Chapter 2: Early Societies in Southwest Asia and the Indo-European Migrations

Section 1: The Quest for Order

Directions: Read the entirety of the above section, including any additional text selections such as “Eyewitness” or “Sources from the Past” and examine all maps, charts, images, and diagrams. As you read and learn, complete the questions and tasks below to both demonstrate and preserve what you have learned.

Chapter Focus
After reading the Chapter Focus, one topic or theme I plan to keep an eye out for while reading is:

EYEWITNESS: Gilgamesh: The Man and the Myth
➢ Define deity:
➢ Define state (political):
➢ While Gilgamesh was probably a real historical figure, what elements of his story are clearly legendary?

The Quest for Order
Mesopotamia: “The Land between the Rivers”
➢ Define irrigation:
➢ Define fertile:
➢ The two rivers of Mesopotamia were the ________________ and the ________________

➢ Sumer
➢ The Sumerian population increased dramatically due to two factors:
  o 
  o

➢ Semitic Migrants
➢ Semitic peoples are a variety of groups who all share related __________________________

➢ Ancient Semitic Languages:
➢ Modern Semitic Languages:
➢ Original Lifestyle:
➢ Original Locations:

➢ Sumerian City-States
➢ What factors led to the development of the first states in Sumer?

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<tr>
<th>Internal Pressures</th>
<th>External Pressures</th>
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NOTE: The Sumerians did not speak a Semitic language. Their language is what scholars call a language isolate, which means it is not clearly related to any other known language from history.
What makes a city-state different than just a city? Explain, and then circle the area that a city-state would politically control.

What are ziggurats? Explain, and then draw a ziggurat.

**Sumerian Kings**
- Define **usurp**:
- Define **monarch**:
- If Sumerian governments were originally ruled by ________________________, and one-man rule was only used temporarily during ________________________, how do you think kings eventually took permanent power?

Kings still had to rule in cooperation with local ______________________

**The Course of Empire**
- In what ways is an empire different than just a city-state?

**Sargon of Akkad**
- Define **coup**:
- Define **minister** (political):

Sargon is famous as the first person in history to establish an ______________________

How did he do it?

**Empire: A New Form of Political Organization**
- What factors led to the eventual collapse of the Akkadian Empire?

**Hammurabi and the Babylonian Empire**

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<th>Maintain Control</th>
<th>Sargon Method</th>
<th>Hammurabi Improvement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Traveled from city to city with large hungry army to keep people obedient</td>
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| Fund the State | Took wealth from people randomly as they marched through cities |
Define promulgate (law):

- **Hammurabi’s Laws**
  - What is the meaning of “Lex Talionis?”
  - Overall, do you think the Law Code of Hammurabi is fair or unfair? Support your view.

- What role might a widely-promulgated law code play in maintaining a stable empire?

- **MAP: Early Mesopotamia and Mesopotamian Empires**
  Maps 2.1 and 2.2 largely overlap in terms of content, though there are some things one has that the other lacks. Label all of the following in the styles shown...
  - Regions: ANATOLIA, ASSYRIA, SYRIA, PALESTINE, EGYPT, ARABIA, SUMER, AKKAD
  - Water: Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, Caspian Sea, Persian Gulf, Tigris, Euphrates, Nile
  - Draw horizontal lines for the Babylonian Empire under Hammurabi
  - Lightly shade in the Assyrian Empire (which includes most of the Babylonian Empire)
Later Mesopotamian Empires

❖ The Assyrian Empire

➢ Identify FOUR advantages of the Assyrian army that made them effective conquerors (use information from the previous subsection as well)
  o 
  o 
  o 
  o 

➢ After reading about how the Akkadian, Babylonian, and Assyrian Empires collapsed, are you starting to see a pattern here? If so, what is it?

❖ Nebuchadnezzar and the New Babylonian Empire

➢ If the Neo-Babylonian Empire only lasted for about 50 years, why do you think your textbook chose to highlight it? What could be behind the author’s choice to highlight this empire over other longer-lasting Southwest Asian empires that were left out of this section?

The Ishtar Gate was constructed by the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar II circa 575 BCE. It was the eighth gate of the city of Babylon (in present day Iraq) and was the main entrance into the city. The Ishtar Gate was part of Nebuchadnezzar’s plan to beautify his empire’s capital and during the first half of the 6th century BCE, he also restored the temple of Marduk and built the renowned wonder: the Hanging Gardens as part of this plan. The magnificence of the Ishtar Gate was so well known that it made the initial list of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. However, it was later replaced by the Lighthouse of Alexandria. It was excavated in the early 20th century and a reconstruction using original bricks is now shown in the Pergamon Museum, Berlin.

[Source: “Ishtar Gate”, Brittany Garcia, Ancient.eu, adapted]