

Mesopotamia/Egypt

Chapter 2

MESOPOTAMIA

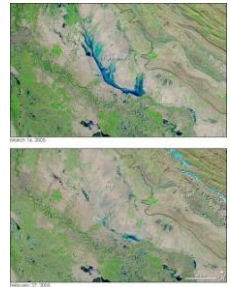
Geography

- “Fertile Crescent”
- “land between the rivers”
 - Tigris and Euphrates



Geographic Challenges

- unpredictable flooding
- no natural barriers



Problems	Effect	Result
Floods		
Long periods without rain		
No natural defenses		
Few natural resources		

Solutions

- irrigation ditches
- mud brick walls



SUMERIANS

- first great civilization
 - city-states
 - Ur, Uruk



Religion

- polytheistic – belief in many gods
 - Enlil – god of clouds and air
 - Wicked Udugs – demons who caused misfortune



- ziggurats
 - pyramid shaped temples



Class System



Technology

- invented the wheel (for pottery)
- writing – cuneiform
- number system – base 60



BABYLONIAN EMPIRE

Code of Hammurabi

- different punishments for rich/poor, men/women
- stressed punishment and retaliation
 - “eye for an eye”



- Key component:
 - made government accountable for what occurred in society

EGYPT


Geography



- regular Nile flooding
- natural barriers for protection




- Upper and Lower Egypt



The map illustrates the Nile River valley in Egypt, divided into Upper Egypt (the southern part) and Lower Egypt (the northern part). Key geographical features include the Mediterranean Sea to the north, the Red Sea to the east, and the Nile River flowing north. Major cities like Thebes and Memphis are marked. The map also shows the Western Desert, Eastern Desert, and Nubian Desert.

Pharaohs

- considered representatives of the gods
- absolute rulers
- leader of government and religion
 - theocracy



The image shows a highly detailed golden funerary mask of an Egyptian pharaoh, likely Tutankhamun. It features a prominent nemes (headdress) with a uraeus (cobra) on the forehead, and a false beard. The mask is adorned with intricate hieroglyphs and symbols.

- pyramids, mummification



The left image shows the Great Pyramids of Giza in a desert landscape under a clear blue sky. The right image shows an ancient mummy wrapped in yellowish-brown linen, lying in a wooden sarcophagus. The mummy's face is visible through a narrow opening in the wrappings.


Technology

- Writing
 - hieroglyphics
 - Rosetta Stone




The image displays a grid of various hieroglyphic symbols, each with a corresponding letter or sound value. The symbols include a vulture, foot, basket, hand, flowering reed, horned viper, jar, stone, house, cobra, lion, cat, water, lotus, and others. To the right is a photograph of the Rosetta Stone, a large, dark, rectangular stone with hieroglyphs and Greek text.

- Calendar
 - to keep track of time b/t floods



The image shows a circular diagram of an ancient Egyptian calendar. It features a central blue circle with twelve segments, each representing a month. The segments are labeled with hieroglyphs and symbols. The calendar is surrounded by a ring of twelve smaller circles, each containing a different symbol. The entire diagram is set against a light blue background.

- Medicine
 - splints for broken bones
 - surgery



The illustration depicts a medical scene in an ancient Egyptian setting. A man is lying on a bed, being attended to by several people. One person is using a splint to support a broken leg. Other people are engaged in various medical activities, such as examining a patient or preparing medicine. The scene is set in a room with a large window and a table.

EGYPTIAN ART ANALYSIS

