

World History–Part 1

Course No. 2109310

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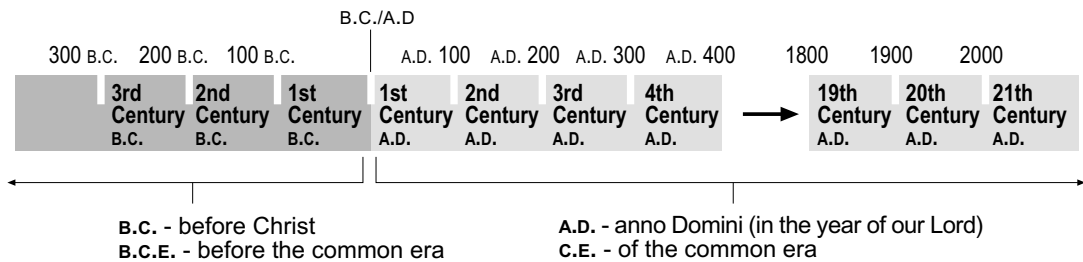
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Unit 1: The Study of History, Geography, and Culture

Timeline of Christian or Common Era



This unit emphasizes how the work of anthropologists, archaeologists, and geologists relates to the study of history. Different types of maps, map purposes, and the periods of history are also discussed. This unit also relates how the environment shapes cultures and how each geographic feature affects many aspects of a culture's lifestyle.

Unit Focus

- scientists who study history
- system used to number the passing of time
- geographic features that influence culture
- how environmental factors shape culture
- different types of maps and their purposes
- division of history into prehistory and recorded history
- three phases of history: ancient, medieval, and modern
- how the Age of Metal significantly changed the history of humans



Vocabulary

Study the vocabulary words and definitions below.

A.D. stands for anno Domini, which means in the year of our Lord; used to indicate a time division that falls within the Christian era; also known as C.E., of the common era

anthropologist scientist who studies the way people live and how they interact with their neighbors

archaeologist scientist who studies ancient peoples and their cultures by looking at artifacts, fossils, and remains

artifact any object made and used by humans

B.C. stands for before Christ; used to indicate a time division that falls before the Christian era; also known as B.C.E., before the common era

century a period of time equal to 100 years

climate the average weather conditions in a region over a period of years

community people from an area who share common interests

continent one of the seven largest bodies of land on Earth



- culture** a way of living or behaving which includes beliefs, religion, and government
- decade** a period of time equal to 10 years
- domesticate** to adapt the behavior of an animal to the advantage of humans; to tame
- fertile** rich; capable of producing abundantly
- geography** the study of the physical characteristics of Earth
- geologist** scientist who studies the history of Earth and its life as it is recorded in rocks
- history** the study of the past to learn what, how, and why things happened
- legend** an explanatory list of the symbols used on a map; also called a *key*
- millennium** a period of time equal to 1,000 years
- natural resources** materials we use that are taken from Earth such as water, minerals, soil
- nomads** people who move from place to place in search of food and water
- prehistoric** pertaining to a time before humans began to keep written records



region a large geographical area on Earth which is unique or different from others

settlement a place where people establish a new community

specialize to have a specific skill or job





The Study of History, Geography, and Culture

History is the study of the past. Many different types of scientists study history. One type of scientist, the **archaeologist**, investigates past cultures and their activities in ancient cities. The archaeologist also studies **artifacts**—things people made and used in their daily lives—and fossils. These artifacts and fossils give us clues as to how people lived during a certain time.

Other scientists study history as well. The **geologist** studies the formation of Earth and how it has changed over millions of years. The **anthropologist** studies the way people lived and how they interacted with their neighbors, as well as their beliefs, religion, and government—these make up a people's **culture**.

Timelines in History

Timelines help people who are studying history understand when events took place and the order in which the events happened. Timelines represent a certain length of time. They are used to show important events and time periods.

Dates increase as they move away from "1." An event which took place in the year 300 B.C. happened 300 years *before* Christ was born. An event that took place in A.D. 1900 happened 1,900 years *after* Christ was born.

