

EARLY CIVILIZATIONS STUDY GUIDE
(Ch 1.1, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 3.4, 4.2, 4.3)

Terms to Know:

5 Characteristics of a Civilization
Scribes
Barter
Tigris & Euphrates
Dynasty
Epic of Gilgamesh
Babylonian Empire
Egypt
Theocracy
Papyrus
Yellow & Yangtze
Primary/Secondary Sources
Monotheism

Guns, Germs, and Steel
Caste System

Specialization
Cuneiform
Fertile Crescent

Cultural Diffusion

Hammurabi
Nile
Pyramid
Indus & Ganges
Oracle Bones
B.C., A.D., B.C.E., C.E.
Mandate of Heaven
Kingdom
Hunter-Gatherer

Bronze Age
Babylonian Captivity

Artisans
Ziggurat
Mesopotamia
City-States
Polytheism

Hammurabi's Code
Pharaohs
Hieroglyphics
China
Dynastic Cycle
Humanities
Agricultural Revolution
Zoroaster

Key Concepts:

- ❖ Explain the five (5) characteristics of a civilization.
- ❖ Describe the similarities and differences between the four river valley civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus Valley and China.
- ❖ Explain the significance of belief systems and the similarities and differences among the various belief systems of early civilizations.
- ❖ Why are writing systems important characteristics of civilizations? Be sure to support your answer with specific examples from the civilizations discussed in this unit.
- ❖ Explain the evolution of civilizations (later empires) within Mesopotamia and their contributions and advancements.
- ❖ Explain the arguments made by Jared Diamond in *Guns, Germs and Steel*.