

Connections: A World History (Judge/Langdon)

Chapter 2 Early Societies of West Asia and North Africa, to 500 B.C.E.

2.1 Multiple-Choice Questions

1) What geographical conditions were most important to the rise of Mesopotamia?

- A) convenient seaports
- B) rich mineral resources
- C) fertile farmlands
- D) extensive forests

Answer: C

Page Ref: 22

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

2) Mesopotamia was in present-day

- A) Iraq.
- B) Iran.
- C) Syria.
- D) Israel.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 22

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

3) Which name means "between the rivers"?

- A) Kush
- B) Nubia
- C) Mesopotamia
- D) Sumer

Answer: C

Page Ref: 23

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

4) Which of the following accurately describes the Epic of Gilgamesh?

- A) It was an Egyptian poem that paid homage to the Nile.
- B) It was a Hebrew creation story.
- C) It was a Mesopotamian poem about the search for immortality
- D) It was an epic poem about Osiris and Seth.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 24

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

5) Which of the following statements does NOT characterize the religious beliefs of the people of Mesopotamia?

- A) polytheism
- B) the belief that humans had to serve the gods in this life.
- C) optimism about an afterlife that would be much better than their current lives.
- D) a belief that the gods would punish them if they were displeased.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 24

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

6) The Sumerians created all of the following EXCEPT

- A) cuneiform.
- B) copper and bronze tools.
- C) a number system based on sixty.
- D) a phonetic alphabet.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 25

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

7) Which of these Sumerian innovations did NOT serve to support the ruling powers?

- A) the wheel
- B) ziggurats
- C) cuneiform
- D) the calendar

Answer: D

Page Ref: 24-25

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

8) Ziggurats were used for all of the following EXCEPT

- A) religious ceremonies.
- B) lookout towers for defense.
- C) government functions.
- D) tombs.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 24

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

9) Which of the following was the first system of writing?

- A) Sanskrit
- B) the Phoenician alphabet
- C) cuneiform
- D) hieroglyphics

Answer: C

Page Ref: 25

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

10) What was the relationship between the Babylonians and the Sumerians?

- A) The Babylonians were invaders who embraced many aspects of Sumerian society.
- B) The Babylonians and Sumerians inhabited the same lands, taken from the Assyrians.
- C) The Sumerians conquered the Babylonians.
- D) The Babylonians and Sumerians were two regional powers conquered by the Hittites.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 26

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

11) Who was the most prominent leader of the Akkadians?

- A) Sargon
- B) Hammurabi
- C) Nebuchadnezzar II
- D) Cyrus the Great

Answer: A

Page Ref: 22, 25, 26

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

12) The Amorites could also be called

- A) Sumerians.
- B) Akkadians.
- C) Babylonians.
- D) Chaldeans.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 26

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

13) Which of the following does NOT apply to the Code of Hammurabi?

- A) Penalties for crimes were based on the principle of retribution.
- B) Punishments differed according to social status.
- C) Property rights were valued very highly.
- D) Women had no rights.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 26-28

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

14) The ideology that best explains Hammurabi's position with respect to commercial transactions was

- A) let the buyer beware.
- B) an eye for an eye.
- C) property rights have little significance.
- D) sellers must guarantee all work.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 26-27

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

15) Which of these was NOT introduced to West Asia by the Indo-Europeans?

- A) domesticated horses
- B) new languages
- C) agriculture
- D) Hittite rule

Answer: C

Page Ref: 28

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

16) Which of the following locations was part of the Hittite, Assyrian, and Chaldean empires?

- A) Babylon
- B) Egypt
- C) Palestine
- D) Syria

Answer: D

Page Ref: 30

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

17) In most cultures today, it is customary for the bride's family to pay for the wedding. This custom has roots in the ancient practice of

- A) the bride's family choosing the groom.
- B) the groom's family arranging the marriage.
- C) the bride's family supplying the dowry.
- D) the bride's family walking her down the aisle.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 27

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

18) In addition to his law code, Hammurabi is also known for

- A) adopting monotheism.
- B) conquering most of Africa.
- C) making advancements in metalwork.
- D) instigating building projects.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 28

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

19) Which of the following developments led to huge changes in warfare and travel?