Other Terms for Division of Time

In addition to numbering individual years, people also group years into these divisions:

A **decade** is 10 years

A **century** is 100 years

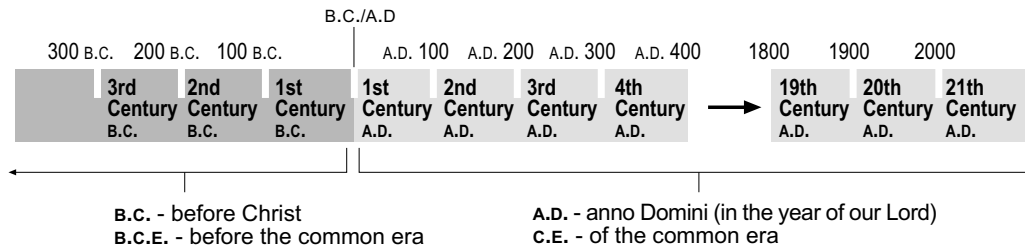
A **millennium** is 1,000 years

A.D. 1 to A.D. 100 was the first century. The years A.D. 101 to 200 were the second century. The period of time before the birth of Christ uses the same system. The years 100 B.C. to 1 B.C. are the first century B.C.



A.D. 1 TO A.D. 1000 was the first millennium. A.D. 1001 TO A.D. 2000 was the second millennium. The year A.D. 2001 begins the third millennium.

Timeline of Christian or Common Era



To find the number of years that have elapsed between dates...

1) when both years are either B.C. or A.D., subtract.

Example: From A.D. 500 to A.D. 2000 is _____ years.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{A.D. } 2000 \\ - \text{A.D. } 500 \\ \hline 1500 \text{ years} \end{array}$$

2) when one year is B.C. and the other is A.D., add.

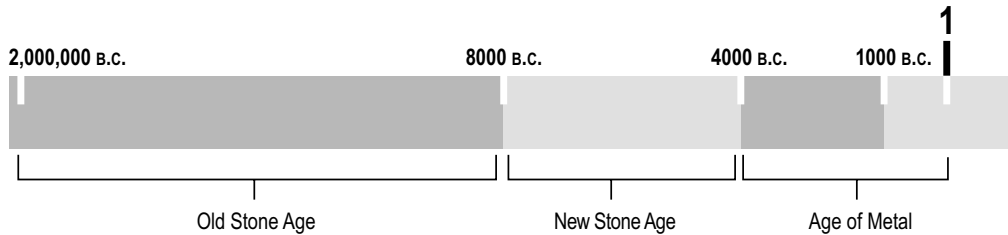
Example: From B.C. 1500 to A.D. 1500 is _____ years.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1500 \text{ B.C.} \\ + \text{A.D. } 1500 \\ \hline 3000 \text{ years} \end{array}$$



Practice

Use the **timeline** below to answer the following using short answers.

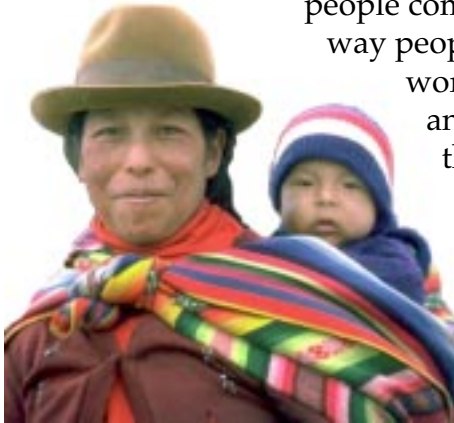


1. When did the Old Stone Age begin? _____
When did it end? _____
2. When did the New Stone Age begin? _____
How long did it last? _____
3. When did the Age of Metal begin? _____
4. Which age was the longest? _____
Which age was the most recent? _____



Geography and Culture

Throughout history people have developed many cultures. Culture is a way of living or behaving. Culture includes language—the way in which people communicate. It includes government, the way people are ruled, and religion, the way people worship. The way people relate to each other and the environment they create for themselves are also a part of culture.



