



# Eastern River Valleys

## Chapter 5

### FOCUS ON IDEAS

Fill in each blank to form a summary of Chapter 5 by choosing the proper term from the words listed below.

agreement	Egypt	Mesopotamia	rich
ancestors	farming	mountains	Shang
Aryans	Harappans	oracle bones	spirits
cities	Huang Ho	ovens	trading
cotton	Indus River	plan	warrior-king
countryside	man-god	poor	Zhou

Civilizations developed in the \_\_\_\_\_ valley of South Asia and the \_\_\_\_\_ Valley of China. The people of these civilizations were more isolated than the people of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. They also did less \_\_\_\_\_ and learned to take care of all their needs.

The \_\_\_\_\_ were the first people to create a civilization in the Indus River valley. Experts believe they may have been the first people to make \_\_\_\_\_ cloth, to bake bricks in \_\_\_\_\_, and to build cities according to a definite \_\_\_\_\_. Little is known about the causes for the decline of this civilization. However, it is known that a group of people known as \_\_\_\_\_ took over the Indus River valley around 1200 B.C.

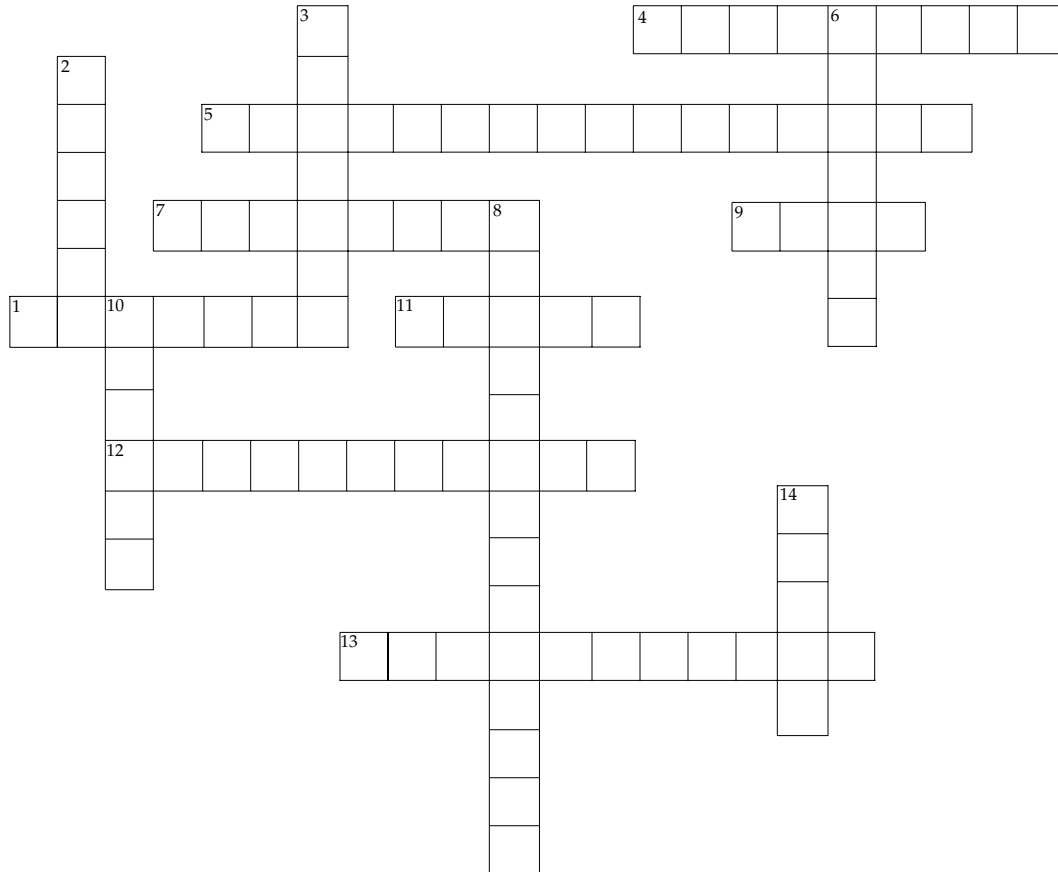
According to legend, a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ named Yü founded the Huang Ho Valley civilization. The first records of this civilization came from a ruling family known as \_\_\_\_\_. They built the first \_\_\_\_\_ in the region. However, most of the people lived in the \_\_\_\_\_.

