

What is history?

Obj. 1.01 & 1.03 define history & the concepts of cause & effect, time, continuity, views & perspective

I. What is history? How do we study it?

- A. Study of the past (social sciences)
- B. **artifacts**, writing (documents), structures, human & animal remains (**fossils**)

II. What is **prehistory**?

- A. Time before written language (before 3,000 BC)
- B. **anthropologists** (culture) –society’s knowledge, beliefs, customs, values, art, food
- C. **archaeologists** –excavate & locate traces of human & animal presence on earth

III. Why is time important?

- A. **periodization** (organizing time)
 - 1. war, technological change, de jure & de facto changes
 - 2. climatic change
- B. understanding cause & effect
- C. sources that give us perspective on time
 - 1. **primary source** (diaries, legislation)
 - 2. **secondary source** (commentary on earlier events)

Early Peoples & The formation of Societies

I. First people –**hominids**

- A. **australopithecine** –East Africa
 - 1. **Mary Leakey** 1959
 - a. **Nutcracker man** (skull) more than 1.75 mil. yrs. old
 - 2. **Donald Johanson** 1974
 - a. **“Lucy”** (skeleton) more than 3 mil. yrs. old

B. Later hominids

- 1. **homo habilis** “handy man” (tools)
- 2. **homo erectus** “upright man” (control fire)
 - a. migrated beyond Africa
 - b. modify natural world for survival

C. Modern humans

- 1. **homo sapiens** “wise man”
 - a. larger brains
 - b. create fire
 - c. form groups
 - d. development of language
- 2. **Neanderthals & Cro-Magnons**
 - a. Scientists debate whether or not these are a separate species
 - b. Much larger, thicker skulls but similar bone structure

- II. Migration of later hominids (100,000 BC)
 - A. **Climate change** (cycles of warm & cold)
 - 1. **Ice Age** (1.6 mil. Yrs ago) **txbk p.9**
 - a. **glaciers** –large, slow moving mountains of ice
 - b. **land bridges** –when glaciers advanced south, ocean levels dropped exposing areas of land that are today underwater
 - ex. Bering Strait:** area b/w Asia & North America
 - 2. migratory patterns
 - a. Africa to Asia, then Europe, Australia, N. America, S. America
- III. **Paleolithic Era** ‘old stone age’ (2.5 mil. – 8,000 BC)
 - A. **Nomadic peoples, hunter-gatherers**
No permanent home; traveled to find food
 - B. **Technology** –man-made items that improve quality of life, make work faster, etc.
 - 1. tools (chipped stones) then wood & bone
 - 2. fire
 - 3. clothing (animal skins)
 - 4. shelter –caves, below, then above ground shelter
 - C. Formation of societies
 - 1. common language
 - 2. art –**Lascaux Cave**
txbk p. 10
 - 3. religion
 - a. **animism**
religious belief that all things in nature have spirits
 - b. burying of the dead
-Food & objects placed w/ the dead
- IV. **Neolithic Era/Revolution** (8,000-3,000 BC) ‘new stone age’
 - A. advances in tool making
 - 1. polishing/grinding
 - 2. specialized tools
 - B. development in agriculture (**pastoralists**)
 - 1. people made yearly or seasonal migrations for food
 - 2. collection & planting of seeds
 - 3. **domestication** of animals (probably before plants)
 - a. food
 - b. carry/pull –laboring livestock
 - 4. Effects –reliable food supply
 - C. Farming societies
 - 1. rise of villages (6,000 BC) –caused by
 - a. food surplus –leads to:
 - b. **specialization of labor** –leads to:
 - 2. rise of trade
 - a. rise of social status
 - b. gendered labor

- D. Culture of Neolithic societies
1. religion –**megaliths**, forms of worship
 - a. **Stone Henge**
 2. Negative Effects
 - a. warfare
 - b. disease
 3. pottery, tools (pestles, grindstones, axes) clothing from wool
 4. eventually knowledge of **Bronze** (3,000 BC)
-mixture of copper & tin

- E. **Catal Huyuk** txbk p.16
1. early Neolithic settlement (Turkey)
 2. 30 acres in size
 3. grew crops, raised goats/sheep; hunted cattle
 4. multi-storied homes
 5. religious shrines

- F. Rise of Cities
1. **Ur**
Mesopotamia -“land b/w two rivers”
 - a. 40,000 people
 - b. more than 1,000 acres –defined boundaries
 - c. greater #s of unrelated people (genetic diversity)
 - d. gov’t marketplaces, large scale building projects