Culture may be shaped by the place where people live. For example, people who live in the mountains have a different culture from those who live in the desert or along river banks.

The use of land by humans and the form of government in an area are often determined by the **geography** found there. The reason for such developments is that geography greatly affects the way people live and work. In other words, geography influences culture.

History has shown that human culture has been directly influenced by the geography of each **region**. For example, the nearness of bodies of water, such as lakes, rivers, oceans, and the features of land determined methods of transportation. These physical characteristics also influenced the types of crops grown and the farming methods used. If the land was **fertile**, food and water were plentiful.

Natural resources, like the minerals copper, iron ore, gold, and silver, influenced many inventions. For example, metals such as copper were used for tools and money. Also, those who learned to use iron invented strong weapons and tools. And people located near land with a high clay content developed beautiful and useful pottery.

Even today, **climate** in an area determines how people dress and live. If they live in a very cold climate, their dress might consist of clothing made from animal fur and skins. Climate also influences types of shelter. For example, grass huts might be found in warm climates, while igloos are used by Eskimos in the arctic region.





Although it is sometimes difficult to explain why people live in certain areas, we do understand that the environment and the geography of an area help to shape the culture there.

Understanding Maps

Learning how to read maps will make clear how geography influences culture in different places. Maps come in many forms. For example, a map showing mountains, bodies of water, deserts, and other such features is called a *physical* map. An example of a physical map may be found below.

Some physical maps, like the one on page 14, show the entire world and the seven largest divisions of land on Earth, called **continents**. The seven continents are North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica.

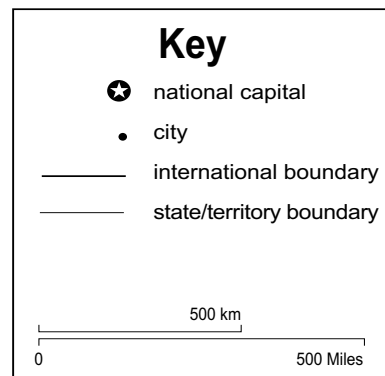


A map which shows separate boundaries is called a *political* map. An example of a political map may be seen below. This map shows the boundaries of Australia.



Australia

The best way to read a map is to use its **legend** or *key*. The legend is a key which explains the symbols used on a map. For example, look at the legend taken from the map above. Legends enable one to understand the information maps provide.



