

Vocabulary Builder

Mesopotamia



A. Content Vocabulary

Directions Select a vocabulary term from the box that best answers each question below. More than one term may answer a question. Write the term(s) in the blank. Some terms may be used more than once.

silt
irrigation
city-state
polytheism

ziggurat
cuneiform
scribe
empire

tribute
province
caravan
astronomer

1. As a Mesopotamian, which of these would you

- a. use to water land? _____
- b. trade with? _____
- c. hire to record information? _____
- d. pay to the government? _____
- e. worship in? _____

2. Which of these is

- a. fertile soil _____
- b. a type of religion? _____
- c. a region consisting of many different lands? _____
- d. a form of writing? _____
- e. a person who studies heavenly bodies? _____
- f. a district within an empire? _____

3. With which of these terms is

- a. Sargon associated? _____
- b. a Mesopotamian farmer associated _____
- c. a Mesopotamian priest associated _____
- d. a Babylonian merchant associated? _____

Vocabulary Builder *Cont.***Mesopotamia****B. Academic Vocabulary**

Directions On the line next to each term, write the letter of its definition.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="text"/> 1. parallel | A. having many parts |
| <input type="text"/> 2. military | B. having to do with soldiers, weapons, or war |
| <input type="text"/> 3. code | C. to be made up of |
| <input type="text"/> 4. complex | D. moving or lying in the same direction, always the same distance apart |
| <input type="text"/> 5. consist | E. a set of official laws |

Vocabulary Builder Cont.**Mesopotamia****C. Combined Vocabulary Reinforcement**

Directions Complete the following sentences by selecting the content or academic vocabulary term that best fits. You may need to change the form of the word to fit the sentence. Not all terms will be used.

1. In Mesopotamia, flooded rivers were filled with fertile soil called _____ . To control floods, the Mesopotamians built canals that regulated the flow of water from the source to the fields. This system of canals was a type of _____ .
2. The Sumerian people practiced _____ , which means they worshiped many gods. They worshiped these gods in large, pyramid-shaped temples called _____ .
3. Sumerians invented a form of writing called _____ . A Sumerian who specialized in writing was called a _____ .
4. The Assyrians demanded _____ , or forced payment, from the people they conquered. Eventually, the Assyrians formed a huge empire. They divided this empire into political districts called _____ .
5. Chaldean _____ mapped the stars, the planets, and the phases of the moon.
6. The Sumerian kings each controlled a political region called a _____ .