- A) the domestication of horses
- B) the development of iron tools and weapons
- C) the development of bridges
- D) the potter's wheel

Answer: A

Page Ref: 29

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

20) Which of the following accurately describes the Hittite kingdom?

- A) matriarchal and matrilineal
- B) hierarchical and patriarchal
- C) monotheistic
- D) matriarchal and hierarchical

Answer: B

Page Ref: 29

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

21) Which of the following civilizations is credited with building the Hanging Gardens of Babylon?

- A) Chaldeans
- B) Persians
- C) Sumerians
- D) Assyrians

Answer: A

Page Ref: 32

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

22) Where is the Ishtar gate?

- A) Ur
- B) Jerusalem
- C) Lagash
- D) Babylon

Answer: D

Page Ref: 31-32

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

23) Which of the following civilizations controlled their conquered enemies by torture and terrorization?

- A) Chaldeans
- B) Persians
- C) Sumerians
- D) Assyrians

Answer: D

Page Ref: 31

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

24) The city of Nineveh was part of which ancient civilization?

- A) Sumerians
- B) Assyrians
- C) Akkadians
- D) Persians

Answer: B

Page Ref: 31

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

25) Which empire conquered and brought an end to the Chaldean Empire?

- A) Assyrians
- B) Persians
- C) Hittites
- D) Egyptians

Answer: B

Page Ref: 32

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

26) Which of these divided Africa into two great regions?

- A) the Congo River
- B) the Nile River
- C) the Sahara
- D) the Niger River

Answer: C

Page Ref: 32

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

27) Which of these was NOT common to Egypt and Mesopotamia?

- A) a polytheistic religion
- B) the central role of great rivers
- C) connections to neighboring cultures
- D) reliance on a single river

Answer: D

Page Ref: 32-33

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

28) How did Egyptian territory change during the New Kingdom?

- A) Egypt lost Upper Egypt, but retained control of Lower Egypt.
- B) Egypt lost Syria and Palestine.
- C) Egypt gained land along the eastern Mediterranean Sea.
- D) Egypt gained the communities of Giza and Memphis.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 36-37

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

- 29) After 5000 B.C.E., the climate changed in North Africa. What happened?
- A) Monsoons began to flood the continent.
 - B) Savannah began to overtake desert land.
 - C) Rainfall became scarce, so the climate was drier.
 - D) The Nile began flooding erratically, thus wiping out the Egyptian kingdom.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 32

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Factual

- 30) Which of the following statements best accounts for the failure of Akhenaton's reign?
- A) The Egyptian people viewed his reign as illegitimate because he was not the direct descendent of Amenhotep III.
 - B) He invested the majority of the country's resources on expansionist policies and neglected domestic priorities.
 - C) He was obsessed with his religion to the neglect of other affairs, as he tried desperately to reform Egypt into a monotheistic society.
 - D) He was a child king who was murdered before reaching adulthood.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 37

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

- 31) Who first united upper and lower Egypt?
- A) Thutmosis III
 - B) Menes
 - C) Amenhotep III
 - D) Amenhotep IV

Answer: B

Page Ref: 35

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Factual

- 32) Which period of Egyptian history was known for building pyramids?
- A) Old Kingdom
 - B) Middle Kingdom
 - C) New Kingdom
 - D) Second Intermediate Period

Answer: A

Page Ref: 36

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Factual

33) The Great Pyramid was built for

- A) Thutmosis III.
- B) Hatshepsut.
- C) Khufu.
- D) Akhenaton.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 36

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Factual

34) Which period of Egyptian history would best be described as imperialistic?

- A) Early Dynastic Period
- B) Old Kingdom
- C) Middle Kingdom
- D) New Kingdom

Answer: D

Page Ref: 37

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

35) What caused the downfall of the Middle Kingdom?

