

Section 3: The Beginnings of Civilization
The Beginnings of Human Society

Reading Readiness Guide

K-W-L

With your group, quickly preview the section, then brainstorm and list **what you already Know** about the rise of human civilizations in the first column of the chart below. In the second column, write **what you Want to know** or find out from reading the section.

After you read, review your notes and record **what you Learned** in the third column of the chart.

What you already know	What you want to know	What you learned
<p>Example: Governments came about when cities began being formed.</p>	<p>Example: Why were early governments formed?</p>	<p>Example: Governments were formed to keep order in society, provide services, settle disputes, and manage public projects.</p>

CHAPTER
1

Prepare to Read

Section 3 The Beginnings
of Civilization

Objectives

1. Find out the advantages people gained from settling in one place.
2. Learn about the growth of early cities.
3. Understand how the first civilizations formed and spread.



Target Reading Skill

Preview and Ask Questions Before you read this section, preview the section title, objectives, and headings to see what the section is about. What do you think are the most important concepts in the section? How can you tell?

After you preview the section, write two questions that will help you understand or remember important concepts or facts in the section. For example, you might ask yourself

- How did the first cities grow?
- How did early civilizations form?

Find the answers to your questions as you read.

Keep asking questions about what you think will come next. Does the text answer your questions? Were you able to predict what would be covered under each heading?

Vocabulary Strategy

Using Context Clues Many English words have more than one meaning. You can use context clues to figure out the meaning of these words. For example, in the sentences below, the word *back* is used in two different ways.

He wrote his answers on the **back** of the worksheet.

From the rest of the sentence, you can figure out that *back* means "reverse side."

She asked her friends to **back** her plan.

By using context clues, you can figure out that in this sentence, *back* means "support."

Section 3 Summary

Advantages of a Settled Life

1 Farming was hard work. But it had advantages. People who grew their own food could stay in one place. They could store surplus food for later use. People could have larger families. The world's population grew quickly. About 10,000 years ago, the population of the world was about 5 million people. By 7,000 years ago, the world's population had grown to as much as 20 million.

10 People lived in New Stone Age farming settlements for many centuries. Settlements grew into towns. With food surpluses, people did not have to spend all their days getting food. Some people switched to other kinds of work. Some became artisans. They made things such as baskets, tools, pottery, and cloth. ✓

The Growth of Cities

15 Not all farming settlements grew into cities. Cities started in areas with rich soil. Rich soil led to large surpluses of food. People also needed plenty of drinking water and materials to build homes. Some of the earliest cities grew along rivers, such as the Nile in Egypt. 20 Cities grew there because the soil is rich near rivers. ✓

Early cities were different from farming villages. They were larger. They had large public buildings. Some buildings were used to store crops. Other buildings were for worshipping the gods. Still others were 25 places where people could buy and sell goods. In villages, most people were farmers. In cities, most people worked at a craft.

As the population grew, governments formed. Governments kept order. They settled disputes and 30 managed irrigation projects.

Key Terms

surplus (SUR plus) *n.* more than is needed

artisan (AHR tuh zun) *n.* a worker who is especially skilled at crafting items by hand

irrigation (IHR uh GAY shun) *n.* supplying land with water through a network of canals

✓ Reading Check

What effect did food surpluses have on people living in towns?

✓ Reading Check

Why did cities often grow up along rivers?

Target Reading Skill

Ask and answer a question about how settlements grew into cities.

Question: _____

Answer: _____

Vocabulary Strategy

The word *noble* has several meanings. You may already know one of its meanings. Read the underlined sentences below. What is its meaning in this context?

✓ Reading Check

What skills and practices were important in the growth of early civilizations?

The First Civilizations

Over time, some New Stone Age societies became civilizations. A civilization has cities, a central government, and specialized workers. It also has writing, art and architecture.

