

MESOPOTAMIA STUDY GUIDE

In order to be prepared for our upcoming test over Mesopotamia, you should review your textbook in order to be able to:

1. Define the 31 vocabulary words found in Chapter 1, Lesson 3; Chapter 2, Lesson 1; Chapter 2, Lesson 2; Chapter 2, Lesson 3 *(use quizlet.com to review)*.
2. Describe the importance of agriculture on the development of civilization.
3. Explain what made settlements possible in Mesopotamia?
4. Name the two rivers which defined the borders of the Fertile Crescent.
5. Describe how the two rivers contributed to the agriculture of Mesopotamia.
6. Describe where the Fertile Crescent is in relationship to major bodies of water of the region.
7. Explain why and how the Mesopotamians used irrigation.
8. Explain the significance of Ziggurats and how they were constructed.
9. Explain how the religion of the Sumerians reflected the importance of agriculture in their lives.
10. Describe the effect that surplus food had on life in Sumer.
11. Explain the importance of cuneiform.
12. Describe the Sumerian social classes.
13. Describe the role of women in Sumerian society.
14. Describe the importance of Gilgamesh *(also review handout)*.
15. Describe the importance of Sargon the Conqueror.
16. Describe the importance of Hammurabi *(also review handout)*.
17. Explain what "an eye for an eye" means. You should also be able to explain your opinion about the fairness (or unfairness) of this approach to justice.

In addition, you should review your "Comparing the Ancient Civilizations of Mesopotamia" chart in order to be able to:

18. List the years in which Sumerian, Babylonian, and Assyrian Empires flourished.
19. Describe some of the differences between the Sumerian, Babylonian, and Assyrian civilizations.
20. List at least two innovations for each of these three civilizations. You should also be able to explain which innovation you feel was the most important.