

Ancient River Civilizations Study Guide

1. Study the attached map and geographic features.

- Mesopotamia (Tigris and Euphrates Rivers)
- Egypt (The Nile River)
- Indus Valley (Indus River and Ganges River)
- Ancient China (Chang Jiang/Yangtze River & Huang He/Yellow River)

2. Study the following vocabulary words:

- delta
- fertile
- silt
- polytheism
- monotheism
- cuneiform
- Code of Hammurabi
- ziggurat
- hieroglyphs
- Rosetta Stone
- Book of the Dead
- caste system
- Hinduism
- Buddhism
- dynasty
- dynastic cycle
- The Silk Road

3. Create a fictional character who could have lived in ONE of these four ancient river valley civilizations. Steps to success:

- First, pick one civilization that you know the most about.
- Second, study the social classes pyramid for that civilization & decide on which level of the pyramid you want your person to be.
- Third, now decide on some specifics...
 - male or female?
 - age?
 - job?
- Lastly, think about how that person would spend their day. What time would they wake up? What would your person wear? Where might they travel during the day? Who might they talk to? What would they talk about? What would they eat? What would this person do? Would it be all work or would there be any recreation?