6th Grade Social Studies

1. Greek city-states were known as the _____.

   A. civilization
   B. kingdom
   C. pride
   D. polis

2. The civilization of Mesopotamia was located between:

   A. The Indus and Ganges Rivers
   B. The Tigris and Euphrates Rivers
   C. The Himalaya Mountains and the Gobi Desert
   D. The Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean

3. Which of the following is the **oldest** period of human history?

   A. The Roman Republic
   B. The Qin dynasty
   C. The Babylonian Empire
   D. The Paleolithic Era

4. Farming was not Greece's main source of food because:

   A. The climate was too cold for farming.
   B. Farming had not yet been invented.
   C. The Greeks did not have the proper seeds to plant crops.
   D. The mountainous geography made it difficult to farm.

5. The Persian Wars were fought between:

   A. Macedon and Persia
   B. Carthage and Persia
   C. Greece and Persia
   D. Italy and Persia

Use the text below to answer the question that follows.

Hammurabl is the best known and most celebrated of all Mesopotamian kings. He ruled the Babylonian Empire from 1792-50 B.C.E. Although he was concerned with keeping order in his kingdom, this was not his only reason for compiling the list of laws. When he began ruling the city-state of Babylon, he had control of no more than 50 square miles of territory. As he conquered other city-states and his empire grew, he saw the need to unify the various groups he controlled.

Hammurabl keenly understood that, to achieve this goal, he needed one universal set of laws for all of the diverse peoples he conquered. Therefore, he sent legal experts throughout his kingdom to gather existing laws. These laws were reviewed and some were changed or eliminated before compiling his final list of 282 laws. Despite what many people believe, this code of laws was not the first.

6. Based on your prior knowledge and the text above, Hammurabi's Code is significant because:
   A. The codes made all Babylonians have equal rights.
   B. The codes applied to everyone and covered many aspects of life.
   C. The codes were very fair to the people of Babylon.
   D. The codes were an epic written by Homer.

7. In which geographical regions did most ancient civilizations begin?

   A. River valleys
   B. Mountains
   C. Islands
   D. Deserts

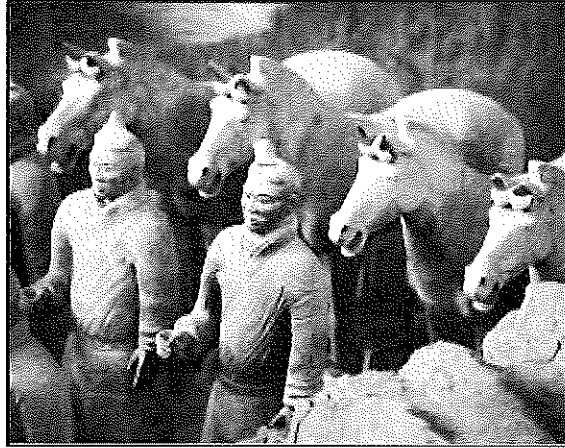8. What type of government began in the city-state of Athens?

   A. Monarchy
   B. Democracy
   C. Republic
   D. Oligarchy

9. What do cave paintings tell us about the Paleolithic people?

   A. They lived in farming communities.
   B. The spent their time doing specialized jobs.
   C. They relied on animals for many aspects of their lives.
   D. They lived in city-states.

Use the information below to answer the question that follows.

The image shows Qin Shihuangdi's *Terracotta Army*, found near the famous emperor's grave. Archeologists study the *Terracotta Army* to find clues about ancient Chinese cultures

