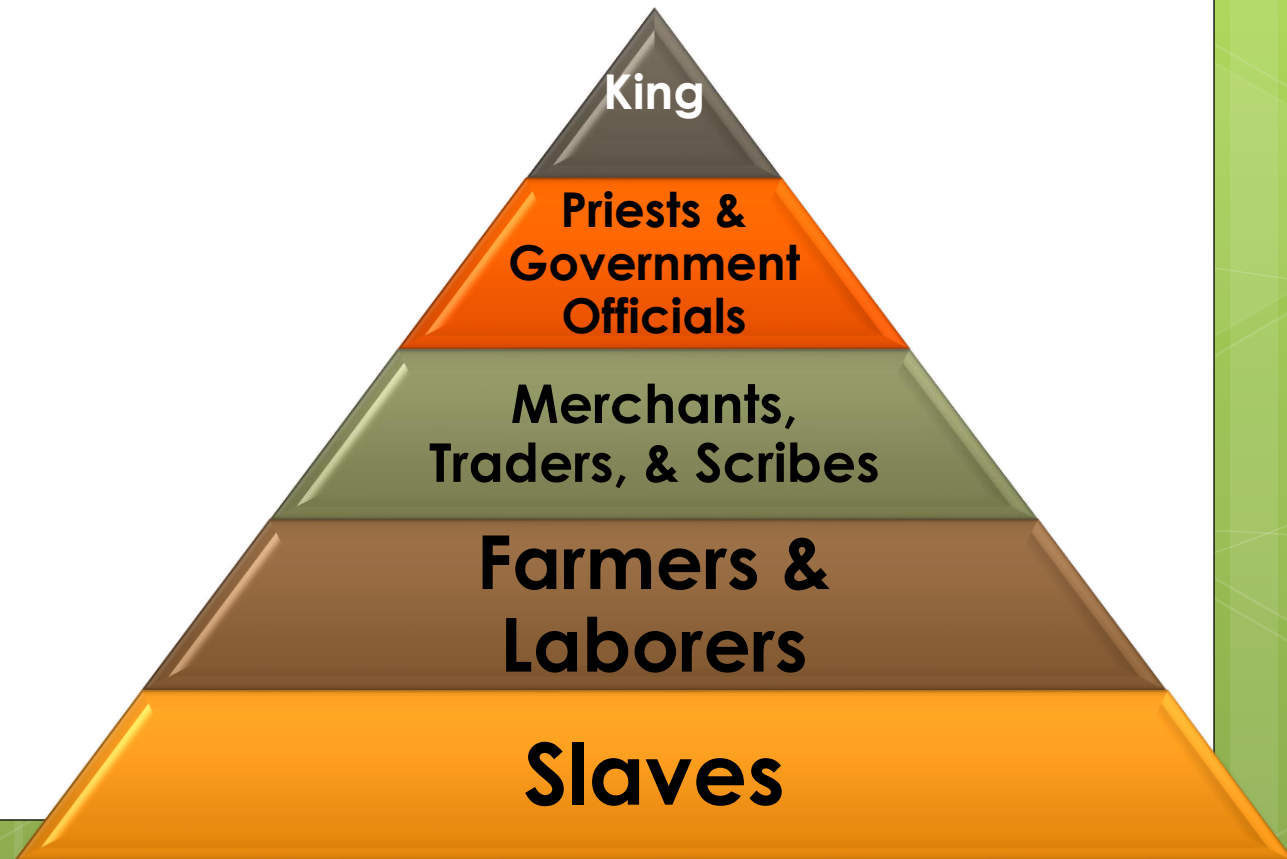
12. What advances in military strategies allowed other empires to conquer Mesopotamia?

- Akkadian: Soldiers fought in tight formations with spears/shields, destroyed the walls of the city-states.
- Assyrians: Siege Warfare, iron weapons, horses in battle, battering rams, siege towers.



13. What was the Social Structure in Sumer?

- Social Structure=Social Hierarchy
 - The division of society by rank or class.



Exit

- Share two important points about Ancient Mesopotamia with a buddy nearby.
- You cannot use the same point as your partner.

