

## Social Studies • **History and Geography**



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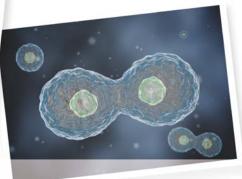
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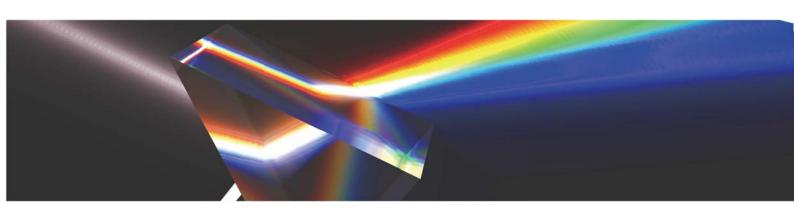
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Social Studies     History and Geography	World History and Culture	Early People The Fertile Crescent and the Kingdoms of Egypt The Indus Civilization Ancient Greece The Roman Empire The Rise of Islam From the Middle Ages to the Reformation The Enlightenment and the French Revolution		
Science	A World of Living Things The Earth's Oceans Our Earth Force and Motion Matter and Energy The Universe The Human Body	Cells, Reproduction, and Heredity Oceans and Ocean Life What We Can Learn From Fossils Newton's Laws Light Energy Eclipses Diseases and the Immune System		
Mathematics	Numbers and Computation Geometry	Factors, Prime Numbers, and Exponents Dimensions		
Language and Literature	Literature Language Arts	Pygmalion Sentences		
Visual Arts	Visual Arts	From Baroque Art to Pop Art		
Music	A World of Music	Gregorian Chants and Polyphonic Music		



### Visual Preview

What are some of the prehistoric ages in human history?



During the Stone Age, humans were huntergatherers who made simple tools from stone.



During the Bronze Age, humans learned to make tools from bronze.

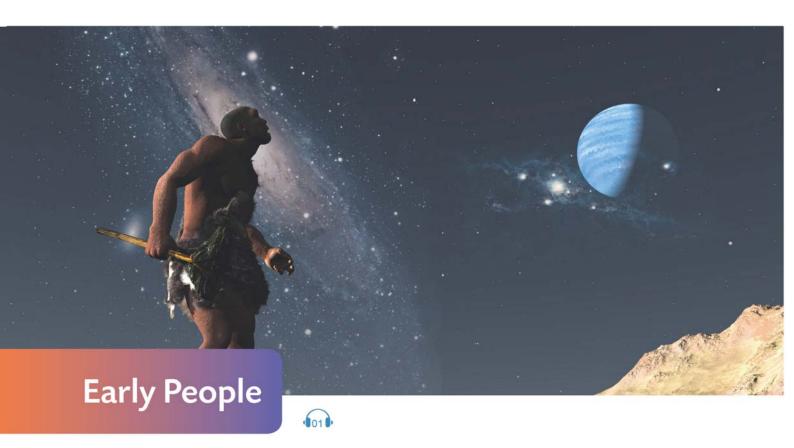


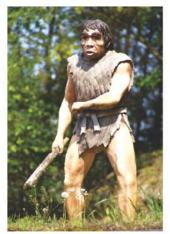
During the Iron Age, humans learned to make tools from iron and began to develop real civilizations.

### Vocabulary Preview

Write the correct word and the meaning in Chinese next to its meaning.

	Ice Age	Bronze Age	domesticate	primitive	hunter-gatherer		
1	-	: the period	d when much of th	e earth was co	old and covered with glacier		
2	: to train an animal to live with or work for humans						
3	: the period when humans learned to work with copper and tin						
4	: relating to a very early stage in the development of humans, animals, or plants						
5		: a person v	who hunts animals	and gathers v	wild plants for food		





▲ primitive human



vessel from the Stone Age

Acouple of million years ago, **primitive** humans were nothing like the modern humans of today. They were simplistic creatures that shared characteristics with both humans and apes. For much of this time, the earth was extremely cold. It endured a very long Ice Age. During the Ice Age, much of the earth's surface was covered by huge sheets of ice called glaciers. However, around 12,500 years ago, the Ice Age ended. The ice and glaciers receded. And humans began to evolve, to spread out, and to become more civilized.

Archaeologists have created a three-age system to describe **prehistoric** cultures. They are the Stone Age, the Bronze Age, and the Iron Age.

The **Stone Age** is often divided into the Old Stone Age and the New Stone Age. The Old Stone Age was the first part of the Stone Age and began around 2,000,000 B.C. The New Stone Age was the last part of the Stone Age and began around 10,000 B.C.

During the Old Stone Age, humans lived as **huntergatherers**. They hunted animals and gathered wild plants for food. People could only make simple tools out of stone. Yet people learned how to make fire during this age. Having fire changed human life a lot. Fire provided light and helped people stay warm. Most of all, people could cook their food.

In the New Stone Age, there began to be some more improvements. People learned to farm the land. People also learned to domesticate wild animals such as dogs, sheep, and goats. Some people began to settle in villages where there was fertile soil for farming. Since they could grow their own crops and raise their own animals, they no longer had to live as **nomads**. However, they still used stone tools, so this time is called the New Stone Age.

