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| MESOPOTAMIA |
| **STANDARD:** Early civilizations with unique governments, economics, social structures, religions, technology, and agricultural practices and products flourished as a result of favorable geographic characteristics. |
| **I CAN:**  - I can explain why civilizations developed near rivers. (THIS)  - I can describe how the environment helps shape human civilizations.  - I can explain the cultural practices of Mesopotamia and how they have influenced our society today. Cultural practices include:   * Class structure * Religious Beliefs * Government/laws * Writing * Economic Systems * Agricultural contributions/ technology * Scientific contributions/ technology |

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| MESOPOTAMIA Vocabulary |
| **Mesopotamia** – the land \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  **Fertile Crescent**- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for Mesopotamia - the rich land between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers  **Fertile**- soil rich in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Silt**- Small particles of rich, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  **Irrigation**- to bring \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **City-state**- a central city and its surrounding \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  **Sumerians**- the first inhabitants of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  **Empire**- nation or group of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, ruled by one emperor  **Emperor**- ruler of an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  **Hammurabi**- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with a code of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - early government  **Class system**- system in which a society is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into several social groups, usually by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Cuneiform**- Sumerian’s first system of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; wedge-shape symbols on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Scribe**- a professional \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  **Polytheism**- belief in many \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .  **Ziggurat** – a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shaped structure with a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the top for religious worship.  **Contributions**- something people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and passed on (wheel, writing, religion)  **Specialization** - focusing on one specific \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  **Surplus** – an amount that has been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ after a need has been met. |

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| MESOPOTAMIA Vocabulary |
| **Mesopotamia** - the land BETWEEN the RIVERS.  **Fertile Crescent** - ANOTHER NAME for Mesopotamia - the rich land between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.  **Fertile** - soil rich in NUTRIENTS and RESOURCES.  **Silt** - Small particles of rich, FERTLE SOIL.  **Irrigation** - to bring WATER to DRY LAND.  **City-state** - a central city and its surrounding LAND.  **Sumerians** - the first inhabitants of MESOPOTAMIA or THE MIDDLE EAST.  **Empire** - nation or group of CITY-STATES, ruled by one emperor  **Emperor** - ruler of an EMIPRE.  **Hammurabi** – 1st EMPEROR with a code of LAWS - early government.  **Class system** - system in which a society is SEPARATED into several social groups.  **Cuneiform** - Sumerian’s first system of WRITING; wedge-shape symbols on CLAY TABLETS.  **Scribe** – a professional WRITER.  **Polytheism** - belief in many GODS.  **Ziggurat** - a PYRAMID shaped structure with a TEMPLE on the top for religious worship.  **Contributions** - something people DID or MADE and passed on (wheel, writing, religion)  **Specialization** - focusing on one specific JOB or SKILL.  **Surplus** - an amount that has been LEFT OVER after a need has been met. |