- A) The Nile flooded unexpectedly.
- B) Egypt was plagued by droughts.
- C) The Hyksos invaded and conquered.
- D) The Egyptian economy suffered due to pyramid construction.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 36

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

36) In what way was Hatshepsut unusual as an Egyptian ruler?

- A) in being a female ruler of Egypt
- B) in ruling over all of Egypt
- C) in worshipping Osiris
- D) in inheriting rule from her father

Answer: A

Page Ref: 37

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

37) Which Egyptian pharaoh became known as Akhenaton?

- A) Thutmosis III
- B) Hatshepsut
- C) Amenhotep III
- D) Amenhotep IV

Answer: D

Page Ref: 37

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Factual

38) Nefertiti was

- A) an Egyptian goddess.
- B) King Tut's wife.
- C) a Mesopotamian goddess associated with fertility.
- D) Akhenaton's wife.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 37

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Factual

39) Which name means "gold" or "black"?

- A) Egypt
- B) Nubia
- C) Mesopotamia
- D) Sumer

Answer: B

Page Ref: 38

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Factual

40) Which of these connected Egypt with the African interior?

- A) Kush
- B) Syria
- C) Anatolia
- D) Persia

Answer: A

Page Ref: 38

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

41) Which of these had the greatest cultural impact on Nubia?

- A) Egypt
- B) Syria
- C) the Hyksos
- D) the Amorites

Answer: A

Page Ref: 38-39

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

42) Who were the original inhabitants of Kush?

- A) Egyptians
- B) Nubians
- C) Babylonians
- D) Sumerians

Answer: B

Page Ref: 38

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Factual

43) Carthage was a colony founded on the North African coast by a seafaring people from West Asia known as the

- A) Hittites.
- B) Egyptians.
- C) Phoenicians.
- D) Assyrians.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 40

Section: West Asia and North Africa: The Phoenician Connection

Question Type: Factual

44) Which of the following statements is true of Carthage?

- A) It became independent power.
- B) It was on the Mediterranean Sea.
- C) It relied on trade.
- D) Its society was largely urban.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 40

Section: West Asia and North Africa: The Phoenician Connection

Question Type: Conceptual

45) What was the source of Phoenician influence?

- A) military strength
- B) a large population
- C) extensive territory
- D) a large trading network

Answer: D

Page Ref: 39

Section: West Asia and North Africa: The Phoenician Connection

Question Type: Conceptual

46) Which people laid the foundations for the phonetic alphabets used throughout the West?

- A) Babylonians
- B) Sumerians
- C) Persians
- D) Phoenicians

Answer: D

Page Ref: 40

Section: West Asia and North Africa: The Phoenician Connection

Question Type: Factual

47) Where was the Phoenician homeland?

- A) the Eastern Mediterranean
- B) Mesopotamia
- C) Anatolia
- D) the Western Mediterranean

Answer: A

Page Ref: 39

Section: West Asia and North Africa: The Phoenician Connection

Question Type: Factual

48) The Hebrews laid the foundation for all of the religions EXCEPT

- A) Judaism.
- B) Christianity.
- C) Islam.
- D) Hinduism.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 41

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Factual

49) Which Hebrew king was able to unite the Israelites but was unable to decisively defeat the Philistines?

- A) Saul
- B) David
- C) Solomon
- D) Nebuchadnezzar

Answer: A

Page Ref: 41

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Factual

50) Which of the following people were NOT polytheistic?

- A) Sumerians
- B) Hebrews
- C) Egyptians
- D) Aryans

Answer: B

Page Ref: 41

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Conceptual

51) Which Hebrew man was called "Israel"?

- A) Judah
- B) Isaac
- C) Jacob
- D) David

Answer: C

Page Ref: 41

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Factual

52) Which of these was common to the cultural traditions of Sumeria and Israel?

- A) flood narratives
- B) monotheism
- C) polytheism
- D) a religious covenant

Answer: A

Page Ref: 41

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Conceptual

53) Which Hebrew king was known for elaborate building projects?

- A) Saul
- B) David
- C) Solomon
- D) Nebuchadnezzar

Answer: C

Page Ref: 41

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Factual

54) Which of the following accomplishments did NOT occur during the reign of King David?

