

The background features a collage of historical illustrations. At the top left, a woman in a crown and armor stands with a sword. To her right, a man in a crown and a man in a long robe are depicted. Further right, a samurai in full armor is shown. Below these, a man in a white robe points towards the left, and another man in a white robe stands with his arms crossed. In the center, a man in a white robe looks up at a scroll held by another man. To the right, a woman in a white dress and a man in a white coat are shown. At the bottom left, a castle is visible. The word "WORLD" is written in large, green, 3D letters with a globe as the letter 'O'.

WORLD

HISTORY SHORTS 1

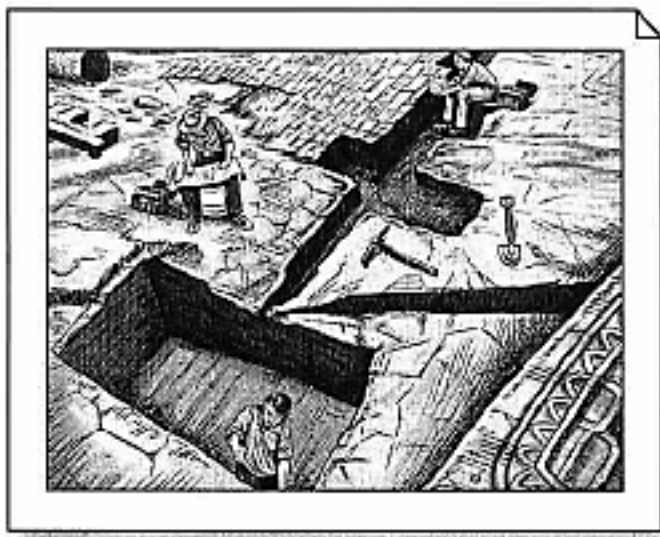
By Kristina M. Swann

Table of Contents

Introduction	IV
Research and Standards	VIII
Lessons	
The Beginning of Civilization	1
A New Set of Laws	7
The Gift of the Nile	13
India's Caste System	19
A Struggle for Power	25
Alexander the Great	31
The Roman Republic	37
The Growth of Christianity	43
The Fall of the Roman Empire	49
The Rise and Fall of the Byzantine Empire	55
Africa's Trading Empires	61
The Islamic Empire	67
The Church's Power Grows	73
Charlemagne	79
The Feudal System	85
A Nation Is Born	91
The Crusades	97
Advances in the Middle Ages	103
Genghis Khan and the Mongols	109
Mexico's Great Empire	115
The Black Death Hits Europe	121
Joan of Arc	127
The Renaissance	133
The Protestant Reformation	139
The Race for Riches	145
The Atlantic Slave Trade	151
Revolution in England	157
Peter the Great	163
The Ottoman Empire	169
Japan Moves Into Modern Times	175
Answer Key	181

The Beginning of Civilization

The first modern humans appeared in Africa and had migrated all over the world by 10,000 B.C. Because prehistoric people had no written records, historians must study them by looking at the things they left behind. Archaeologists dig up artifacts like tools, pottery, and other things made by humans. Anthropologists use artifacts and remains of ancient humans to learn about culture, or the way people lived. Historians divide early human history into major sections like the Paleolithic Age, the Neolithic Age, and the Bronze Age. Each era is defined by the progress humans made during those years.



The earliest period of human history, called the Paleolithic Age, lasted from about 2,500,000 B.C. until 8000 B.C. This era is sometimes called the Old Stone Age because early humans used simple stone tools. During the Paleolithic Age, people found shelter in caves and learned to make fire. Paleolithic people invented the spear and the bow and arrow. These early humans hunted wild animals and gathered nuts, berries, fruits, and green plants for food. Because they depended on animal migrations and vegetation cycles, almost all Paleolithic people were nomadic. This means the hunters and their families had no permanent home, but moved from place to place.

Around 8000 B.C., the Neolithic Age, or New Stone Age, started. In the Neolithic Age, humans stopped being nomadic and settled down in small farming villages. Instead of hunting and gathering, people farmed and raised animals for food. Early farmers in Africa raised wheat, barley, root crops, and bananas. People tamed cows, pigs, goats, sheep, and dogs. In Southeast Asia, farmers grew rice in addition to wheat and barley. In Central America and present-day Mexico, people raised beans, squash, and corn.

People made tools from metal in the Bronze Age. During the Bronze Age, which lasted from 3000 B.C. until about 1000 B.C., people began to form civilizations. Civilizations are complex cultures in which groups of many people share the same characteristics. The first civilizations started in the river valleys of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, and China.

Historians know more about the Bronze Age civilizations than about earlier people. This is because people in the Bronze Age kept written records, like laws. Each civilization had cities, government, social classes, religion, writing, and art. Over time, cultures have changed, but the basic characteristics of civilization have stayed the same.



