

ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

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Key Information:

- Major civilizations include
 Sumerian, Assyrian, Akkadian,
 Uruk, and Babylonian
- The cities were quite fertile due to seasonal rain, and the rivers and streams.
 - Some of the cities formed on the banks of the rivers and streams (Shown here)

Cities



City of Babylon

Government

The government was a combination of a monarchy and democracy because the king held most of the power, but an Assembly elected by the people could overrule the king.



WRITING

Key Information:

- Sumerians created a writing system called 'Cuneiform' that were characters written on mainly clay tablets
 Recorded daily events as well as trade, astronomy, and literature
 - Developed by the Ancient
 Sumerians and considered
 the most significant among
 the many cultural
 contributions





2 examples of Cuneiform

ART

Key Information

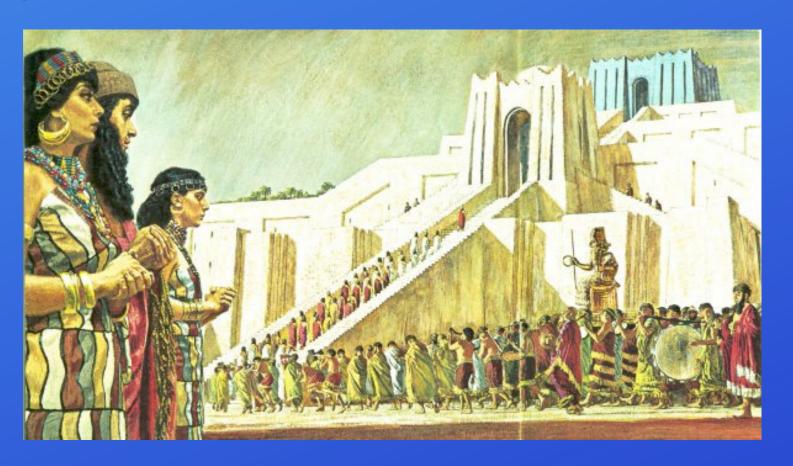
- Created stone arts and sculptures to glorify the gods and kings.
- Most art they made were paintings and rarely sculptures.
- The art has survived in the archaeological record from early hunter gatherer societies, onto the bronze age.



Sculpture of Tell
Asmar Hoard

Belief System/Religion

Their belief system was polytheistic and they had high respect for their gods and goddesses, trying their best to make them happy.



Social Structure

The upper class had far more power than the other classs, and consisted of the king, priests, and government officials since law and religion were important to Mesopotamia

