

Chapter 02 The Ancient Near East

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Neolithic cultures in the Near East developed about _____ years earlier than in Europe.

- A. 1,000
- B. 2,000
- C. 3,000
- D.** 4,000
- E. 5,000

2. The oldest fortified city, and a place of continuous habitation, is

- A. Malta.
- B. Çatal Hüyük.
- C. Stonehenge.
- D.** Jericho.

3. Plastered Neolithic skulls were found in

- A. Uruk.
- B.** Jericho.
- C. Ur.
- D. Tell Asmar.

4. The oldest planned town excavated so far is located at

- A.** Çatal Hüyük.
- B. Jerusalem.
- C. Jericho.
- D. Babylon.

5. The largest Neolithic site so far discovered in the ancient Near East is located in modern

- A. Iraq.
- B. Iran.
- C.** Turkey.
- D. Jordan.

6. Which of the following is NOT a Mesopotamian god?

- A. Anu
- B.** Isis
- C. Ishtar
- D. Inanna

7. Shamash is the Akkadian

- A. moon god.
- B. lightning god.
- C.** sun god.
- D. supreme god.

8. Nergal and Ereshkigal are the

- A.** king and queen of the underworld.
- B. king and queen of the sky.
- C. king and queen of nature.
- D. king and queen of the sea.

9. The Mesopotamians believed in

- A. a heavenly afterlife.
- B.** a gloomy afterlife.
- C. a joyous afterlife.
- D. a materialistic afterlife.

10. The *hieros gamos* refers to

- A. a festival of the new year.
- B. a fertility ceremony.
- C.** a sacred marriage.
- D. a holy game.

11. Which of the following was found at Uruk?

- A.** the White Temple
- B. the Abu Temple
- C. the Ur Temple
- D. the Stele of Urnammu

12. A ziggurat is a

- A. pyramid.
- B. fort.
- C. building made by Gudea.
- D.** Mesopotamian temple platform.

13. Ziggurats are

- A. symbolic temples.
- B. symbolic rivers.
- C. symbolic sculptures.
- D.** symbolic mountains.

14. Ziggurats are an example of

- A. post-and-lintel construction.
- B. arcuated construction.
- C.** load-bearing construction.
- D. cantilever construction.

15. The earliest known writing is called

- A. cuneiform.
- B. hieroglyphics.
- C. the alphabet.
- D. Akkadian.

16. The first recorded epic is about

- A. Noah.
- B. Odysseus.
- C. Abraham.
- D. Gilgamesh.
- E. Inanna.

17. Sumerian art is characterized by

- A. symmetry when seen from the front.
- B. clasped hands.
- C. large eyes in upturned faces.
- D. All these answers are correct.

18. The staring, wide eyes of the Tell Asmar statues are believed to indicate that the figures are

- A. apotropaic.
- B. praying.
- C. in the presence of a god.
- D. terrified by evil spirits.

19. The beards of the Tell Asmar statues are best described as

- A. red and stylized.
- B. naturalistic and black.
- C. stylized and curvilinear.
- D. black and stylized.
- E. black and curvilinear.

20. "The one who saw the abyss." refers to

- A. Inanna.
- B. Achilles.
- C. Enki.
- D. Gilgamesh.**
- E. Abu.

21. Sir Leonard Woolley discovered evidence of the richness of Early Dynastic culture at the site of

- A. Ur.**
- B. Tell Asmar.
- C. Uruk.
- D. Persepolis.
- E. Lagash.

22. Tigris and Euphrates are

- A. Mesopotamian gods.
- B. Hittite gods.
- C. Mesopotamian rivers.**
- D. Mesopotamian mountains.
- E. Mesopotamian rulers.

23. _____ ruled Akkad and waged war on his neighbors around 3000 B.C.

- A. Ashurnasirpal
- B. Naram-Sin**
- C. Narmer
- D. Alexander the Great

24. Sargon was

- A. an Akkadian ruler.**
- B. a Sumerian ruler.
- C. a Hittite ruler.
- D. the ruler of Lagash.
- E. the ruler of Ur.

25. Which is not true of the Stele of Naram-Sin?

- A. it is a relief
- B. it represents landscape as well as human figures
- C.** it commemorates the death of Naram-Sin
- D. it dates to the third millennium B.C.
- E. it is Akkadian

26. The figure of Naram-Sin is shown

- A.** with frontal shoulders and profile legs.
- B. with a frontal head and shoulders.
- C. with frontal legs and a profile head.
- D. with frontal shoulders and legs.
- E. holding a rod and scepter.