10. The **Terracotta Army** is an example of:

    A. An artifact
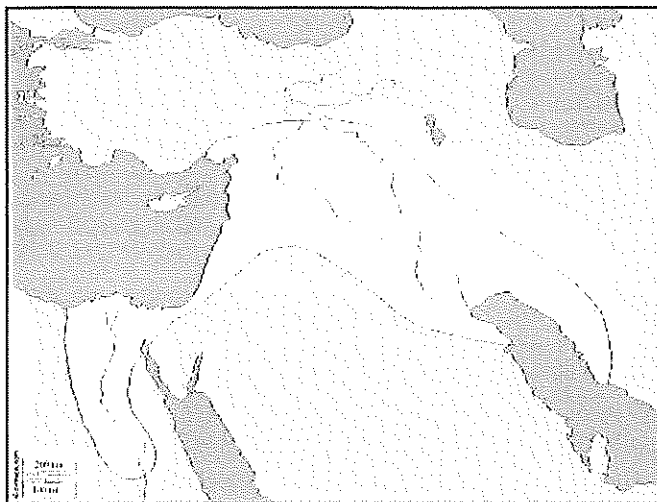   B. A fossil
    C. A myth
    D. Prehistory

11. The first civilizations in India were located along the:

    A. Tiber River
    B. Tigris River
    C. Indus River
    D. Indian River

12. How did the Gobi desert and the Himalaya Mountains impact China?

    A. These geographic features encouraged trade with western lands.
    B. These geographic features led to the development of canals to make travel by water easier.
    C. These geographic features caused China to be isolated from the rest of the world.
    D. These geographic features caused China to be influenced by many other cultures.

13. Why is the region shown above referred to as the *fertile crescent*?

   A. The rivers provide rich soil, allowing crops to grow.
   B. The region floods, destroying all plants and animals.
   C. The region has dry soil, preventing crops from growing.
   D. The mountains protect the region from invaders.

Use the text below to answer the question that follows:

> Try to imagine the world during the Stone Age, long before any roadways, farms, or villages existed. Early humans spent most of their time searching for food. They hunted animals, caught fish, ate insects, and gathered nuts, berries, fruits, grains, and plants. Because they hunted and gathered, these people were always on the move.

14. Which vocab word is described in the text above?

   A. Nomads
   B. Job specialization
   C. Features of a Civilization
   D. Scribes

15. Why was **farming** an important development?
   A. More people were able to become nomads and travel the world.
   B. People began to settle in colder climates.
   C. People who farmed could settle in one place and specialize in different jobs.
   D. People were afraid to become hunter-gatherers.

16. Complex societies with food surplus, organized government, art, religion, cities, class divisions, and writing systems are considered:

    A. Farming Communities
    B. Empires
    C. Hunter-Gatherers
    D. Civilizations

Use the text below to answer the question that follows:

> The Han Dynasty had a government whose officials were chosen based on their talent for the job. The emperor recruited not only from an aristocracy but from landowners. In 124 B. C.E., he created an imperial academy to train them in the techniques of rule, record keeping, and Confucian ideals. By 1 C.E., one hundred men a year were passing examinations by scholars and entering the bureaucracy.
>
> Source: Jane Burbank and Frederick Cooper, *Empires in World History*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2010.

17. Based on the text, how did the Han create stability in their empire?

    A. Required government officials to be well trained and educated.
    B. Banned the teachings of Confucius in the Han empire.
    C. Required everyone to follow the rules put in place by the Zhou dynasty.
    D. Used the harsh teachings of Qin Shihuangdi to make the government powerful.

18. Why is India considered a *subcontinent*?

    A. It is separated from Africa by the Indian Ocean.
    B. It contains the highest mountain peak in the world.
    C. It is separated from Asia by the Himalaya Mountains.
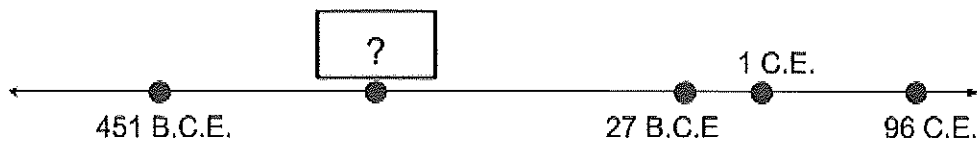   D. It contains several important rivers.

19. Why has Sparta been called a **military state**?

    A. Young boys were required to go to military school and train to be warriors.
    B. The majority of the people were slaves and could not participate in government.
    C. The children of Sparta studied art and literature to make them better citizens.
    D. Slaves had very few personal freedoms and lived in constant fear.

20. What was the promise that God made with Abraham?

    A. God promised Abraham that his descendants would inhabit the land of Canaan.
    B. God promised Abraham that his descendants would inhabit the land of Ur.
    C. God promised Abraham that his descendants would marry emperors from Rome.
    D. God promised Abraham that his descendants would be attacked by invaders from Ur.

21. Which of the following dates would complete the timeline?

    A. 550 B.C.E.
    B. 267 B.C.E.
    C. 550 C.E.
    D. 267 C.E.

22. During which era of Chinese history were important inventions such as steel, acupuncture, paper, and water wheels made?