Around 3000 B.C., the Bronze Age began in some parts of the world. During it, humans started working with soft metals such as copper and tin. They learned how to create tools and weapons out of bronze. And pottery became more common during this time.

Around 1500 B.C., the Iron Age began in Europe. Of course, it started earlier in some places and later in other places. During the Iron Age, humans began working with iron. Also, the first real cities began to appear, and trade between cities became more commonplace. It was during this age that human civilization started to develop much more quickly than ever before.



People learned how to make fire during the Old Stone Age.



▲ primitive art



▲ primitive tools

◀ the evolution of human beings

### Quick Check Theck (True) or F (False).

- 1 The Stone Age happened before the Iron Age.
- During the New Stone Age, people learned to tame some animals.
- The Iron Age began in Europe around 3000 B.C.

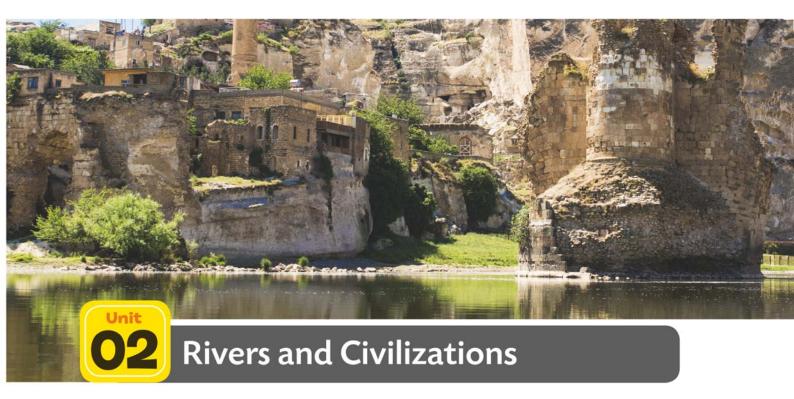
- T
- F
  - F
- T F

T

### Main Idea and Details

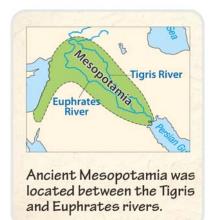
1	<ul> <li>What is the passage mainly about?</li> <li>a. The different ages that prehistoric humans lived in.</li> <li>b. The achievements of Bronze and Iron Age humans.</li> <li>c. How the Ice Age affected the progress of humans.</li> </ul>							
2	People learned to farm and started to live in villages in the  a. Old Stone Age							
3	<b>How did fire help change hum a.</b> They used it to farm the land. <b>b.</b> They were able to cook their c. They stopped living lives as n	food with it.						
4	What does endured mean?  a. Approached.  b. Practiced.  c. Experienced.							
5	Complete the sentences.  a. When the Ice Age ended, the ice and began to recede.  b. During the, humans learned to make tools out of copper and tin.  c. The first real cities started to appear during the							
6	Stone Age	Bronze Age	Iron Age					
Old • H • M le Nev	sted from 2,000,000 B.C. to 3000 B.C.  Stone Age  umans were hunter-gatherers.  ade simple tools of a and arned to make fire  v Stone Age  earned to farm and how to animals	Began around 3000 B.C.  Worked with soft metals like and tin  Learned to make bronze tools and weapons  d became more common.	Began around 1500 B.C. in Europe Began to work with e The first real cities appeared. Trade became more common. Civilization developed more quickly.					
Vo	cabulary Review Complete e	each sentence. Change the	o form if necessary					

	primitive	prehistoric	domesticate	fertile soil	nomad		
1	Because some areas had, humans could easily farm the land.						
2	The wandered on the grasslands while following herds of animals.						
3	Duringtimes, there were no written records of human accomplishments.						
4	The word means to tame or raise animals.						
5	humans were simple hunter-gatherers who had few skills.						

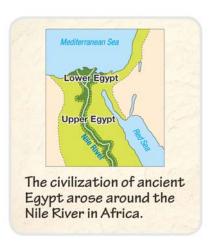


### Visual Preview

What are some ancient civilizations that were located beside rivers?







### Vocabulary Preview

Write the correct word and the meaning in Chinese next to its meaning.

	Mesopotamia	ziggurat	irrigate	cuneiform	polytheism	
1		ring water to nake crops gi		gh a system of	pipes, ditches,	etc. in orde
2 _	: an early civilization in the Fertile Crescent whose name means "the land between two rivers"					
3	: a red	ctangular ste	pped towe	r, sometimes s	urmounted by a	temple
4	: the	belief in mar	ny gods and	goddesses		
5	: a wr	iting system	created by	the Sumerians		UNIT 02



ne of the world's first civilizations began in the Fertile Crescent in Southwest Asia. The Fertile Crescent region lies between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Later, people called this area Mesopotamia, which means "the land between two rivers." Today, we call this area the Middle East.

