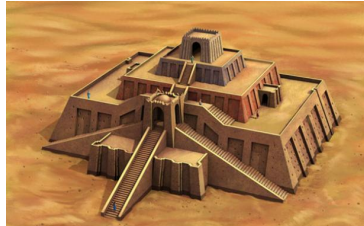


Mesopotamia Vocabulary

Ziggurat: A rectangular pyramid with terraces built by the people in the Fertile Crescent. It was usually used as a religious temple or government building.



Irrigation Canals- Manmade streams that controlled the amount of water crops received in River Valley Civilizations.



Cuneiform: Writing system in the Mesopotamia that began around 3400 BC. Started as pictures, then became easy to write symbols, started writing left to right in horizontal rows.



River Valley Civilization- Either the Fertile Crescent (Mesopotamia/Tigris + Euphrates Rivers), Nile River (Egyptians), Indus River, or Huang He/Chang (ancient Chinese) civilizations. These were the first four civilizations on earth.



Silt-Loess

Nutrients gathered by running river water that were distributed onto soil to help crops grow during floods.



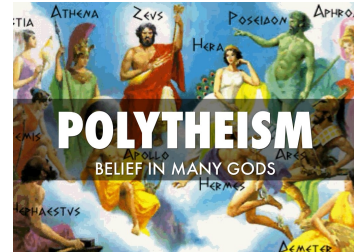
Economy- System of value (money, trading) connected throughout an area; includes specialization and regulation. Based on agriculture and trade.



Urban- A city area.



Polytheism- A religion that believes in many gods. (Hindu)



Monotheism- A religion that believes in one god. (Christianity, Judaism)

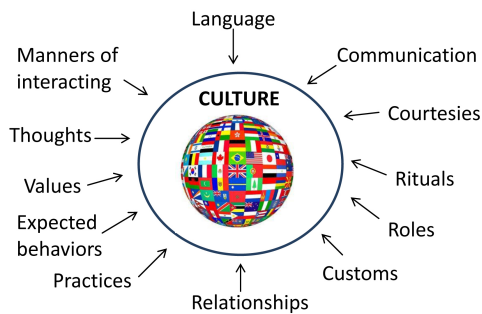


Seasonal Flood

A flood that would come every spring and put nutrients into the soil for the River Valley Civilizations.



Culture- Behavior of people in a specific area. (Ex: music, clothes, customs, holidays, traditions, architecture, arts)



Civilization- Humans living in an advanced state away from chaos and nature. Civilizations have cultures, languages, cities, economies, and governments.



Currency-Coin or paper money

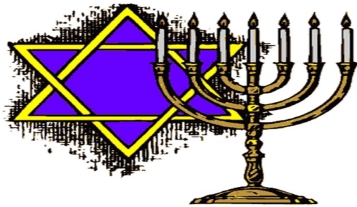


Code of Hammurabi-Legal code in Fertile Crescent (Mesopotamia) in 1800 BC. Earliest set of laws known to man.



Judaism-One of the first monotheistic religions, began around Mesopotamia 3,000 BC. Holy book is called the Torah.

JUDAISM



City-State-A city that is an independent nation.



Israel-Holy land to Jews that is located east of the Fertile crescent on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea.



Government-A group of people that are in power over a country, city or empire. They make laws and control wars.



Monarchy-Kings and Queens that pass power down to their children over a country, city or empire.

