

Chapter 02 - Early African Societies and the Bantu Migrations

Chapter 02
Early African Societies and the Bantu Migrations

Multiple Choice Questions

1. (p. 27) Which of the following societies began the custom of embalming to preserve the body for its life after death?

- A.** Egypt
- B. Mesopotamia
- C. India
- D. China
- E. Persia

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2. (p. 28) Around _____ B.C.E., peoples of the eastern Sudan started to domesticate cattle and became nomadic herders.

- A. 25,000
- B. 18,000
- C.** 9000
- D. 4000
- E. 1500

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3. (p. 28-29) The early Sudanic societies recognized a single divine force as the source of good and evil, and they associated it with

- A. fire.
- B. the ocean.
- C. the sun.
- D.** rain.
- E. the moon.

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4. (p. 29) The Greek historian Herodotus used the phrase "the gift of the _____" to describe Egypt.

- A. Indus
- B. Huang He
- C.** Nile
- D. Tigris
- E. Issus

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5. (p. 30) The earliest Egyptian and Nubian states were

- A. city-states.
- B.** small kingdoms.
- C. centralized empires.
- D. trading networks.
- E. unified early because of the unique nature of the Tigris.

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6. (p. 30) Tradition suggests that Egypt was united around 3100 B.C.E. by the conqueror

- A.** Menes.
- B. Khufu.
- C. Sargon of Akkad.
- D. Hatshepsut.
- E. Hammurabi.

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7. (p. 30-31) The largest Egyptian pyramids were built during the

- A. Middle Kingdom.
- B.** Old Kingdom.
- C. New Kingdom.
- D. Archaic Period.
- E. Second Intermediary Period.

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8. (p. 31) The pyramid of _____ is the largest of all the pyramids.

- A. Sargon of Akkad
- B.** Khufu
- C. Hyksos
- D. Menes
- E. Giza

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9. (p. 31) The capital of the kingdom of Kush was

- A. Kerma.
- B. Axum.
- C. Memphis.
- D. Harappa.
- E. Harkhuf.

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10. (p. 31) Harkhuf was

- A. the capital of Kush.
- B. the most powerful pharaoh of the Old Kingdom.
- C. an Egyptian explorer who visited Nubia.
- D. the largest Middle Kingdom pyramid.
- E. the first woman pharaoh.

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11. (p. 31) Pharaohs in the New Kingdom were

- A. more powerful than pharaohs of the Old Kingdom.
- B. descended from a line of Babylonian kings.
- C. set on the throne by the Roman emperor Julius Caesar.
- D. more vigorous in their attempts to extend Egyptian authority beyond the Nile valley and delta.
- E. sacrificed at age thirty-two to insure a bountiful harvest.

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12. (p. 30) Around 3100 B.C.E., the conqueror Menes founded _____, a city that would serve as the capital for early Egypt.

- A. Heliopolis
- B. Kerma
- C. Uruk
- D.** Memphis
- E. Thebes

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13. (p. 31) The Hyksos were

- A. nomads who eventually settled around the city of Babylon.
- B.** horse-riding external invaders who eventually captured Memphis and levied tribute throughout Egypt.
- C. Mesopotamian kings.
- D. the priestly class in ancient Egypt.
- E. demons who punished the wicked in the Egyptian underworld.

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14. (p. 31) Horse-drawn chariots and bronze weapons were introduced into Egypt by the

- A.** Hyksos.
- B. Babylonians.
- C. Kushites.
- D. Harappans.
- E. Qin.

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15. (p. 31-32) The most vigorous of all New Kingdom pharaohs was _____, who led his troops into Palestine and Syria and who even received tribute from the Mesopotamian city-states.

- A. Ahmose I
- B. Menes
- C. Sargon of Akkad
- D.** Tuthmosis III
- E. Hatshepsut

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16. (p. 31-32) The Egyptians were the most imperialistic during the

- A. First Intermediary Period.
- B. Archaic Period.
- C.** New Kingdom.
- D. Old Kingdom.
- E. Middle Kingdom.

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17. (p. 33) During the eighth century B.C.E., Egypt fell under the control of the _____ for around a century.

- A. Persians
- B. Romans
- C. Greeks
- D. Babylonians
- E.** Kushites

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18. (p. 33) Around 760 B.C.E. the Kushite king Kashta
- A. ended the rule of Egypt by the pharaoh.
 - B.** founded a dynasty that ruled Egypt for around a hundred years.
 - C. formed a long-lasting trading agreement with Egypt, marking their first contact.
 - D. surrendered to Assyrian domination.
 - E. surrendered to Egyptian domination.

