

a scientist who studies human history by digging up human remains and artifacts.

Early Civilizations

- 1 Most **archaeologists** believe that there have been people on the earth for about 3 million years. The period beginning when people first appeared and ending when writing developed (about 5,000 years ago), is called **prehistory**. The period after writing developed is called **history**. This was the beginning of **civilization**, or when people began to advance culturally and to live in cities.
- 2 Many scientists believe that until about 900,000 years ago, people lived only on the grasslands of eastern and southern Africa. Then the earth's climate changed. It became colder. Ocean water froze into huge glaciers that spread out from the North and South Poles. As the ice sheets grew, the sea level fell and uncovered land that had been under water. Land bridges then connected Africa to both southern Europe and southwest Asia. People were able to **migrate**, or make their way and move around the desert of northern Africa and across the land bridges. They were able to move into Europe, Asia, and other parts of Africa.

PALEOLITHIC AGE

- 3 Scientists call the first age in which people lived the **Paleolithic Age**, or **Old Stone Age**. Paleolithic people lived in small **bands**, or groups of about 30 members. When the food supply was good, the bands grew to about 40 or 50 members. Most of the group members lived to be no more than 20-25 years old; children often died before their first birthday. The people within the group lived and worked together and shared their food. They fed and cared for people who became injured or sick.

OBTAINING FOOD

- 4 During the Paleolithic or Old Stone Age, people obtained food by **hunting and gathering**. Each band searched for food within an area known as its **home territory**. Women and children gathered berries, nuts, fruit, and robbed nests to find eggs. They poked sticks into bee nests to get honey and dug up roots. Men of the group obtained meat by catching fish using their bare hands and hunting small animals with sticks and bones. Occasionally, they were able to kill a large animal that was too young, too old, or too badly hurt to run away. Often early people scavenged on animals that had already been killed by other predators.

MAKING TOOLS

- 5 Life for hunters and gatherers became easier when they learned to make tools. At first, the only tools they had were sticks and stones they found on the ground. Soon they learned to sharpen stones to make them more useful. Later people learned to knock long, sharp-edged chips or flakes from stones and use them as tools. They used the flakes for kill as large as elephants to butcher or cut up for food. Flakes were used to scrape one end of a wooden branch into a sharp point for a digging stick or a skewer.

FIRE

- 6 People also learned to make fire during the Paleolithic Age. The first fires they knew about were made by nature, such as those started by lightning. Eventually, people discovered how to make fire themselves by creating a spark by rubbing two sticks together. People used fire to keep themselves warm and dry. They used it as a weapon, throwing burning sticks of wood at animals to drive them away. Sometimes they used fire to drive bigger animals into mud holes where the animals would sink into the mud and be easily killed. People used fire to clear brush and undergrowth. Finally, people used fire to cook food. Cooked food was easier to chew and digest than raw food. As a result, people spent less time eating and more time doing other things.

SEEKING SHELTER

- 7 Early people usually camped out in the open. They protected themselves from the wind by digging in the ground or by crouching in dry river beds. They also found shelter under an overhanging rock or piled up brush. Using caves as emergency shelters (from storms or animals), early people eventually began to live in caves most of the time.

MAKING CLOTHING

- 8 After hunters began killing larger animals, they found that the animal skins could be used for protection and warmth. At first, people wrapped skins around themselves, and then they learned how to fasten the skins together. Clothing made a big difference in where people lived. Before they had clothes, most people stayed in areas that were warm and dry but with clothing to protect them, they were able to migrate to places with different climates.

DEVELOPING LANGUAGE

- 9 In addition to learning to make tools, fire, and clothing, early people developed language. Before they learned to talk, early people simply made sounds, or pointed to objects to express meaning. Hand signals were probably used for common things such as water, food, animals, and weapons. Gradually, because of social needs, sounds and signals were no longer enough. The development of language made it possible for people to work together, share ideas, and pass on their beliefs and stories.
- 10 The earliest people on earth are known as **Homo habilis**, or "skillful man". They couldn't talk and had thick skulls, and long arms, and walked hunched over. Next came **Homo erectus**, or "man who walks upright or tall". Between 200,000 and 300,000 years ago, came **Homo sapiens**, or "man who thinks."



CLOSE READING SUMMARY
Early Civilizations

10/10/16

INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPHS

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3 PALEOLITHIC AGE

4 OBTAINING FOOD

5 MAKING TOOLS

6 FIRE

7 SEEKING SHELTER

8 MAKING CLOTHING

9 DEVELOPING LANGUAGE

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CLOSE READING SUMMARY
Early Civilizations - Paleolithic Age

10/16/17

INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPHS

1 *Prehistory is before writing existed. We live in a "historical" time where civilizations really began to advance (or develop).*

2 *The earth's climate changed. Land-bridges were formed connecting Africa to Europe to Asia. As a result, people migrated to new lands.*

3 PALEOLITHIC AGE

Paleo people lived in small bands, or groups of people (about 30) who worked together and shared their food.

4 OBTAINING FOOD

Paleo people got their food by hunting and gathering. Men were the hunters (catching fish and killing small animals) and women gathered berries, nuts and fruit.

