6th Grade Social Studies Midterm

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| **Chapter 2 – The Stone Age & Early Culture – pgs. 28-43** |

1. **Define the term hominid:** an early ancestor of humans
2. **Define the term ancestor:** a relative who lived in the past
3. **Why is it important for archaeologists and anthropologists to study ancient bones?**

The study of ancient bones is important because it gives us information about our human ancestors.

1. **What is the scientific name for modern humans?** Homo sapiens
2. **How did tools improve during the Stone Age? Tools increased chances for survival.**
3. **Define the term society:**  a community of people that share a common culture
4. **Why did language develop during the Stone Age?** Language developed for hunting purposes, distribution of food and formation of new relationships.
5. **How did the ice ages influence human migration?** Early humans were forced to move to new environments
6. **How did early people migrate out of Africa and into new places?** People migrated out of Africa into new places using land bridges.
7. **Define the term land bridge:** a strip of land connecting two continents.
8. **What were two ways people adapted to new environments after the ice age?** They built new shelters and created clothing to stay warm.
9. **What effect did farming have on people in the Stone Age?** It allowed people to build permanent settlements.
10. **Give 3 examples of how prehistoric people learned to adapt to their environment?**

* They made tools from simple to more complex with handles
* Used fire to cook food
* Develop a language to communicate
* Created shelter/clothing to keep warm

1. **How did the development of agriculture bring change to human society?** People learned how to plan their own seeds to produce food. They no longer had to follow animal herds and were bale to settle in one spot for an extended period of time.

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| Chapter 3 – Mesopotamia & the Fertile Crescent – pgs.54-77 |

1. **Why did crops grow well in Mesopotamia? Farmland was fertile and water was nearby.**
2. **Which two land features gave Mesopotamia its name? The Tigris and Euphrates River.**
3. **Why did farmers need to develop a system to control their water supply?** To control the rivers flow from over flooding.
4. **Which empire that ruled Mesopotamia had a permanent army?** Sargon I
5. **What steps did city-states take to protect themselves from their rivals?** They had strong armies and built strong thick walls for protection.
6. **Who served a role between the Sumerians and the gods?** Priests
7. **Why were scribes so influential in Sumerian society?** Scribes were able to read and write.
8. **Define the term cuneiform:** World's first writing system.
9. **How did Phoenicia grow wealthy?** Phoenicia grew wealthy from trading goods. They founded many trade routes and traded lumber, silverwork, ivory and glass objects.
10. **What technology did the Hittites and Assyrians use in battle?**

The technology Hittites and Assyrians used during battle was iron weapons and chariots. They mastered ironworking meaning they could make stronger weapons. The use of the chariot helped the soldiers move quickly in battle.

1. **Name on Sumerian technical advance and tell how it made people’s live easier?** Sumerians invented the wheel. It could be used to make carts and wagons, so transporting people and goods was easier. The Sumerians also used a potter’s wheel to shape clay. (CANNOT BE MEDICINE OR WRITING, IT NEEDS TO BE A TECHNICAL ADANCE FOUND ON PAGE 67)
2. **Why was Mesopotamia an ideal place for a civilization to develop?** Mesopotamia was in the Fertile Crescent, an area of rich farmland. With a surplus of food, the population grew. People built cities and developed governments and cultures.

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| Chapter 4 – Ancient Egypt & Kush – pages 86-113 |

1. **The Nile River flows through** upper **and** lower **Egypt.**
2. **Why was the Nile Delta well suited for settlement?** Fertile soil for farming and water supply nearby.
3. **Why did the pharaohs of the First Dynasty wear a double crown?** This symbolized their rule over both lower and upper Egypt.
4. **Who was the most famous pharaoh of the Old Kingdom?** Khufu
5. **How did religious beliefs affect Egyptian burial practices?** Egyptians believed in an afterlife, this was very important to their religious practice. Egyptians preserved bodies as mummies for the afterlife.
6. **Who drove the Hykos out of Egypt to begin the New Kingdom?** Ahmose of Thebes
7. **What contributed to the growth of trade in the New Kingdom?** Egypt's conquest of NEW lands. They took over lands which included new trade routes.
8. **What was Ramses the Great remembered for most? (2 things)** Ramses the Great is remembered as a great warrior and builder.
9. **Why were tombs filled with art, jewelry, and other treasures?** Egyptians believed the dead enjoyed such materials in the afterlife.
10. **Why might a Kushite king be grateful for the cataracts located on the Nile?** The cataracts helped keep Kush safe from Egypt.
11. **What was the effect of Egypt’s conquest of Kush in 1500 BC?** Kushite culture became more like Egyptian culture.
12. **What ended the Kushite dynasty?** The Assyrians forced the Kushites out of Egypt.
13. **Why did trade with Kush decrease over time?** Trade decreased over time with Kush because foreign merchants set up new trade routes that went around Kush.
14. **Why did pharaohs have absolute power?** Egyptians believed that the pharaohs were gods who had come to take care of Egypt.
15. **What are some geographical features that protected Egypt from invasion?** The desert to the west of the Nile Valley could not be crossed. The cataracts in the Nile made it difficult for anyone to cross and invade.

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| Chapter 5 – Ancient India – pages 124-151 |

1. **Define the term subcontinent:** a large landmass smaller than a continent.
2. **How were the Aryan system of government and the Harrapan system of government DIFFERENT?** The Aryan system of government was based on family connections.
3. **What language did Aryans write?** Sanskrit
4. **Define the term Brahman:** universal spirit thatHindus believed that all of their gods are apart of.
5. **Define the term Karma:** the effects of food or bad actions have on a person's soul.
6. **What are the guided principles at the heart of Buddhism called?** Four Noble Truths
7. **Why did people from lower social classes support the Buddha’s teachings?** The Buddha opposed the caste system.
8. **What are some major accomplishments of the Gupta period from Ancient India? List 3 accomplishments**.

* Hindu-Arabic numerals- numbers we use today. Created by Indian scholars and brought to Europe by Arabs.
* Astronomy- study of stars and planets. Indian astronomers knew 7 of the planets.
* Metal working- they created alloys, mixing 2 or more metals. Made strong iron.

*Above is just EXAMPLES, choose any achievement from section 5!!!*

1. **Compare and Contrast Hinduism and Buddhism. List 3 differences for each religion and 3 similarities. YOU MUST FILL THIS CHART OUT ON THE MIDTERM!!!!**

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| **HINDUISM**   * A religion * Caste system- you are born into a certain social class * The Vedas- Holy books that include hymns, rituals, legends, poems for Hinduism. | **BUDDHISM**   * More of a way of life * Meditation- practice to achieve Enlightenment * Tripitaka- collection of Buddha’s teachings |
| **SIMILAR**   * Originated in India * Reincarnation- process of rebirth * Karma- effects that good or bad actions have on a person’s soul | |