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Hist131 World Civilization I

Chapter: 1 The Birth of Civilization

Explain each term in 2-3 lines.

Total Points:50

1. Culture - Culture is the arts and other displays of human intellectual achievement regarded collectively. It is the ideas, customs, and social behavior of a particular people or society.
2. Civilization - Civilization is the most advanced stage of human social and cultural development and organization.
3. History - History is defined as the whole series of past events connected with a particular person or thing. It is a continuous, typically chronological record of important or public events or a specific trend or institution.
4. Paleolithic Age - Paleolithic Age is also known as the Old Stone Age. It is the ancient cultural stage, or level, of human development, characterized by rudimentary chipped stone tools.
5. Neolithic Age – Neolithic Age is also known as the New Stone Age. The Neolithic Age is the final stage of cultural evolution or technological development among prehistoric humans. This period is characterized by stone tools shaped by polishing or grinding, dependence on domesticated plants or animals, settlement in permanent villages, and the appearance of such crafts as pottery and weaving. The Neolithic followed The Paleolithic Age of chipped-stone tools and preceded The Bronze Age or early period of metal tools.

6. Bronze Age - The Bronze Age is a historical period characterized by its use of bronze and other early urban civilization features, proto-writing included. The second principal period classifies and studies ancient societies.
7. Cuneiform - Cuneiform was invented by the Sumerians; it is one of the earliest writing systems in ancient Mesopotamia. Its wedge-shaped marks on clay tablets distinguish it, made using a blunt reed for a stylus. The term cuneiform comes from *cuneus*, Latin for "wedge."
8. Diffusion - As it relates to culture, diffusion is the spread of cultural beliefs from one group of people to another through mixing different ethnicities, religions, and nationalities.
9. The mandate of Heaven - The Mandate of Heaven is a Chinese political and religious teaching used in ancient and imperial China to justify the King or Emperor of China's rule.
10. Vedas - The Vedas are a large body of religious texts originating in ancient India. Composed in Vedic Sanskrit, the texts constitute the oldest layer of Sanskrit literature and the oldest scriptures of Hinduism. There are four Vedas: the Rigveda, the Yajurveda, the Samaveda, and the Atharvaveda.
11. Upanishad - Upanishad means "sitting near devotedly. Also, "secret teaching"—secret, no doubt, because teaching vouchsafed only to those spiritually ready to receive and profit by it.
12. Hammurabi Code - The Code of Hammurabi is a code of the Babylonian law of Mesopotamia, dated to about 1754 BC.

13. Book of the dead - The book of the dead is an Egyptian book that consists of a collection of spells that navigates the deceased's souls to the afterlife.
14. Pharaoh - Pharaoh is the common title of ancient Egypt's monarchs from the First Dynasty until Egypt's took over the Roman Empire in 30 BCE, although the actual term "Pharaoh" was not used contemporaneously for a ruler until Merneptah, c.
15. Raja - A royal title for a monarch equivalent to the king or princely ruler in the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia.
16. Pyramids of Giza - The Pyramid of Giza is the oldest and largest Egyptian pyramid of three. The only one of the world's seven Ancient pyramids' wonders remains intact, mainly despite it being the oldest.
17. Oracle Bones - Oracle bones are pieces of ox scapula or turtle plastron used for pyromancy in ancient China, mainly during the late Shang dynasty.
18. Meso -America - Mesoamerica extends from approximately central Mexico through Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and northern Costa Rica. It is a historical region and cultural area in North America.
19. Dynasty - A sequence of rulers from the same family, usually in the context of a feudal or monarchical system, but sometimes also in elective republics. Alternative terms for "dynasty" may include "house," "family," and "clan," among others.
20. Aryans - Aryan is, initially, a term used as a self-designation by Indo-Iranian peoples in ancient times, in contrast to "non-Indo-Aryan" or "non-Iranian" peoples.