

Name: _____

Date: _____

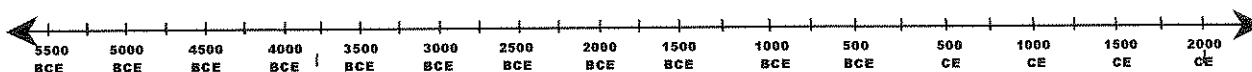


Fill in the Blanks

About 7,500 years ago, a group of people gave up their n__m__d__c lifestyles to settle in the area between the T__g__is and the E__p__r__t__s Rivers. The Greeks later called this land M__s__p__t__m__a, which means “b__t__e__n the r__v__rs.” Mesopotamia is part of the F__r__i__e C__e__c__nt, a b__o__e__a__g-shaped region that extends from the e__s__e__n shore of the M__d__t__r__a__e__n Sea to the P__r__i__n Gulf.

Several civilizations developed in Mesopotamia partly because the rivers provide the region with ab__n__a__t natural r__s__u__c__s. The S__m__r__a__s first settled near the confluence of the rivers about _____BC. Later Mesopotamian c__v__l__z__t__o__s included the B__b__l__n__a__s and the A__s__r__a__s. Mesopotamia was later controlled by the P__r__i__ns, the G__e__ks, and the R__m__ns and is now part of the m__d__rn nation of I_____.

Timeline



1. Identify on the timeline the periods when the following civilizations flourished in Mesopotamia: the Sumerians, the Babylonians, the Kassites, the Hittites, the Assyrians, modern Iraq. Note that the civilizations may overlap.

Answer in complete sentences

1. What is the Fertile Crescent?

- *2. What is the dictionary definition of crescent? Can you think of a food whose name in French means crescent? Write it at the very bottom of the page if you can think of it.

- *3. Why do you think people choose to settle in areas with abundant natural resources?

- *4. What are the natural boundaries of Mesopotamia? Why do we call the land Mesopotamia?

*This is a higher order learning question. You must answer the question to the best of your ability, but any reasonable answer will be graded as correct.