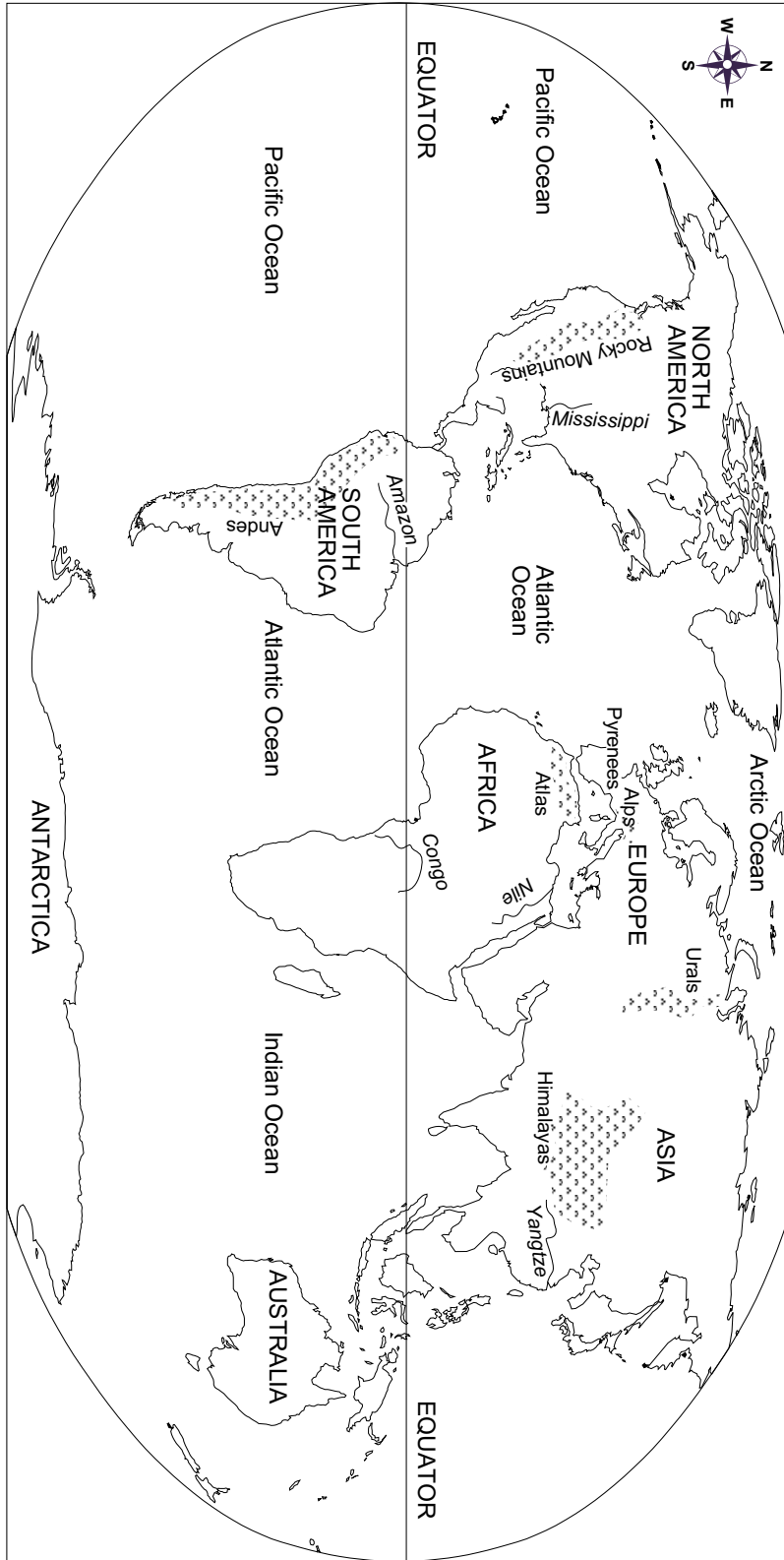


Practice



Use the list below to complete the following statements.

culture climate	farming inventions	rivers transportation
----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--

1. The development of human _____ was influenced by the geography of the region where the people lived.
2. Methods of _____ and _____ were determined by the nearness of water and features of the land.
3. The types of clothing and housing used by early humans were determined by _____ .
4. The _____ humans created were influenced by the natural resources found in the environment.
5. Early man settled near _____ because of the need for food and transportation.



Key

-  mountains
-  rivers



Practice

Use the **map** on the previous page and **other references** to find the **features** listed below. Write the correct names on the lines provided.

Mapping Skills	
<p>Continents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. _____2. _____3. _____4. _____5. _____6. _____7. _____	<p>Mountain Ranges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. _____2. _____3. _____4. _____5. _____6. _____7. _____
<p>Oceans:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. _____2. _____3. _____4. _____	<p>Rivers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. _____2. _____3. _____4. _____5. _____



Practice

Use the list below and the map on page 14 to complete the following statements.

Alps	Atlas	Indian
Andes	Australia	Nile
Antarctica	Congo	Ural
Arctic	Europe	

1. The northernmost ocean is the _____ Ocean.
2. The _____ are the mountains north of Italy.
3. The _____ Mountains separate Europe from Asia.
4. The _____ Mountains extend along the west coast of South America.
5. The Pyrenees Mountains are located on the continent of _____ .
6. The _____ Mountains are located on the northern coast of Africa.
7. The _____ Ocean lies between Africa and Australia.
8. Two major rivers in Africa are the _____ and the _____ .
9. The southernmost continent is _____ .
10. _____ is the continent that is roughly the size of the United States.