- G. Rise of Civilizations **txbk p. 24-25**
1. many cities together form complex & organized societies
 2. located in fertile river valleys
 - a. **Tigris & Euphrates**
 - b. **Nile**
 - c. **Indus**
 - d. **Yellow (Huang He)**
 3. Yearly flooding left rich mineral deposits for farming

- H. Characteristics of Early Civilizations
1. Developed Cities
 - a. **Ur**, Urak (Mesopotamia)
 - b. **Memphis** (Egypt)
 - c. **Monhenjo Daro** (India)

I. Civilization

- Def. -a complex organized society
- A. 1st arose in fertile river valleys (Tigris & Euphrates, Nile, Indus, Huang He (Yellow River))
 - B. Predictable annual flooding spread mineral rich **silt** –river valleys had fertile land that could support a growing population

II. 8 Characteristics of civilizations

- **Developed Cities**
- **Organized Gov't**
- **Formalized Religion**
- **Specialization of labor**
- **Social Classes**
- **Record Keeping & Writing**
- **Arts**
- ***Technology**

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Assignment: Give examples for #1-8 in American society today

III. Factors that Cause Change in Civilizations

- A. **Environmental Forces** –floods, storms, over farming –lead to food shortages & opened civilization to outside attack
- Need for resources** –lead to trade for scarce resources; alternate resources adopted
- B. **Cultural Diffusion** –spread of people leads to spreading of ideas, beliefs, customs, languages, skills (sometimes willingly adopted other times by force)
- C. **Expansion** –increased population leads to need for more resources causing conflict over land, water, etc.
- D. **Warfare**
 1. Gain control of rich farm land, sea ports or natural resources
 2. A collection of regions under the control one people developed into **kingdoms**
 3. Some peoples remained **nomadic pastoralists** – giving rise to conflict with settled peoples, domestication of horses increased the mobility of these people

Essential. Qu. -Why are river systems Important for the development of Civilization?

I. Geography Promotes Civilization

- A. The **Fertile Crescent** -Land that lies b/w the Mediterranean Sea and the Persian Gulf
- B. **Mesopotamia** “Land b/w two rivers” –Tigris and Euphrates Rivers (From modern day Turkey to Iraq)
- C. **Annual flooding** creates fertile soil that helps give rise to the world’s first civilization -5500 BCE

Water is life & necessary for civilization

1. Early peoples grew wheat & barley, surplus allowed villages to form
2. Challenged by little rainfall, melted snow from distant mountain ranges fed rivers southward – excessive flooding and drought were unpredictable, but devastating occurrences
3. Peoples developed technology for controlling water
 - **basins**(storage), **canals**(carry),**dikes**(control flooding)
4. Large building projects required organization – gave rise for the need of gov't

II. Sumer

- A. Large cities appear around 3000 BCE
 1. Building of mud bricks –trees scarce
 2. Central building was a religious temple- **ziggurat**(tallest structure)
 3. Defensive walls surrounded each city
- B. **City-state**
 1. Each city and land it controlled formed a political unit
 2. Eventually grew so large that they competed & fought over land & water
- C. **Polytheistic religion** (worship of many gods)
 1. **Anthropomorphic** & controlled natural forces
 2. People worked to please gods through rituals conducted at ziggurats & temples
- D. Social Classes
 1. Priests had high status through protection of the city state
 2. Later warrior chieftains gained dominance in this role and took on some religious ceremonies as kings
 3. Kings passed on rule to family members –creating **dynasties**
- E. Sumerian Culture
 1. Writing -**pictographic** (symbol represents word) **cuneiform**, produced by sharp tools called styluses to make wedge-shaped symbols on clay tablets **Primary Source p.35**
 - a. Writing used to keep business & gov't records by educated peoples called **scribes** –training in this skill lead to upward mobility in social class
 - b. Later used to produce literature –**Epic of Gilgamesh**
 2. Math & Sciences
 - a. Math system based on the number 60 (time keeping) & circumference of circle is 360 degrees
 - b. Development of geometry made development of irrigation systems & large structures possible
 - c. Invented the wheel (make pottery & vehicles)
 - d. Invented the plow & knowledge of bronze to make stronger tools and weapons
 - e. Knowledge of sanitation and basic surgery
 3. Arts
 - a. Architecture –ramps, arches, columns (seen in ziggurats)
 - b. Statues with large open eyes, small ones of ivory
 - c. Cylinder seals –used to sign documents or show ownership
 4. Trade
 - a. Made woven textiles which were traded for wood, metals and stone
 - b. Trade enriched some Sumerians leading to further division of society into social classes
 - i. kings, priests, gov't workers, large landowners & wealthy merchants
 - ii. Majority of Sumerians were artisans, farmers & laborers
 - iii. Slaves, mostly people captured in battle

