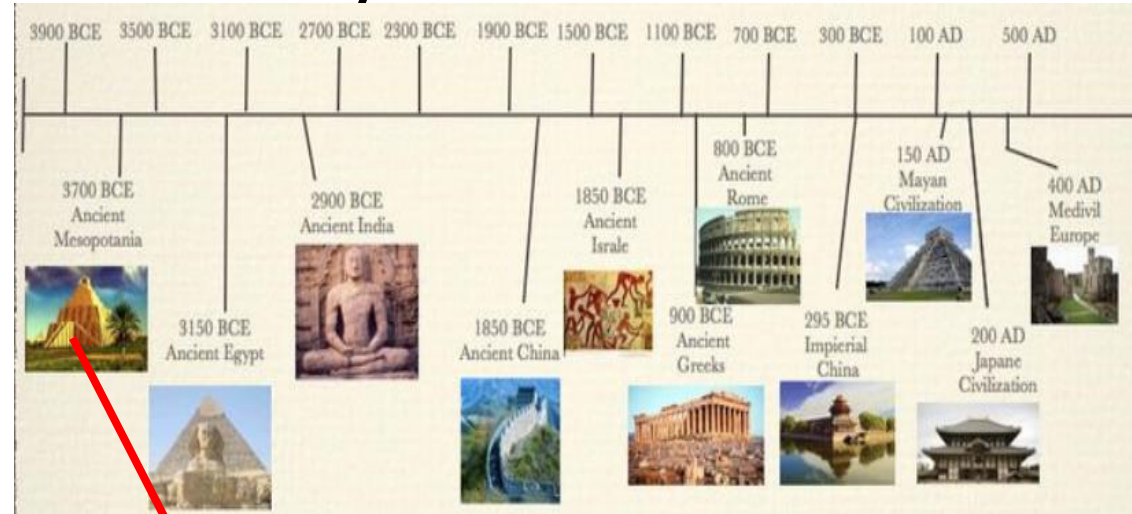


Key Terms

Topic Fact Sheet-Early civilisations

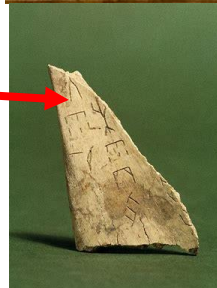
archaeology	the study of the buildings, graves, tools, and other objects that belonged to people who lived in the past,
excavation	Removing earth that is covering very old objects buried in the ground in
permanent	Lasting for a long time or forever
settlement	Any small community of people
writing system	A method of representing the sounds of a language by written or printed symbols
alphabet	A set of letters or symbols in a fixed order used to represent the basic set of speech sounds
hieroglyphics	Symbols in the form of pictures which are used in some writing systems, for example those of ancient Egypt
Shang dynasty	The imperial dynasty ruling China from about the 18th to the 12th centuries
dynasty	A sequence of powerful leaders in the same family
oracle bones	Chinese would carve or scratch their questions on animal bones. Then the priests would burn the oracle bone until it cracked. Then the priest read these cracks to the Chinese people for their answer.



Sumerians are considered the creators of civilization as modern human understand it.



Sumerian cuneiform is the earliest known writing system, starting about 8,000 BC and it developed from the pictures used to represent goods and animals that were sold



A Sumerian ziggurat was a temple to the main god of the city.



Key Terms

Topic Fact Sheet-Early civilisations

trading	Exchange, buy or sell goods
early technologies	Making machines and equipment. After making tools for hunting and farming, the next most complicated technology was building cities
pottery	Pots, dishes, and other objects which are made from clay and then baked in an oven
irrigation	The supply of water to land or crops to help growth,
building construction	The process of building something such as a house, bridge, tunnel



Early civilisations used water from large rivers in canals to water crops

Wheels were invented by the Sumerians around 3500 BC.

Egyptian pottery

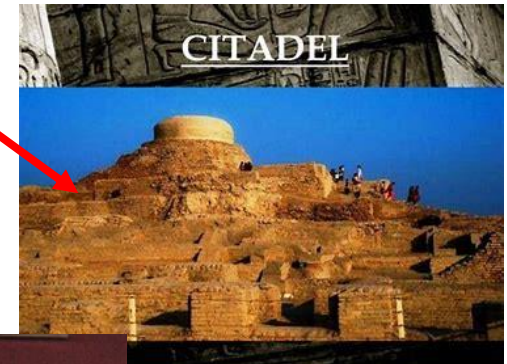


Most Egyptian pyramids were built as tombs for the country's pharaohs (rulers)

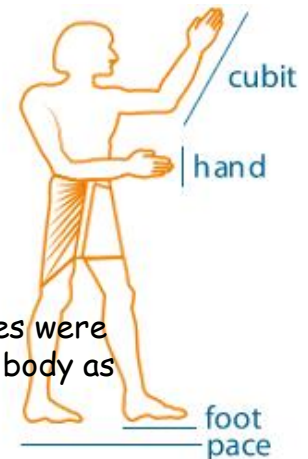


The great Wall of China was built to protect China from being attacked by the Mongols

The Indus people lived on the banks of the Indus river, the longest river in Pakistan. The Indus valley citadel was a place in their city where the public gathered or they worshipped gods



The ancient Chinese used shells for money



The earliest weights and measures were based on the use of parts of the body as measuring instruments