Practice

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. The soil was _____ and produced good crops.
 - a. tired
 - b. rocky
 - c. fertile
 - d. climate

2. The _____ near the Nile River was very fertile.
 - a. legend
 - b. natural resources
 - c. region
 - d. pyramid

3. The _____ of the region was warm and humid.
 - a. king
 - b. climate
 - c. legend
 - d. period

4. The study of _____ deals with the physical characteristics of Earth.
 - a. geography
 - b. legend
 - c. fertile
 - d. ancient

5. Humans use _____ to support the way they live.
 - a. continents
 - b. natural resources
 - c. climate
 - d. prehistoric



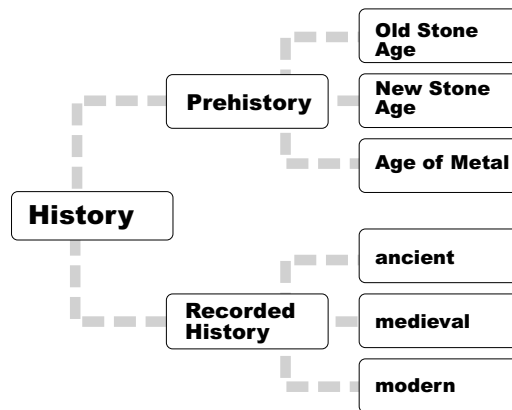
6. We live on the _____ of North America.
- a. continent
 - b. ocean
 - c. region
 - d. sea
7. The _____ of a map explains its symbols.
- a. color
 - b. fertile
 - c. legend
 - d. shape



Periods of History

History is divided into two periods. These periods are called *prehistory* and *recorded history*. Prehistory was a time when humans did not know how to write and record events. The three periods of **prehistoric** time are the Old Stone Age, the New Stone Age, and the Age of Metal. Each period is marked by certain changes which affected the development of cultures.

Recorded history began around 4000 B.C., when humans started writing and kept records of events that shaped their lives. Recorded history is divided into three periods: ancient, medieval, and modern.



Old Stone Age

During the Old Stone Age, people moved from place to place hunting herds of animals. Because they did not have permanent homes they were called **nomads**. When nomads were not looking for food, they used caves as temporary shelters. It was during the Old Stone Age that people discovered and made use of fire for cooking food and staying warm.



Nomads formed small hunting parties and set out from their cave dwellings to search for food. They developed crude, handmade tools of stone, which made life easier. This was also the time the first languages were developed.



Scientists have discovered cave drawings, paintings, and carvings made by the Old Stone Age people, as well as fossils of their



remains. These artifacts helped historians to gain a better understanding of the Old Stone Age people. This period covered about 99 percent of the human race's total time on Earth!

New Stone Age

During the New Stone Age, people began to gain greater control of their environment. They began to live in organized, permanent **settlements** and learned how to grow crops for food. In other words, people were no longer nomads. Instead of going from place to place in search of food, groups of people settled near lakes, rivers, and oceans. Animals, once thought of only as a food supply, were **domesticated** or tamed. Some tame animals provided physical labor, while others were used as food. Animal hides were used to make clothing. Animals became helpful to the **community**. A community consists of people who share common interests.

One very important invention during the New Stone Age was the potter's wheel. With the invention of the potter's wheel, people developed much better tools and utensils (such as water jugs).

The human population began to grow at a very fast pace during the New Stone Age. This was due mainly to the development of agriculture, and the resulting ability to grow and store food. Having food, clothing, and shelter, people were able to stay permanently in one place. With these new discoveries, human life during the New Stone Age was less troublesome. The people lived longer and healthier lives than their forerunners in the Old Stone Age.

Old Stone Age Inventions and Discoveries

1. spear
2. needle (made out of bones)
3. fishhook

Humans learned how to control fire.