The two rivers were extremely important to the people of Mesopotamia. When these rivers flooded,



▲ Fertile Crescent

they left rich soil that was good for farming. It led an early farming civilization to arise in this region. The Mesopotamians also used their geography and resources to their advantage. Mesopotamian farmers learned to use the waters of the Tigris and Euphrates to **irrigate** dry fields by using canals and pipes. They also constructed dams to store water in artificial lakes. They caught fish in the rivers and raised animals for food and clothing as well. By 3000 B.C., Mesopotamia's villages had



▲ ziggurat

grown into larger cities and eventually developed into citystates. Many of these city-states in southern Mesopotamia became known as Sumer.

The Sumerians had a very advanced civilization. They developed a **writing system** called **cuneiform** even before the ancient Egyptians created hieroglyphics. They practiced

polytheism and built a massive ziggurat for their gods and goddesses in each city. They also developed basic mathematics and created the 12-month calendar that we use today. After the fall of Sumer, many empires rose and fell in Mesopotamia. Babylonia, Assyria, Hittite, and ancient Israel were all civilizations that were established there.

Around the same time, another great civilization was being developed in Africa. Sometime around 4000 B.C., people started to settle down and found villages and towns in areas alongside the Nile River in Egypt. This was **ancient Egypt**.

Life in ancient Egypt was centered on the Nile River. Like the rivers in Mesopotamia, the land around the Nile was very fertile because the river flooded every summer. After the Nile flooded, the soil along the river was full of minerals and other nutrients that helped many crops grow. Soon, Egypt had a large population and a strong farming economy.

Ancient Egypt lasted from around 3100 B.C. until it was conquered by Alexander the Great in 332 B.C. Egyptian history is often divided into three time periods: the Old Kingdom, the Middle Kingdom, and the New Kingdom.

The **Old Kingdom** lasted from around 3100 B.C. to 2200 B.C. About 3100 B.C., the ruler of Upper Egypt, Menes, conquered

Lower Egypt and united it. He became the first pharaoh of Egypt. The Old Kingdom was the age when the pharaohs became very powerful and were worshipped as living **god-kings**. The pyramids, stone tombs for the pharaohs, were built then. The Middle Kingdom lasted from around 2100 B.C. to about 1700 B.C. Many people consider this the golden age of ancient Egypt. Trade flourished during this period. And there were great advances made in art, mathematics, and science. As for the New Kingdom, it lasted from around 1500 B.C. to 1000 B.C. The pharaohs Amenhotep II and Ramses II both ruled during the New Kingdom. Egypt expanded its territory and reached the peak of its power during this period.



cuneiform



▲ hieroglyphics



▲ ancient Egypt

### Quick Check T (True) or F (False).

- An early civilization arose in Mesopotamia.
- Egyptian history is divided into three kingdoms.
- 3 The Middle Kingdom in Egypt lasted from 2100 B.C. to 1500 B.C.
- T F
- F T
- T F

#### Main Idea and Details

#### 1 What is the passage mainly about?

- a. The rise and fall of ancient Egypt.
- b. The differences between Mesopotamia and Sumer.
- c. Some early civilizations in Asia and Africa.
- 2 The were built by the pharaohs during the Old Kingdom.
  - a. pyramids
- b. city-states
- c. artificial lakes

#### 3 What was cuneiform?

- a. The language spoken by the ancient Egyptians.
- b. The writing system invented by the Sumerians.
- c. The name of the calendar that the Sumerians used.
- 4 What does arise mean?
  - a. Flood.
- b. Locate.
- c. Begin.

#### 5 According to the passage, which statement is true?

- a. A part of the Fertile Crescent is located in Egypt.
- b. The Tigris, Euphrates, and Nile rivers all flooded yearly.
- c. Alexander the Great was a famous pharaoh from Egypt.
- 6 Complete the outline.

#### Mesopotamia

#### Sumer

#### **Ancient Egypt**

- Was in the Fertile Crescent between the <sup>a</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ and Euphrates rivers
- Farmers b\_\_\_\_\_ their fields with the rivers' waters.
- Caught fish and raised animals
- · Had large cities by 3000 B.C.

- Was a group of city-states in southern Mesopotamia
- Had a writing system called cuneiform
- Used a 12-month

Developed by the Nile River

#### Old Kingdom = 3100 B.C. to 2200 B.C.

 Pharaohs became very powerful and built the <sup>e</sup>

Middle Kingdom = 2100 B.C. to 1700 B.C.

- · Was the golden age of Egypt
- f = 1500 B.C. to

#### 1000 B.C.

Was the most powerful

### Vocabulary Review

Complete each sentence. Change the form if necessary.

	1111	igate	writing system	ziggurat	Hourish	gou-king
1	Α	wa:	s a massive temple b	uilt by the Sui	merians.	
2	Mesopotai	mian farr	ners used river water	to	their fields.	
3	Pharaohs,	the	rulers of an	cient Egypt, o	controlled Egyp	t for 2,000 years.
4	Hieroglyph	nics and	cuneiform were two		fro	m the ancient world.
5	Many civili	zations _	after p	people began	to build cities.	