The Beginning of Civilization

Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer, and write the letter in the box.

1. _____ dig up artifacts like tools and pottery.

- A. Archaeologists
- B. Anthropologists
- C. Historians
- D. Nomads

2. People made tools from _____ in the Bronze Age.

- A. stone
- B. metal
- C. wood
- D. vines

3. In the _____, humans settled in small farming villages.

- A. Ice Age
- B. Paleolithic Age
- C. Neolithic Age
- D. Bronze Age

4. _____ is a characteristic of civilization.

- A. Government
- B. Writing
- C. Religion
- D. all of the above

5. The earliest period of human history is called the _____.

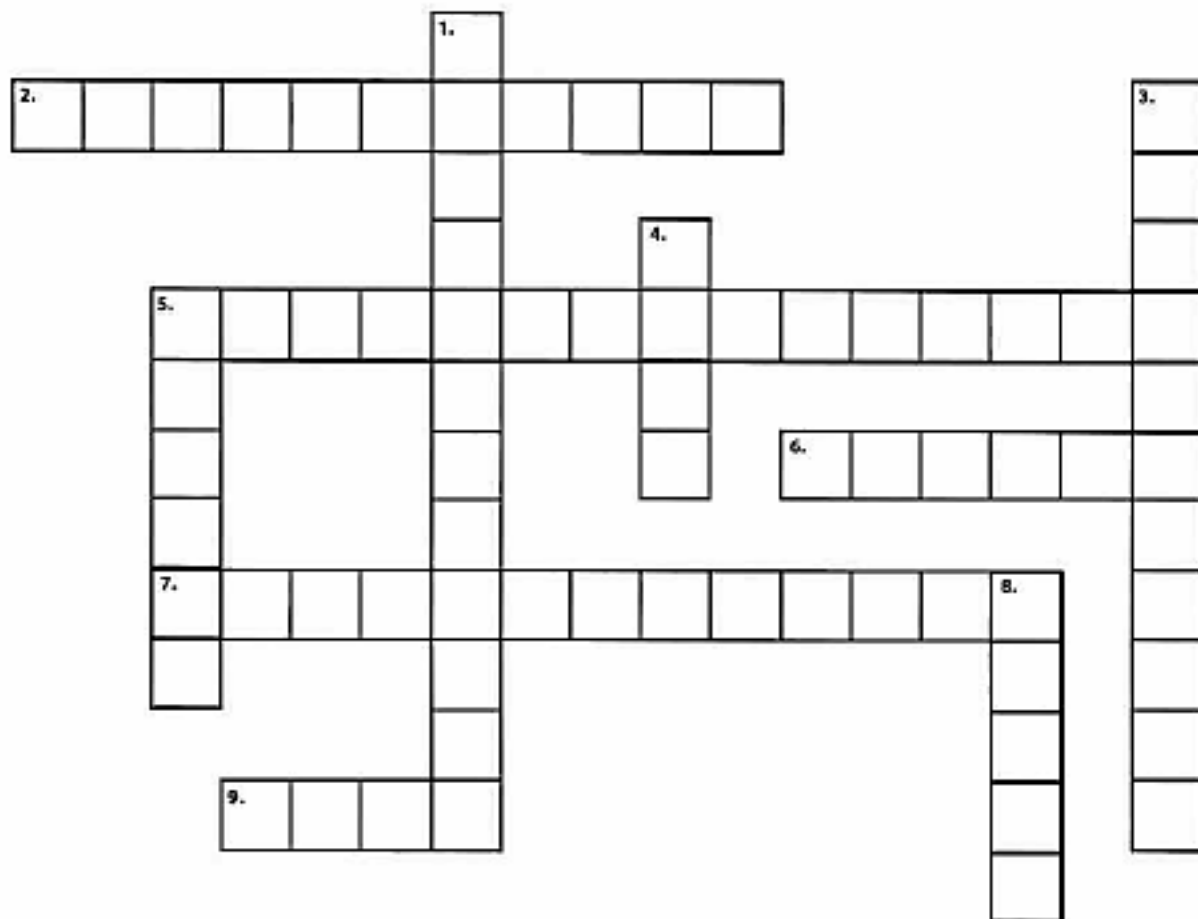
- A. Paleolithic Age
- B. Neolithic Age
- C. Bronze Age
- D. African Age



The Beginning of Civilization

Crossword Puzzle

Write the best answer in each blank, and complete the crossword puzzle.



ACROSS

- Most _____ people were nomadic.
- _____ use artifacts and remains of ancient humans to learn about culture.
- In present-day _____, people raised beans, squash, and corn.
- People began to form _____ during the Bronze Age.
- People in the Bronze Age kept written records, like _____.