New Stone Age Inventions and Discoveries

1. village or community
2. hoe





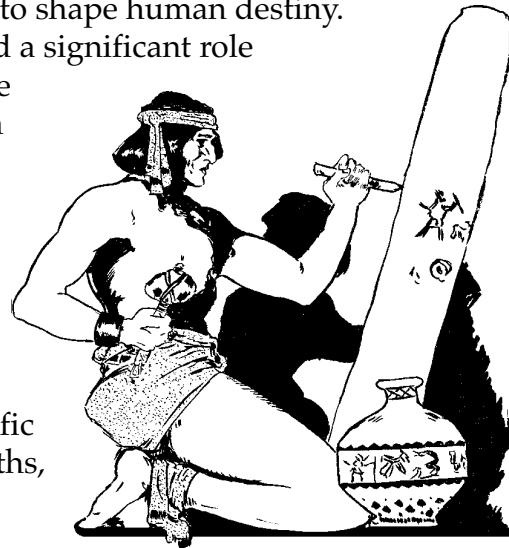
The Age of Metal—Civilization Begins

The invention of the plow in the Age of Metal radically changed the way people farmed. They were now able to farm large fields and create an abundant supply of food. Along with improved farming techniques, people also developed better ways to domesticate animals. The earliest farm animals were cattle, goats, sheep, and pigs.

Inventions helped to improve people's way of life. People learned to spin yarn from plant fibers and animal hair, to weave cloth, and wear cloth garments instead of animal hides. Another invention, the wheel, made transportation much easier.

It was around 4000 B.C. that civilization, a word meaning an advanced stage of social order, began to shape human destiny. The discovery and use of metal played a significant role in the development of civilization. The discovery and use of metal resulted in superior tools, weapons, and farm equipment.

An important change took place in the way people worked. During this period in history, man began to **specialize**. This means that within communities, each person had a specific skill or job. Soon there were metalsmiths, potters, and tradespeople, as well as farmers and hunters.



During the Age of Metal, humans began to understand that cooperation meant improved living standards and better protection against enemies. It was at this time in history that the first simple governments were formed.

Age of Metal Inventions

1. copper tools
2. bronze tools
3. plow
4. sailboats
5. sleds
6. wheels

Humans learned how to weave thread into cloth.





Practice

Use the list below to complete the following statements.

anthropologist	domesticate	prehistoric
archaeologist	geologist	settlement
community	history	specialize
culture	nomads	

1. When early humans wanted to raise or tame animals for food, they learned how to _____ them.
2. The _____ is the scientist who studies the history of Earth by examining rocks.
3. The _____ period took place before humans began to keep written records of their activities.
4. Those who move from place to place in search of food and water are called _____ .
5. An _____ is a scientist who studies the way people live and how they interact with their neighbors.
6. A people's _____ is their way of living and their beliefs.
7. A _____ is a group of people with common interests living in a particular area.



8. An _____ studies ancient peoples and their cultures by looking at artifacts, fossils, and remains.
9. The study of the past to learn what, how, and why things happened is known as _____ .
10. A _____ is a place where people establish a new community.
11. Those who _____ have specific jobs or skills.



Practice

Use pages 19-20 to complete the following outline about the **prehistoric periods**.

I. _____

A. Humans moved from place to place

B. Humans lived in caves

C. Humans hunted for food

D. Discoveries

1. _____

2. Crude tools

II. New Stone Age

A. People began to gain control over their _____

1. Groups of people settled near _____ and

2. Domesticated _____ provided

a. _____

b. _____

B. Invention of the _____



III. The Age of _____

A. Invention of the _____ for farming larger fields

B. Other important inventions

1. _____

2. _____

C. Discovery and use of _____

D. Community life

1. Specific jobs

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

2. Results of cooperation

a. _____

b. _____



Practice

Answer the following using complete sentences.

1. Name two types of scientists who study history and tell what they do. _____

2. List three characteristics of the Old Stone Age. _____

3. Name three human activities that culture involves. _____

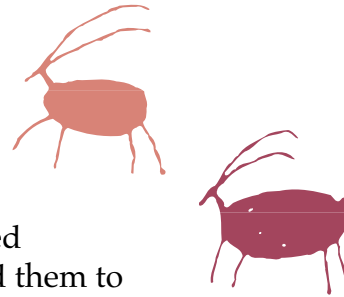
4. Name three ways in which life during the New Stone Age was different from life during the Old Stone Age. _____



Review

History, or the study of the past, is important to many types of scientists. Archaeologists investigate the remains of ancient cities to find out about the lives of the people who lived in them. Geologists learn about Earth's history by studying rocks and soil. Anthropologists study different cultures to gain information about the history of human society.

