

THE CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION

Directions: Read Chapter 2 Section 1 (p 30-34) in your textbook, and as you read, answer the questions below. Make sure to **write small** and in **full sentences**, and do not forget the **map on the back!**

1. What does *Mesopotamia* mean? Why does this land have that name?
2. What difficulties came with living along the Tigris and Euphrates rivers **AND** how did the Sumerians deal with these problems?
3. With whom did Sumerians trade **AND** how do we know about it?
4. Were all Sumerians united under one ruler? Explain.
5. What does “social **hierarchy**” mean?
6. What groups of people were consider higher or lower in status? What about women?
7. What does “**polytheistic**” mean? What were their gods like?
8. What were “**ziggurats**”?
9. What is “**cuneiform**”?
10. How did Sumerian civilization come to an end?

11. **THE FERTILE CRESENT**- On the map, lightly shade in the area known as the Fertile Crescent, using page 31 to help, and then label all of the following: Egypt, Asia Minor, Mesopotamia, Arabian Desert, Zagros Mountains, Taurus Mountains, Armenian Plateau, Nile River, Tigris River, Euphrates River, Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Caspian Sea, Red Sea, Arabian Sea, and Persian Gulf.