35 By 6600 B.C., artisans in Europe and Asia had learned to get copper from certain rocks. By 3000 B.C., they mixed copper and tin to make bronze. This was the start of the Bronze Age. Bronze was much harder than copper and was used to make longer-lasting
40 weapons, tools, and shields.

Traders took precious items to faraway cities. They traded for goods that people at home wanted. Then they brought these goods back home. Around 3500 B.C. the wheel and axle were invented. Now goods could be
45 carried farther and more easily. Merchant ships carried goods across seas and rivers. New ideas spread from one society to another. ✓

Cities developed social classes. In the large cities, the king was the most powerful person. Next were two
50 other classes. One was the priests of the city's religion. The other was made up of nobles. They were government officials and military officers. Below them were artisans and merchants. At the bottom were workers and farmers. Slaves, or human beings who are owned
55 by other people, ranked below free people.

Review Questions

1. What helped villages grow into cities?

2. What happened as societies grew into civilizations?

Key Terms

civilization (sih vuh luh ZAY shun) *n.* a society with cities, a central government, job specialization, and social classes

social class (SOH shui kias) *n.* a group of people with similar backgrounds, income, and ways of living

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Guided Reading and Review

A. As You Read

Directions: As you read Section 3, fill in the table below with information about developments in early human society.

Steps in the Rise of Civilizations	
Development	How It Changed Human Society
Farming and Raising Animals	1.
Growth of Population	2.
Rise of Cities	3.
Trade	4.
Social Classes	5.

B. Reviewing Key Terms

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, write the definitions for the following key terms.

6. irrigation
7. surplus
8. artisan
9. civilization
10. social class

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Section Quiz

A. Key Terms

Directions: Write a sentence using each key term listed below on the back of this page.

1. civilization
2. social class
3. irrigation
4. surplus
5. artisan

B. Main Ideas

Directions: Write the letter of the correct answer in each blank.

- _____ 6. When many people changed from hunter-gatherers to farmers, the world population
- | | |
|---|--|
| a. increased because artisans were needed in new cities. | c. decreased because farming requires fewer people than hunting. |
| b. increased because people had more food to feed their families. | d. decreased because early crops were small and not nutritious. |
- _____ 7. By 3000 B.C., which metal was most commonly used for making weapons?
- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| a. copper | c. bronze |
| b. silver | d. gold |
- _____ 8. With the development of the wheel and axle,
- | | |
|---|--|
| a. people no longer used domesticated animals to carry trade goods. | c. people in cities no longer depended on farming to get food. |
| b. social classes developed based on who could afford to own a wagon. | d. trade goods could be transported farther and more easily. |
- _____ 9. Growing trade brought prosperity to cities, which led to
- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| a. an increase in farmers. | c. developing social classes. |
| b. beautiful jewelry. | d. the need for irrigation projects. |
- _____ 10. In early farming villages, most people farmed for a living. However, in early cities,
- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a. there were many occupations. | c. people hunted and gathered. |
| b. there was no farming. | d. people imported all their food. |

Chapter 1 Assessment

1. The time before writing was invented is known as
 - A. oral tradition.
 - B. history.
 - C. prehistory.
 - D. geography.
2. Historians often look at geography to tell them
 - A. when people lived.
 - B. about religion.
 - C. about wars and rulers.
 - D. how a location affected the lives of the people who lived there.
3. When did early humans cross from Asia to North America?
 - A. more than a million years ago
 - B. about 30,000 years ago
 - C. more than 100,000 years ago
 - D. 500,000 years ago
4. Which of the following describes the Old Stone Age?
 - A. Early hominids learned to domesticate animals.
 - B. Early hominids began to grow their own food.
 - C. Some early hominids became pastoral nomads.
 - D. Early hominids survived by hunting animals and gathering wild plants.
5. What did people need to grow farming settlements into cities?
 - A. a large supply of slaves
 - B. tame animals and grazing land
 - C. rich soil, drinking water, and building materials
 - D. large public buildings

Short Answer Question

How did the start of farming change people's lives?