Geography is important to the study of history because the geography of a region affects the way people live and work. For instance, features like bodies of water and mountains determined the kind of transportation people used. The type of soil in a region determined the kinds of crops grown by the people who lived there. If there were minerals nearby, people used them to make tools and coins.



Even now we can see how geography affects the way people live. For example, the climate of a region determines the kind of clothes people wear and the kind of buildings in which they live.

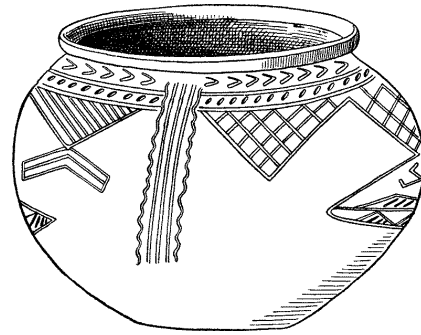
One way to learn how geography has shaped history is to study maps. A physical map, one that shows features like mountains and rivers, helps us to understand why human cultures began where they did. For instance, a region with a big river is a good place for a culture to spring up because rivers provide people with easy transportation by boat and because fertile soil is often found by rivers.

Prehistoric time, or the time before recorded history began, is divided into three periods. During the Old Stone Age, people lived as nomads, hunting animals for food and living in caves. Old Stone Age people also discovered the use of fire for cooking food and staying warm.

In the second period, the New Stone Age, people learned how to grow crops for food. They began to live in permanent settlements so they could tend to their crops. Animals were domesticated, providing labor as well as food.



The Age of Metal, the third period, marks the beginning of civilization. People discovered how to shape metal into farm tools and weapons, thus greatly improving farming and hunting techniques. In the Age of Metal, people also began to specialize, which meant that each person worked at a specific task. The result was greater production and a higher standard of living. Even more important than specialization was cooperation: people in the Age of Metal learned that they could live better, safer, and longer lives if they cooperated with each other.





Practice

Match each definition with the correct term. Write the letter on the line provided.

- | | | |
|----------|---|------------------|
| _____ 1. | a place where people establish a new community | A. archaeologist |
| _____ 2. | a way of living or behaving which includes beliefs, religion, and government | B. community |
| _____ 3. | to adapt the behavior of an animal to the advantage of humans; to tame | C. culture |
| _____ 4. | people from an area who share common interests | D. domesticate |
| _____ 5. | people who move from place to place in search of food and water | E. geologist |
| _____ 6. | scientist who studies past human lives and their activities by looking at artifacts, fossils, and remains | F. nomads |
| _____ 7. | scientist who studies the history of Earth and its life as it is recorded in rocks | G. settlement |



Practice

Use the list below to write the correct term for each definition in the line provided.

A.D.	century	millennium
anthropologist	decade	prehistoric
artifact	history	specialize
B.C.		

- _____ 1. scientist who studies the way people live and how they interact with their neighbors
- _____ 2. stands for anno Domini, which means in the year of our lord
- _____ 3. to have a specific skill or job
- _____ 4. stands for before Christ
- _____ 5. any object made and used by humans
- _____ 6. pertaining to a time before humans began to keep written records
- _____ 7. the study of the past to learn what, how, and why things happened
- _____ 8. a period of time equal to 10 years
- _____ 9. a period of time equal to 100 years
- _____ 10. a period of time equal to 1,000 years



Practice

Match each definition with the correct term. Write the letter on the line provided.

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| _____ 1. materials we use that are taken from Earth such as water, minerals, soil | A. climate |
| _____ 2. an explanatory list of the symbols used on a map | B. continent |
| _____ 3. the average weather conditions in a region over a period of years | C. fertile |
| _____ 4. the study of the physical characteristics of Earth | D. geography |
| _____ 5. one of the seven largest bodies of land on Earth | E. legend |
| _____ 6. rich; capable of producing abundantly | F. natural resources |
| _____ 7. a large geographical area on Earth which is unique or different from others | G. region |

