Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**MESOPOTAMIA**

**Directions:** Please answer each question below. When answering a question please restate and give details.

1. The first ancient of civilizations began in river valleys. Below are a number of statements about ancient civilizations. Choose 4 statements below to explain why ancient civilizations appeared in river valleys.

Rewrite the correct statement in the blank boxes below.

**Why Ancient Civilizations Emerged Near Rivers**

 E.) Each river often had a number of tributaries that provided water for irrigating crops.

F.) Rivers offered a mild climate and a water highway to trade with other nearby civilizations.

 D.) Early cities became centers of production and commerce.

C.) Each overflowing river deposited rich soil along its banks every year, providing fertile soil for growing crops.

A.) Early civilizations developed writing to keep track of crops, seasons, taxes & government affairs.

 B.) Rivers supplied a source of fresh water for drinking and for cooking food.

1. A passage about the ancient Sumerians is shown below. Read the passage and then answer

“The Sumerians lived in Mesopotamia. They built a number of early cities. Since they lacked stone and timber, they used mud bricks to build walled cities, temples, and palaces. Their architectural advances included arches, columns, ramps, and the pyramid-shaped ziggurats. These new features influenced buildings throughout Mesopotamia. In addition, the Sumerians developed copper and bronze tools and weapons. They also developed the world’s first know writing—cuneiform writing on clay tables.”

 **Source**: Bech, Black, Krieger, Naylor. *World History: Patterns of Interaction*

Based on the information in this passage, identify three achievements of the ancient Sumerians of Mesopotamia. Then, show how each of these achievements continues to influence the peoples of the Eastern Hemisphere today. Write your answer in the space provided.

* Achievement: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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