27. Gudea ruled

- A.** c. 2100 B.C.
- B. c. 1800 B.C.
- C. c. 3000 B.C.
- D. c. 1500 B.C.
- E. c. 2600 B.C.

28. Gudea thought of himself mainly as a patron of

- A. cuneiform tablets.
- B. sculpture.
- C.** temples.
- D. paintings.
- E. poetry.

29. Lagash was

- A. a Persian city.
- B.** an important city in Babylon.
- C. the center of the Neolithic Anatolia.
- D. an Assyrian city.

30. The statues of Gudea are best described as

- A. of diorite, stylized and organic.
- B. of marble and naturalistic.
- C. idealized and naturalistic.
- D. naturalistic and organic.
- E. of gold, and with long, flowing hair.

31. A stele is

- A. a knife.
- B. a weapon.
- C. a boundary marker.
- D. a clay tablet.
- E. a city wall.

32. Hammurabi is known for

- A. the *Epic of Gilgamesh*.
- B. building the walls of Uruk.
- C. worshipping the sun god.
- D. making stelai.
- E. a law code.

33. The Hittite civilization was located in

- A. modern Israel.
- B. modern Jordan.
- C. modern Iraq.
- D. modern Iran.
- E. modern Turkey.

34. Lions were traditional guardians because

- A. they were kings of the animals.
- B. they were thought never to sleep.
- C. they were powerful enough to keep enemies away.
- D. they symbolized the human king.
- E. they protect their cubs.

35. Lamassu are

- A. guardian lions.
- B. guardian bulls.
- C.** guardian genii.
- D. guardian kings.
- E. guardian angels.

36. Which of the following does a Lamassu NOT have?

- A. five legs.
- B. wings.
- C. horned cap.
- D.** a sword.
- E. a beard.

37. Most Assyrian wall decoration included

- A. domestic scenes.
- B.** war scenes.
- C. royal hunting scenes.
- D. both war scenes and royal hunting scenes.

38. Assurbanipal was known for

- A.** his cruelty and culture.
- B. his cruelty and virtue.
- C. his culture and learning.
- D. his power and his generosity.
- E. his charm and his diplomacy.

39. Palace reliefs are most likely to have been found in

- A. Uruk.
- B. Lagash.
- C. Babylon.
- D.** Khorsabad.
- E. Hattusas.

40. The Ishtar Gate is from

- A. Paris.
- B.** Babylon.
- C. Akkad.
- D. Persepolis.

41. The Ishtar Gate used

- A. glazed brick.
- B. a true arch.
- C. patterns of horses.
- D.** both glazed brick and a true arch.

42. The Ishtar Gate was dedicated to

- A. the god of war.
- B.** the goddess of fertility.
- C. the goddess of the moon.
- D. the god of the underworld.
- E. the goddess of the hearth.

43. The Scythians are best known for

- A.** gold.
- B. diorite.
- C. pottery.
- D. temples.
- E. irrigation.

44. A documented, excavated object is said to have a

- A. provenance.
- B. value.
- C.** provenience.
- D. valuation.
- E. meaning.

45. Which of the following are most logically connected?

- A. Darius, Gudea, Sargon, Hammurabi
- B. Ishtar, Sargon, Woolley, Ur
- C.** Cyrus, Darius, Persepolis, Susa
- D. Gilgamesh, Susa, Tell Asmar, Uruk
- E. Urnammu, Abu, Inanna, Ishtar

46. The Apadana was

- A. a gateway.
- B. a storage room.
- C. a sanctuary.
- D.** an audience hall.
- E. an altar.

47. Whereas early Mesopotamian figures are shown with twisted perspective, Persian human figures

- A.** show shoulders in profile.
- B. have extremely large eyes.
- C. have their hands clasped.
- D. appear on bas-relief.

48. A bull capital is most likely found at

- A.** Persepolis.
- B. Lagash.
- C. Babylon.
- D. Anatolia.
- E. Assyria.

49. *Cuneiform* literally means

- A. cone-shaped.
- B. cylindrical.
- C.** wedge-shaped.
- D. rectangular.
- E. triangular.