

History Alive-- Chapter 4 Study Guide

1. What are some characteristics of a "city-state"? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Mesopotamia is located between which two rivers? \_\_\_\_\_.
3. What advantage did the people living in the foothills of the Zagros mountains have for farming?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Describe the environment of Sumer. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What contributed to the flooding of the rivers in springtime? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What made farming difficult in the land of Sumer? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. The people in the Zagros foothills faced a food shortage problem. What did they do to solve it?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Why did the people in the Zagros foothills start having food shortages? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Dams and reservoirs were used for \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What was the purpose of levees? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Why did the people of Sumer need to depend on one another? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. What problem did the people of Sumer face with their irrigation systems? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Sumerian farming villages grew into \_\_\_\_\_
14. What were some ways that the people of Sumer defended their city from enemies? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. What did the people of Sumer use to build strong walls? \_\_\_\_\_

## **The Rise of Sumerian City-States**

1. Mesopotamia – In ancient times, the geographic area between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers
2. Tigris River and Euphrates River – the two largest rivers in Southwest Asia that flow from the mountains in Turkey to the Persian Gulf
3. Sumer – an area in southern Mesopotamia, where cities first appeared
4. irrigation – a method of supplying land with water
5. levee – a wall of earth built to prevent a river from flooding its banks
6. silt - fine particles of rock
7. city-state – an early city that was like a small, independent country with its own laws and government