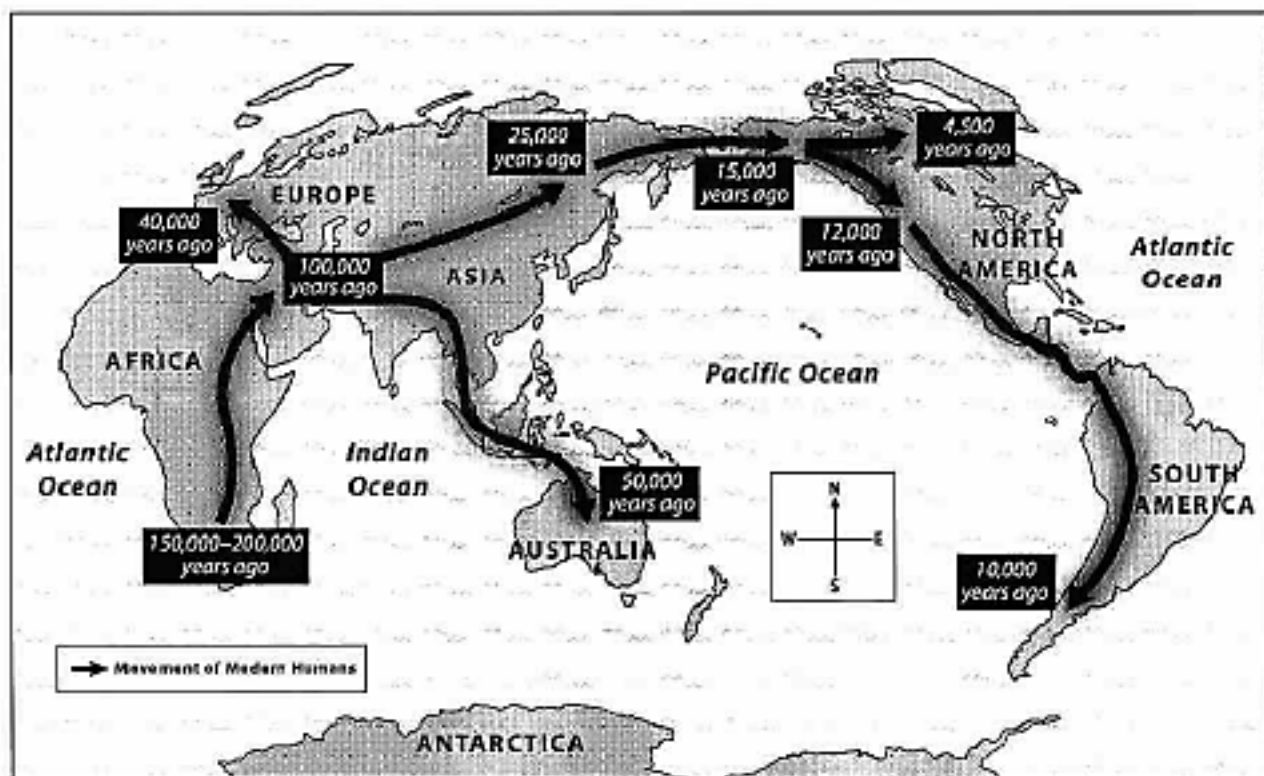
DOWN

- The first civilizations started in the _____ of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, and China.
- The Neolithic Age is also called the _____.
- In the Neolithic Age, people farmed and raised animals for _____.
- The first modern humans appeared in _____.
- Paleolithic people invented the _____ and the bow and arrow.

The Beginning of Civilization

Map – Spread of Modern Humans

Use the map to answer the following questions. Write the answers in complete sentences.



1. On which continent did modern humans first appear?

2. About how long ago did modern humans migrate to Australia?

3. About how long ago did modern humans migrate from Asia to North America?



Quiz: The Beginning of Civilization

True/False

Decide if each statement is true or false, and write "true" or "false" in the blank.

- _____ 1. Humans made tools from metal in the Paleolithic Age.
- _____ 2. The first civilizations started in the mountains of Asia.
- _____ 3. Neolithic humans settled in large fishing villages.
- _____ 4. Government, writing, and religion are characteristics of civilization.
- _____ 5. Humans invented the bow and arrow in the Bronze Age.

Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer, and write the letter in the box.

6. Humans began keeping written records in the _____ Age.
- A. Paleolithic
 - B. Neolithic
 - C. Bronze
 - D. Anthropologic

7. Almost all humans in the Paleolithic Age _____.
- A. were hunters and gatherers
 - B. were nomadic
 - C. used simple stone tools
 - D. all of the above

Short Answer

Answer the following question in complete sentences.

8. What do anthropologists study?