- A) Jerusalem was established as the capital city.
- B) The Philistines were defeated.
- C) A standing army was created.
- D) The temple was built.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 41

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Conceptual

55) Which people allowed the Hebrews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild their temple following their Babylonian exile?

- A) Assyrians
- B) Chaldeans
- C) Persians
- D) Egyptians

Answer: C

Page Ref: 42

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Factual

2.2 True/False Questions

1) We still don't know the location of the capital of Sargon's empire.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 22

Section: Introduction

Question Type: Factual

2) The Sumerians invented the wheel.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 25

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

3) Most Sumerians learned to write.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 25

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

4) Much of the Code of Hammurabi is based on the idea that the punishment should fit the crime.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 26-27

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

5) Horses remained the main form of military transport until World War II.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 28

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

6) The Hittites were eager to share their technological advancements in iron with their neighbors.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 29

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

7) Mesopotamian society was less given to conquest than Egyptian society.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 32

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

8) The Phoenician trading empire centered on the Nile valley.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 39

Section: West Asia and North Africa: The Phoenician Connection

Question Type: Conceptual

9) Carthage was the most prominent of all the Phoenician colonies.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 40

Section: West Asia and North Africa: The Phoenician Connection

Question Type: Factual

10) David united the Israelites into a single kingdom.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 41

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Factual

2.3 Short Answer Questions

1) Why didn't copper work well for creating large tools and weapons?

Answer: It was too soft.

Page Ref: 25

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

2) What does "cuneiform" mean?

Answer: Wedge-shaped

Page Ref: 25

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

3) Where were Ur and Uruk located?

Answer: Sumer, or southern Mesopotamia

Page Ref: 23

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

4) How did the Hittites succeed in making iron weapons after other groups had failed?

Answer: They learned to bring it to a higher temperature.

Page Ref: 29

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

5) Who were the "New Babylonians"?

Answer: Chaldeans

Page Ref: 31

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Factual

6) Which people wrote on papyrus?

Answer: Egyptians

Page Ref: 34

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Factual

7) What period established most of Egypt's institutions and culture?

Answer: The Old Kingdom

Page Ref: 36

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

8) Why were the Hyksos able to conquer Egypt?

Answer: They had horse-drawn chariots and bronze weapons.

Page Ref: 36

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

9) What was the basis of the Phoenician economy?

Answer: trade

Page Ref: 39

Section: West Asia and North Africa: The Phoenician Connection

Question Type: Conceptual

10) What was the name of the agreement the Israelites believed existed between themselves and their god?

Answer: a covenant

Page Ref: 41

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Factual

2.4 Essay Questions

1) Explain how the story of Sargon exemplifies the challenges faced by historians in trying to compile accurate histories of ancient civilizations.

Page Ref: 22-26

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

2) Compare and contrast Egyptian and Mesopotamian women.

Page Ref: 27 and 35

Section: Early West Asian Societies, Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

3) Compare and contrast cuneiform and hieroglyphics.

Page Ref: 25 and 34

Section: Early West Asian Societies, Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

4) Evaluate the contributions of the Sumerians to present-day society.

Page Ref: 23-25

Section: Early West Asian Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

5) Discuss the role of Osiris in Egyptian religion. How does his legend shape the overall outlook of Egyptian religion?

Page Ref: 34

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

6) Discuss the major events of the New Kingdom, including notable differences among the Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms.

Page Ref: 37

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Factual

7) Compare and contrast the Nubians and Egyptians.

Page Ref: 38

Section: Early Northeast African Societies

Question Type: Conceptual

8) Can the trading regions of the Phoenicians be called an empire? Explain.

Page Ref: 39-40

Section: West Asia and North Africa: The Phoenician Connection

Question Type: Conceptual

9) How was the Jewish perception of Yahweh different from the perception of other gods?

Page Ref: 43

Section: The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Conceptual

10) Compare the states of the Israelites and Egyptians.

Page Ref: 23-32; 40-43

Section: Early West Asian Societies, The Israelites and Their God

Question Type: Conceptual