5 MAKING TOOLS

At first, tools were mainly sticks and stones that they found on the ground. Soon they learned to sharpen sticks and use rock chips for weapons and for digging.

6 FIRE

They first learned about fire through nature (lightning). They later made fire by rubbing sticks together and used it as a weapon and to cook the food they caught.

7 SEEKING SHELTER

They usually camped out in the open, but hid from the bad weather and predators by living in caves.

8 MAKING CLOTHING

They used animal skins for protection and warmth. The skins allowed them to migrate to different places and live in colder climates.

9 DEVELOPING LANGUAGE

They used hand-gestures and grunting to communicate simple tasks, but as language developed, they could communicate better (share ideas, pass on beliefs and stories).

10 Homo habilis (skillful man).

Homo erectus (man who walks upright/tall).

Homo sapiens (man who thinks).

NEOLITHIC AGE

1 In the **Neolithic Age**, (**New Stone Age**) which began about 8,000 B.C., people changed from hunters and gatherers to food producers. This brought about great changes in the way people lived; experts call the beginning of farming (**agriculture**) the Neolithic Revolution. Two important discoveries came at this time. One was learning to grow food. The other was learning to herd animals.

FARMING AND HERDING

2 Experts believe that people discovered that seeds such as wheat and barley could be planted and harvested. Different crops were grown in different parts of the world. People were able to stay in one place and grow their own food. At the same time, people learned they could herd animals when a hunting band built fences to enclose a herd of wild animals they had chased into a ravine. The hunters killed one animal at a time, saving the rest for later. Soon captured animals began to lose their fear of people and became **domesticated**, or tamed, and the hunters became herders. In time, Neolithic people were breeding animals to improve the animals' qualities. People also began using certain animals such as donkeys, camels, and llamas as pack animals.

EARLY VILLAGES

3 Once people began to produce food, they were able to settle in one place. increased people's good supply. With more food available, the **population**, or number of people, began to grow. They built permanent shelters and formed villages of about 150 to 200 people in areas with a good soil and water supply. The earliest known villages were found in southwestern Asia. Homes were made of sun-dried mud brick. People went in and out of houses through a hole in the roof by using a ladder. The houses were crowded together on the side of a hill. Among the houses stood open courtyards with large ovens for baking bread. Beyond the houses were vegetable gardens, orchards, and fields.

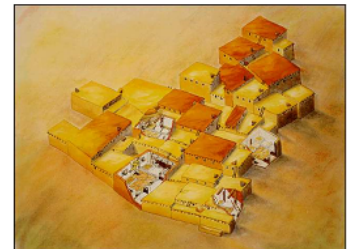
4 A result of increased food supplies was **specialization**, or the development of occupations. Fewer people were needed to produce food so they began to do jobs that had nothing to do with food. They became **pottery**, **weavers**, and **metal workers**. They exchanged the things they made for grain and meat. (trade)

GOVERNMENT

5 Another development of the Neolithic times was large **government**. It was more complex than government of earlier times due to land ownership. People's lives depended on land. As a result, people began to protect what they had. They set boundaries and passed their land on to their children. Even so, disputes often arose over land ownership. To keep order in Neolithic villages, a single chief was chosen. Besides settling disputes, the chief, with the help of a small group of people, directed village activities.

RELIGION

6 Experts believe that the chiefs of most Neolithic villages were also priests. They handled religious duties for the village which included offering prayers for things people needed such as rich soil, healthy animals, and water for crops. After a time, they created gods and goddesses to represent these forces. Elaborate religious customs and ceremonies are believed to have appeared at this time. Neolithic people began to build separate places of worship for their gods and goddesses.



CLOSE READING SUMMARY
Early Civilizations - Neolithic Age

10/11/16

1 NEOLITHIC AGE

Neolithic age was a time of change where people learned how to grow their own food and herd/raise their own animals.

2 FARMING and HERDING

As people learned to grow their own food and herd animals, they were able to stay in one place instead of migrating with the seasons.

3 EARLY VILLAGES (1)

As people settled, they built permanent shelters and had a good soil/water supply. More food led to an increase in population.

4 EARLY VILLAGES (2)

Fewer people were needed to grow food so they turned their attention to other things (specialization - pottery, rugs, metal workers)

5 GOVERNMENT

To protect their land they had, each village chose a chief to settle disputes and lead village activities.

6 RELIGION

They prayed for healthy animals, water and crops. They later created gods to represent these forces, and built places of worship to pray to them.

CLOSE READING SUMMARY
Early Civilizations

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PALEOLITHIC	NEOLITHIC
<i>Hunting and gathering</i>	<i>Grew their own food and herd/raise animals.</i>
<i>Migrate to different places (nomads)</i>	<i>Stayed in one place</i>
<i>Hid from the bad weather and predators by living in caves</i>	<i>Built permanent shelters</i>
<i>Small bands of about 30 people</i>	<i>More food led to an increase in population.</i>
<i>Protection - Fire and simple tools made of sticks and stones</i>	<i>Protection - Villages chose a chief to settle disputes and lead activities</i> <i>More advanced tools</i>
<i>May have believed in animal spirits and/or an afterlife</i>	<i>They prayed to "the gods" for healthy animals and good harvest</i>