



ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

Presented by Evan Roorda and Tuan Zhang

Cities

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)



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 classes, and consisted of the king, priests, and government officials since law and religion were important to Mesopotamia