    A. The Xia Dynasty
    B. The Zhou Dynasty
    C. The Qin Dynasty
    D. The Han Dynasty

23. Throughout Jewish history, the people were conquered, taken captive, and scattered to other lands. What vocab word means *scattered* and refers to the Jewish people spreading to other lands?

    A. Diaspora
    B. Dialogue
    C. Revolution
    D. Empire

24. Why were pyramids built for Egyptian pharaohs' tombs?

    A. The pyramids held supplies for the pharaohs' afterlives and kept the bodies safe.
    B. The pyramids served as a tourist attraction for the ancient Egyptians.
    C. The pyramids were built for all people who died in ancient Egypt.
    D. The pyramids were temples used for worship.

25. Over hundreds of years, the beliefs of Brahmanism blended with the ideas of people living in the Indus River Valley. These ideas formed a set of beliefs and practices known as
_____:

   A. Christianity
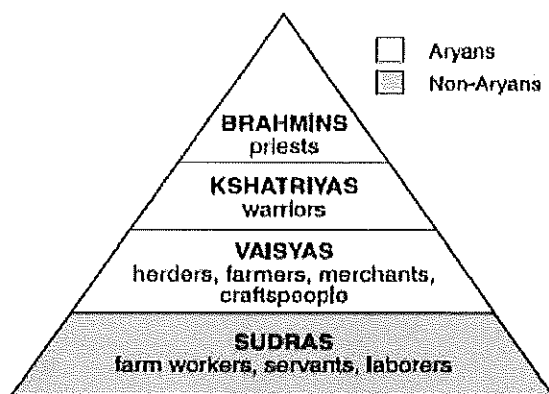   B. Hinduism
   C. Buddhism
   D. Jainism

Use the text in the box to answer the question that follows:

> The Sumerians believed in many gods. Each was thought to have power over a natural force of human activity-- flooding, for example, or basket weaving. The Sumerians tried hard to please the gods. Each city-state built a grand temple called a ziggurat to its chief god.

26. Based on the text above, Sumerians were most likely:

   A. Monotheistic
   B. Jewish
   C. Polytheistic
   D. Atheistic

Use the diagram to answer the question that follows.

27 . This diagram above represents which social hierarchy system?

   A. Plebeians and Patricians of Rome
   B. The Bureaucratic System of China
   C. The Social Pyramid of Egypt
   D. The Caste System of India

28. What is one similarity among the first civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, and China?

   A. Civilizations developed in plateaus.
   B. Civilizations developed in deserts.
   C. Civilizations developed in river valleys.
   D. Civilizations developed in the mountains.

29. Which of the following pharaohs was a woman?

   A. Hatshepsut
   B. Thutmose
   C. Amenhotep
   D. Khufu

30. Which of the following was the writing system of the ancient Egyptians that used pictures and sound symbols?

   A. Hieroglyphics
   B. Cuneiform
   C. Greek
   D. Sanskrit

Question	Answer	Standard	Type	Points
1	D	6.01	Multiple Ch	1
2	B	6.02	Multiple Ch	1
3	D	6.03	Multiple Ch	1
4	D	6.04	Multiple Ch	1
5	C	6.05	Multiple Ch	1
6	B	6.06	Multiple Ch	1
7	A	6.07	Multiple Ch	1
8	B	6.42	Multiple Ch	1
9	C	6.02	Multiple Ch	1
10	A	6.04	Multiple Ch	1
11	C	6.25	Multiple Ch	1
12	C	6.32	Multiple Ch	1
13	A	6.06	Multiple Ch	1
14	A	6.03	Multiple Ch	1
15	C	6.03	Multiple Ch	1
16	D	6.04	Multiple Ch	1
17	A	6.36	Multiple Ch	1
18	C	6.25	Multiple Ch	1
19	A	6.43	Multiple Ch	1
20	A	6.22	Multiple Ch	1
21	B	6.01	Multiple Ch	1
22	D	6.37	Multiple Ch	1
23	A	6.22	Multiple Ch	1
24	A	6.16	Multiple Ch	1
25	B	6.28	Multiple Ch	1
26	C	6.1	Multiple Ch	1
27	D	6.27	Multiple Ch	1
28	C	6.04	Multiple Ch	1
29	A	6.17	Multiple Ch	1
30	A	6.18	Multiple Ch	1