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19. (p. 34) In the mid-seventh century B.C.E. Egypt lost its independence and became a part of the
- A.** Assyrian empire.
 - B. Arabic empire.
 - C. Persian empire.
 - D. Roman empire.
 - E. Harappan empire.

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20. (p. 35) Hatshepsut was
- A. a Mesopotamian king of the gods.
 - B. the Hebrew term for their god.
 - C. the first conqueror to unite all of Mesopotamia.
 - D.** a woman who ruled Egypt as pharaoh.
 - E. the most important early city of the Harappan society.

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21. (p. 35) In which of the following societies did women enjoy the most political influence?

- A. Mesopotamia
- B. Egypt**
- C. Hyksos
- D. Assyria
- E. Sumer

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22. (p. 35) In Kush,

- A. the cities were much larger than they were in Egypt.
- B. a woman's only role was to serve as a slave.
- C. there were apparently never any female rulers.
- D. trade was officially restricted with Egypt.
- E. there is evidence of many female rulers.**

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23. (p. 35) In Africa, iron metallurgy

- A. was introduced by Persian merchants.
- B. did not appear until after the rise of trans-Saharan trade.
- C. arose independently.**
- D. began after an odd meeting between a Kushite king and the Egyptian explorer Harkhuf.
- E. was imported into the continent by trade with the Mesopotamians.

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24. (p. 39) The Egyptians traded through the Red Sea with a land they called Punt, which was probably
- A. Harappan India.
 - B. Sri Lanka.
 - C.** modern-day Somalia.
 - D. Assyria.
 - E. modern-day Angola.

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25. (p. 39) The Greek words meaning "holy inscriptions" refer to
- A.** hieroglyphs.
 - B. cuneiform.
 - C. the Old Testament.
 - D. the Phoenician alphabet.
 - E. the Coptic script.

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26. (p. 39) Meroitic writing
- A. has now been completely translated.
 - B. expressed the general Egyptian optimism with life.
 - C. was introduced into India by the Indo-Europeans.
 - D.** was a Nubian script that borrowed Egyptian hieroglyphs.
 - E. cannot be read because it's simply too different from its base cuneiform.

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27. (p. 40) The cult of Amon-Re

- A. was a failed monotheistic religion in Egypt.
- B. worshipped the god of the underworld.
- C.** revered a combination of two gods associated with the sun.
- D. worshipped the Egyptian god of the desert.
- E. was borrowed by the Egyptians from Nubian sources.

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28. (p. 40) Which pharaoh tried, unsuccessfully, to transform Egypt into a monotheistic society?

- A. Menes
- B.** Akhenaten
- C. Tuthmosis III
- D. Ahmose I
- E. Tuthmosis I

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29. (p. 40) The Egyptian god of the underworld was

- A. Amon-Re.
- B. Aten.
- C. Horus.
- D.** Osiris.
- E. Ptah.

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30. (p. 40) Osiris judged whether or not souls were worthy of immortality
- A.** by weighing their hearts against a feather symbolizing justice.
 - B. through their completion of a journey full of tests.
 - C. through the individual's level of sincere faith in Osiris as a redeemer.
 - D. by examining their holiness at the moment of their death.
 - E. through their adherence to the code of Hammurabi.

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31. (p. 41) The Bantu originally came from around
- A. the Swahili area.
 - B.** modern-day Nigeria.
 - C. far southern Africa.
 - D. Egypt.
 - E. modern-day Algeria.

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32. (p. 42) The tribes that, as early as 3000 B.C.E., began to spread their language and agricultural techniques throughout Africa were the
- A. Mali.
 - B. Persians.
 - C. Xiongnu.
 - D. Kongo.
 - E.** Bantu.

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33. (p. 42) By spreading their language across a huge stretch of Africa, the Bantu played a role similar to that played by the

- A. Indo-Europeans.
- B. Mongols.
- C. Xiongnu.
- D. Visigoths.
- E. Babylonians.

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34. (p. 42) The Bantu probably began their migrations because of

- A. invasions from the Mediterranean basin.
- B. a conscious desire for conquest.
- C. the threat of epidemic disease.
- D. a desire to spread their monotheistic faith.
- E. population pressures.

