

# ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA QUESTIONS

## GEOGRAPHY OF ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

1. Adaptation: How did the Sumerians adapt to their environment to eventually create a farming surplus? The Sumerians adapted to their environment by using irrigation, dikes, and dams to control the water. This allowed them to control the water and create a farming surplus.
2. **Support with Evidence from the Text-** Support the following sentence with evidence in the form of a direct quote from the text: The overflow of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers benefited the Sumerians. Make sure to place the sentence chosen in quotes when you write it down.  
"The Tigris and Euphrates rivers flow southeast to the Persian Gulf, and during the spring the rivers overflow and deposit fertile silt onto the land."
3. Draw quick sketch of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers and the Fertile Crescent.



## ECONOMY IN MESOPOTAMIA

1. **Support with Evidence from the Text-** Support the following sentence with evidence in the form of a direct quote from the text: Caravan traders traded goods with other places. Make sure to place the sentence chosen in quotes when you write it down. Traders

traveled in caravans through trade routes in order to trade other regions for certain resources Mesopotamia lacked, such as metal, wood, and salt. Their commercial trade extended to far-off regions like Egypt and Pakistan.

2. How did the invention of the wheeled cart effect trade? The wheeled cart allowed traders to pull large amounts of goods at a time.
3. **Thinks about it:** How could a surplus in crops or food lead to more specialized jobs?

A surplus in crops or food led to more specialized jobs through the division of labor. people could specialize in producing objects that were different that could be traded.

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## ACHIEVEMENTS OF ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

1. How did the base of 60 lead to our current system of time?

The base of sixty led to 60 seconds in a minute and 60 minutes in an hour.

2. Describe 3 Sumerian achievements.

A. The base of 60 - dividing time by 60

B. Wheeled cart

C. Cuneiform

3. Use your own words to describe the "Epic of Gilgamesh".  
The Epic of Gilgamesh The Sail Boat (possibly)

King Gilgamesh has a friend named Enkidu.

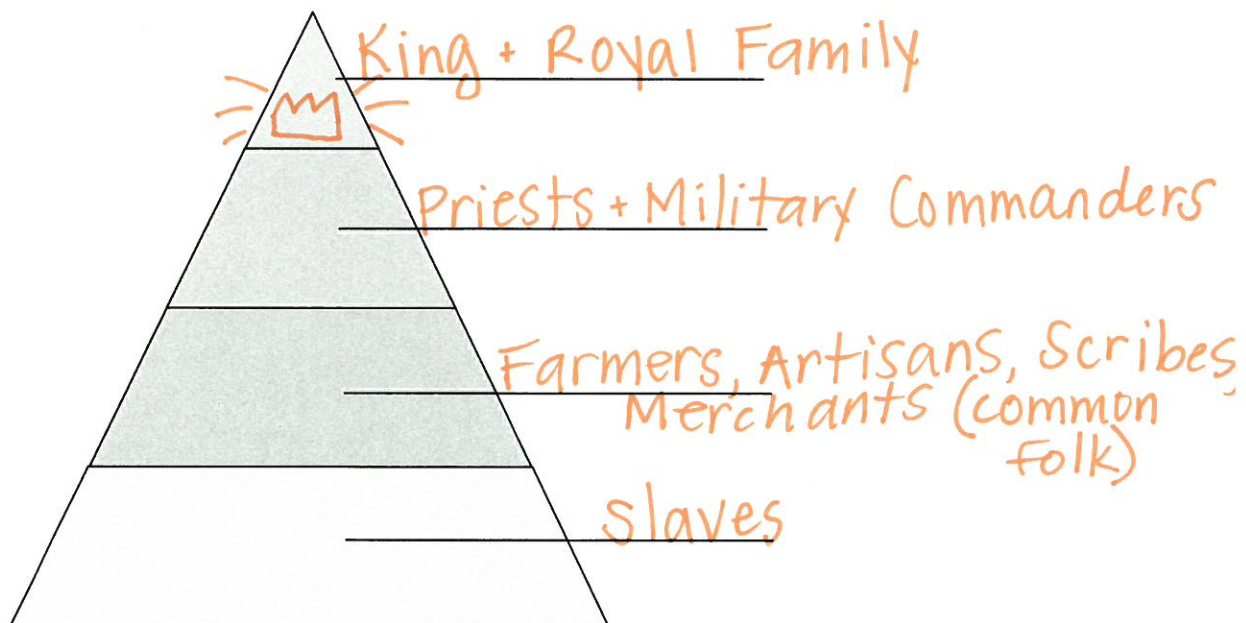
Enkidu dies and Gilgamesh is troubled. Gilgamesh decides he wants to find the key to eternal life.

## SOCIAL CLASSES OF ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

1. Describe one thing that you learned from the reading that was surprising to you. \_\_\_\_\_

(This answer all depends on what you found surprising.)

2. Categorize - Create a four tier pyramid of power on your paper with the people who had the most power at the top and those with the least power at the bottom.



# ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA QUESTIONS

## RELIGION IN ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

Why do you think the Sumerians created nature based gods?

I think the Sumerians created nature based gods because they wanted to have a positive effect on nature.

Describe the powers of two Sumerian Gods.

Enlil is a Sumerian god who is the god of air and Enki is the god of water.

Why do you think king's promoted the idea that they were demigods?

I think Kings promoted the idea they were demigods so they could be more powerful.

## GOVERNMENT OF ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

1. Create a timeline beginning in 2350 BC extending to 700 BC. Beneath the date, write a title and briefly describe a detail that happened in each era. Include the following dates: 2350 BC, 2300 BC, 1750 BC, 1600 BC, 700 BC.

Title beneath date as directions said.

700BC The Assyrians  
 BY 700 BC the Assyrians rule all of Mesopotamia.

**2350 BC**  
Sargon Unites  
 Sargon conquers and unites all of Sumer's city states and names the world's first empire the Akkadian empire

**2300 BC**  
Falling Apart  
 The Akkadian Empire falls apart and the separate city-states gain their independence back.

**1750 BC**  
Hammurabi Unites  
 Hammurabi creates the Babylonian empire.

**1600 BC**  
Babylonian Empire Falls  
 The Babylonian Empire falls and the Kassites conquer Babylon.