The Shang worshipped \_\_\_\_\_ and paid respect to \_\_\_\_\_. Kings made important decisions by consulting \_\_\_\_\_. Experts believe the distance between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ weakened the Shang civilization. In 1122 B.C., a people known as \_\_\_\_\_ conquered the kingdom.

**USING VOCABULARY**

**Chapter 5**

Fill in the squares by spelling out the terms given in the clues below.



**ACROSS**

- 1. a ruling family
- 4. people from whom one descends
- 5. city built to a definite plan
- 7. fortresses
- 9. uniform network of streets
- 11. ovens used to make bricks
- 12. blue stone used for jewelry
- 13. has the oldest known form of Chinese writing

**DOWN**

- 2. a place where a river flows
- 3. storage for grain
- 6. supernatural beings
- 8. able to care for one's own needs
- 10. people of high rank
- 14. baked in a kiln

**PEOPLE OF THE EASTERN RIVER VALLEYS**

The two paragraphs below might have been written by members of ancient eastern river valley civilizations. Paragraph A was written by a noble in Shang China explaining the effect the nobles had on the lives of the peasants. Paragraph B is by a Harappan soldier expressing pride in his city. Read the paragraphs and answer the questions that follow.

A. "I guide the peasants as they work the fields to provide foods for the country. Most of the soldiers under my command are peasants. We nobles require them to leave their farms and join the army when we need them. I like to wear expensive clothes made of silk. The silk is produced by our peasant workers. Usually, I am not concerned about the peasants. Their lives are very different from ours. Nobles and peasants have little in common."

What does this paragraph tell you about Shang society? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How do you think the peasants felt about their role in Shang society? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. "I stand at guard on the citadel wall. I am proud of Mohenjodaro. It is my greatest wish that the floods do not damage my home this year. In view are the straight streets of our organized city. It is good that we have continued the plan of our ancestors. Our city prospers most of the time. We are known for our attention to a clean, healthy community."

Why is the soldier proud of his city? \_\_\_\_\_

What clues are given to possible future problems? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**WORKING WITH PICTURES**

The sketches below show two artifacts from the eastern river valley civilizations. Study them to answer the questions below.

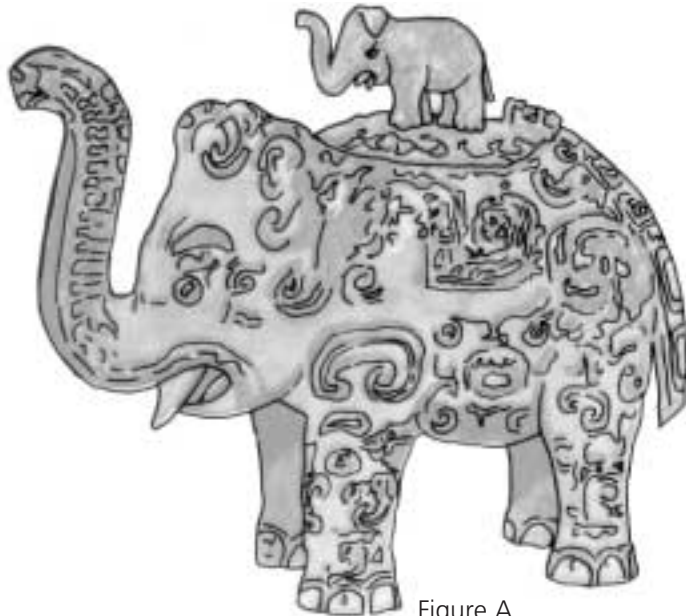


Figure A



Figure B

1. What do these artifacts have in common? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which seems to be more real or life-like? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Which figure appears to be more imaginative? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What use might Figure A have had for its owner? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What was Figure B used for? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Who might have owned and used Figure B? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_