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True / False Questions

35. (p. 27) Mummification was the process by which Egyptians preserved bodies of deceased individuals.

TRUE

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36. (p. 39) The Egyptians supplemented their pictographs with symbols representing sounds and ideas; they were called hieroglyphs by the Greeks.

TRUE

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37. (p. 31) The New Kingdom was a powerful Egyptian state created after the Hyksos were pushed out of power.

TRUE

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38. (p. 40) Osiris was the Egyptian god of the underworld.

TRUE

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39. (p. 30) Menes is credited with unification of Egypt about 3100 B.C.E. He also founded the city of Memphis.

TRUE

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40. (p. 35) Queen Hatshepsut served as co-ruler with her stepson Tuthmosis III.

TRUE

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41. (p. 31) Harkhuf was a Nubian trader who brought back exotic products from tropical Africa.

FALSE

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42. (p. 40) Akhenaten was devoted to the Egyptian god Aten. This represented one of the world's first expressions of monotheism.

TRUE

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43. (p. 31) Kerma was the ancient capital of Nubia.

FALSE

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44. (p. 28) The Nile River links the Mediterranean basin to the north and sub-Saharan Africa to the south.

TRUE

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Essay Questions

45. In *The Great Hymn to Aten*, the god Aten is referred to as "O Sole God beside whom there is none!" Why was this statement so revolutionary for the time? What were the foundations of Akhenaten's beliefs? Were there other examples from the ancient world of monotheistic religions?

Answers will vary

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46. What were the major achievements of the Egyptians? How did they influence later societies?

Answers will vary

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47. What could the modern reader learn about the relationship between Egypt and Nubia by reading Harkhuf's account of his journey to Nubia? What did the two societies have in common?

Answers will vary

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48. Examine the creation of early methods of writing. How did this innovation influence the lives of the peoples of the ancient world?

Answers will vary

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49. Compare and contrast the worldviews of the Mesopotamians and Egyptians. What factors help to explain any differences?

Answers will vary

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50. How influential were the societies of Nubia in the ancient world? In what ways were the Kushite kingdoms unique?

Answers will vary

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51. Compare and contrast the religious beliefs of the Mesopotamians, Egyptians, and Hebrews. What do the differences tell us about these societies?

Answers will vary

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52. Discuss the concept of an afterlife. Why did the Egyptians reach a complex understanding of this concept before the Mesopotamians? Does this mean that the Egyptians were morbid?

Answers will vary

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53. In what ways do the pyramids express the worldview of the Egyptians?

Answers will vary

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54. Trace the political history of the Egyptians. What were the major events and contributions of the Old and New Kingdoms?

Answers will vary

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55. Compare the social structure of the Mesopotamians and Egyptians. What were the conditions for women like during this period?

Answers will vary

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56. What role did technological innovations and trade play in the rise of the Egyptians? What innovations led to turning points in the history of Egypt? How widely did the Egyptians trade?

Answers will vary

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57. Examine the illustration of Osiris on page 39. What does this ceremony tell us about the Egyptian view of death, morality, and the afterworld?

Answers will vary

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58. What do the pyramids tell us about Egyptian political and religious views? What do they tell us about the social structure of Egyptian society?

Answers will vary

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59. Describe the development of hieroglyphic and Meroitic writing and their influence on culture.

Answers will vary

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60. How did climatic change influence the early development of African cultures?

Answers will vary

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61. How did the institution of the pharaoh evolve, and what was the nature of the pharaoh's power through the Old Kingdom period?

Answers will vary

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62. Describe the early Kingdom of Kush. What was its relationship with Egypt like?

Answers will vary

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63. How did the invasion of the Hyksos influence the later development of Egypt?

Answers will vary

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64. In what ways was the New Kingdom period of Egypt different from the earlier ones? What were the relations with Kush like during this period?

Answers will vary

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65. What was society like in Egypt and Nubia in terms of both social classes and gender roles?

Answers will vary

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66. What kind of transportation systems did the Egyptians use, and how did their transportation influence the development of their trade networks?

Answers will vary

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67. What was the societal structure of the early Bantu speakers, and how did they approach food acquisition?

Answers will vary

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68. How did the Bantu migrations influence the development of the societies of sub-Saharan Africa?

Answers will vary

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69. How did the development of iron tools change the nature of the Bantu migrations and their impact?

Answers will vary

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70. Describe the religious beliefs of the Bantu peoples and compare them to those of the Egyptians.

Answers will vary

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