

First Grade “Mesopotamia: “The Cradle of Civilization” Assessment

- 1a. What are the two neighboring rivers in Asia?
a. The Nile and the Tigris
b. The Tigris and the Euphrates
- 1b. Name the two neighboring rivers in Asia in ancient times.
1. _____
2. _____
- 1c. Name the two neighboring rivers in Asia in ancient times and explain why people settle near rivers.
1. _____
2. _____

- 2a. What caused the soil near the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers to be so fertile?
a. The flooding of the rivers
b. Fertilizer
- 2b. How did flooding help the land near the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers?
a. It killed many animals
b. It made the soil fertile
c. It destroyed homes
d. It washed the soil away
- 2c. How did flooding help the land near the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers?

- 3a. Mesopotamia means the place between two _____.
- 3b. What ancient civilization means “the place between two rivers?”

- 3c. What does Mesopotamia mean?

- 4a. Mesopotamia is called _____ because history was born there.
a. The Cradle of Civilization
b. The Crib for History

4b. Mesopotamia is called “the cradle of _____.”

4c. Why is Mesopotamia called the “cradle of civilization?”

5a. What type of communication did the people of Mesopotamia develop?

- a. the computer
- b. writing

5b. What type of communication did the people of Mesopotamia develop?

- a. the computer
- b. the Pony Express
- c. writing
- d. newspapers

5c. How has writing helped us understand life in Mesopotamia?

6a. What do we call the writing of the people of Mesopotamia?

- a. cuneiform
- b. hieroglyphics

6b. What do we call the writing of the people of Mesopotamia?

6c. What do we call the writing of the people of Mesopotamia and what does the word mean?

7a. Why is writing important to the development of civilization?

- a. People can record their history for future generations.
- b. People can send letters to their friends.

7b. Why is writing important to the development of civilization?

- a. People can record their history for future generations.
- b. People can send letter to their friends.
- c. People can go to school.
- d. People can make newspapers.

7c. Why is writing important to the development of civilization?

8a. What king in Mesopotamia collected laws and put them together?

8b. What was the Code of Hammurabi?

8c. What was the Code of Hammurabi and why was it important to the people of Mesopotamia?

9a. What is a law?

9b. What is a law? Why is it important?

9c. Why are laws important to the development of civilization?

10a. What is one law or rule people today must obey?

10b. What are two laws or rules people today must obey?

10c. Give an example of a law that was in the Code of Hammurabi that is not a law today. Why do you think it is no longer a law?

The following Colorado Model Content Standards are covered in this assessment by the questions indicated.

Questions 10a, 10b, 10c: History Standard 2.3. Students apply knowledge of the past to analyze present-day issues and events from multiple, historically objective perspectives.

Questions 8a, 8b, 8c: History Standard 3.1. Students know how various societies were affected by contacts and exchanges among diverse peoples.

Questions 5a, 5b, 5c, 6a, 6b, 6c, 7a, 7b, 7c: History Standard 4.1. Students understand the impact of scientific and technological developments on individuals and societies.

Questions 1c: Geography Standard 4.1. Students know the characteristics, location, distribution, and migration of human populations.

Answer Key

- 1a. b. The Tigris and the Euphrates
1b. The Tigris and the Euphrates
1c. The Tigris and the Euphrates
- 2a. a. The flooding of the rivers
2b. b. It made the soil fertile
2c. Acceptable answers could include:
-It made the soil fertile, it helped crops grow.
- 3a. rivers
3b. Mesopotamia
3c. "The place between two rivers."
- 4a. a. The Cradle of Civilization
4b. civilization
4c. Acceptable answers could include:
-it is where civilization or history began
-it was the first civilization to leave written records
- 5a. b. writing
5b. c. writing
5c. Acceptable answers could include:
-some writing has been found that tells about life in Mesopotamia, writing from Mesopotamia tells information about the past
- 6a. a. cuneiform
6b. cuneiform
6c. cuneiform, which means "wedge-shaped"
- 7a. a. People can record their history for future generations.
7b. a. People can record their history for future generations.
7c. Acceptable answers could include:
-People can record their story for future generations, people can learn about their past.
- 8a. Hammurabi
8b. Acceptable answers could include:
-a collection of laws from people all over the ancient world
8c. Acceptable answers could include:
-it was a collection of laws
-it helped them know how to live

- 9a. Acceptable answers could include:
-rules that we must obey
- 9b. Acceptable answers could include:
-rules we must obey
-they are important to help people live together
- 9c. Acceptable answers could include:
-they help people know how to live
-they help keep order in a society
- 10a. Acceptable answers could include:
-Do not steal.
-Do not cross the street without looking both ways.
-Do not run in the hall.
- 10b. Acceptable answers could include:
-Do not steal.
-Do not cross the street without looking both ways.
-Do not run in the hall.
- 10c. Accept any answer from your study. One example might be doctors whose patient's died had to have their hand cut off. Today that rule is too cruel, not fair.