

AP World History Unit I Quiz

Multiple-Choice Answers

1. (B)
Early humans' ability to make tools gave them a significant advantage over stronger and faster predators. Their larger brains, rather than strength and speed (C), gave them a better ability to protect themselves and compete for food. While early humans did have language (A), which allowed them cooperate with each other in a structured way (D), it was ultimately their use of tools and weapons that better enabled them to survive.
2. (B)
As humans started to migrate, encountering new terrains, animals, and environments, they needed to adapt to their new surroundings. They adjusted their hunting and gathering methods (A) and all-purpose tools to fit the new living conditions. Rather than settling in one area, most humans were mobile (C). The different migrating groups, while living in regions with varying practical adaptations, all had similar social structures (D) focused on just survival.
3. (B)
Within a society, no one person or gender had a higher status (A) and there was no concept of wealth. Everyone hunted and gathered for the group, not just for themselves. Men and women had different strengths, none of which were valued more than any other (C) and (D).
4. (A)
Artwork is the best-preserved and most complex evidence of the advanced thought process of humans in the Paleolithic era. Tools help the case as well (D), but from artwork historians can determine early humans' belief in spirits and a need to express themselves creatively. They can only guess that there was some form of record-keeping from hash marks left in caves (B). Humans did have language (C) during the Paleolithic era, but little evidence exists on how it was being developed or spread.
5. (C)
The Nile flooded annually during the summer months of heavy rain upriver. Floods also left rich silt in each of the other river valleys, but those floods arrived at very irregular intervals (A). The Nile River Valley was only 10 to 20 miles wide (D) and was irrigated using a sophisticated system called basin irrigation, involving dikes and levees (B).
6. (D)
Domestication of animals allowed people to stay in one place instead of being constantly on the move in search of prey. The climate changes brought on by the last Ice Age caused many more fertile areas in which people could cultivate and feed their animals (B), but did not directly cause increased permanent settlement. People exchanged ideas and tools that were ultimately used to create settlements (A) and (C), but this played less of a role than domestication of animals.
7. (A)
All three settlements had access to enough water without being near a large river valley,

using irrigation to bring water to their dryer areas (C). Mesoamerica did not have domesticated animals (B). Only the Andean people of Peru used terracing (D).

8. (C)
Slash-and-burn agriculture was used in rain forests and jungles. Initially the ashes of the practice left the ground full of nutrients (D). But people overfarmed and overstressed the once fertile ground, leaving the formerly lush, treed areas barren and abandoned after they could no longer support growth (A)(B).
9. (D)
Papua New Guineans made the least stressful alterations to their land in order to cultivate it. While they dug ditches and created basins, the Tehuacan and Egyptians created more involved irrigation systems (A) and (C). Hardest of all to maintain was the Yellow River Valley. Farmers had to band together to build levees in hopes of keeping the deadly and destructive flood waters at bay (B).
10. (B)
Because people were living and working in densely populated areas, the population exceeded that needed to tend crops and watch livestock. This allowed some people to become artisans and builders, among other roles. Men were taking a more dominant role in society, but this was a result of specialization, not a cause (A). The advancement of tools (C) and the emergence of the elite (D) also resulted from specialization of labor.
11. (C)
The New Kingdom, which reigned from 1567 BCE to 1085 BCE, started once Ahmose I defeated the Hyksos, bringing Upper and Lower Egypt back together. It was during the Old Kingdom that Egyptians developed the cult of the pharaoh (B). Mesopotamia had stepped, pyramid-like temples called ziggurats (A). Ramses II ended the hundred-year war between Egypt and the Hittites (D).
12. (A)
Mesopotamia was constantly in a state of unrest due to outside invaders and conflicts among its own city-states. The major weakness was Mesopotamia's lack of any natural geographical formations to protect its borders. The Assyrians of Mesopotamia had one of the first well-organized armies (C), and Sargon the Great unified the region in the earliest recorded treaty in world history (D). Trade took place with Anatolia, Persia, and western areas (B).
13. (B)
Harappan text consisted of small clay seals with images of animals, not a lettered system. However prepared the Harappan were for attacks from other cities, they lived peacefully and traded successfully with them (C). Plumbing was present in the cities as part of an emphasis on cleanliness (A). Evidence suggests that the Harappans declined gradually due to food shortages and extreme flooding (D).
14. (B)
The earliest Hindu texts date from the later Aryan period. Cuneiform was the form of writing in Mesopotamia (A) and hieroglyphs were Egyptian (D). Persians practiced a religion called Zoroastrianism (C).

15. (D)
The Olmecs were unlike other ancient civilizations of the time in that they were not politically unified. While they had a sophisticated knowledge of astronomy, other cultures, such as the Babylonians, did as well (B). As with many cultures, the Olmecs influenced ones to come (C). They were polytheistic, honoring shamans, and practicing religious rituals (A).