

Daily Warm-Ups

WORLD HISTORY

Level I

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Prehistoric Era: Words to Know

The earliest civilizations began near rivers. Early people used water from the rivers to grow crops.

The words in the box are used to discuss prehistoric times. Match each word with the correct definition below. Write the letter of the term on the line.

a. agriculture

c. hunter-gatherer

b. domesticate

d. technology

- ___ 1. adapt or tame a plant or animal for human use
- ___ 2. any tools that humans use to improve their lives in some way
- ___ 3. the process of growing crops and raising animals for food
- ___ 4. a person who gets food by hunting wild animals and gathering wild plants, nuts, berries, and roots



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Prehistoric Era: Time Line

Here are some important events in the time before written history. Use them to create a horizontal time line. Space the dates appropriately. Don't forget to give your time line a title.

- c. 45,000 B.C.E. oldest known musical instrument in Africa
- c. 38,000 B.C.E. first composite tools in Africa
- c. 30,000 B.C.E. early cave paintings in France and Spain
- c. 10,000 B.C.E. first pottery in Japan
- c. 8000 B.C.E. agriculture begins in Africa and Asia
- c. 6500 B.C.E. farming begins in Europe
- c. 6500 B.C.E. rice is cultivated in China's Yangtze (Chang Jiang) Valley
- c. 5000 B.C.E. first settlements begin near China's Huang He River





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History and Prehistory

The first writing system that we know of began in Mesopotamia about 5,500 years ago. The time before that is known as *prehistory*.

Of course, this does not mean that humans and societies did not exist before writing developed. Early humans began to settle down and form communities many thousands of years ago. These early humans did not have a system for writing things down. We know about them from the tools and other artifacts they left behind.

Since humans existed long before writing developed, why do we call this period *prehistory*? Write two or three sentences for your answer.



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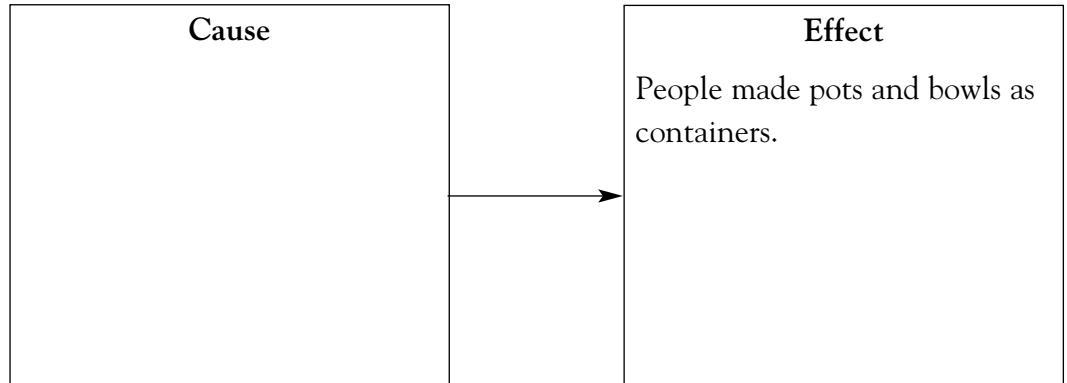
Prehistoric Pottery

From the earliest times, humans have shaped clay into models of people and animals. Then, about 10,000 years ago, people started making containers from clay. At first they dried the clay in the sun to harden it. Soon they realized that baking clay in a fire made it even harder.

Historians think that the need for pottery containers came about when people began farming. Why do you think that growing crops and herding animals might create a need for containers? Write your answer in the “Cause” box below.



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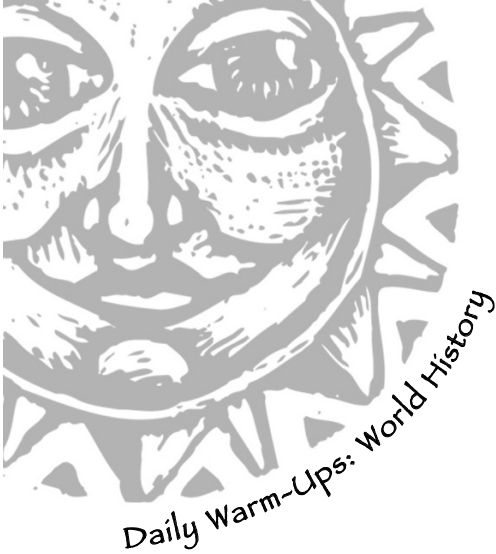
Prehistoric Era: Hunters, Gatherers, Food

Imagine that you had been born 15,000 years ago. In your world, there are no grocery stores or refrigerators to go to when you're hungry. You spend most of your days just looking for something you can eat. Some wild plants are good to eat. But some wild plants are poisonous. They can kill you, or at least make you very, very sick.

How do you think you—and the other hunter-gatherers in your group—can tell if a plant is safe to eat? List as many ways as you can.



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Mesopotamia: Time Line

Here are some important events in the history of Mesopotamia. Use them to create a horizontal time line. Space the dates appropriately. Don't forget to give your time line a title.

- c. 5000 B.C.E. The first towns in southern Mesopotamia develop.
- c. 5000 B.C.E. Copper is used in Mesopotamia.
- c. 3200 B.C.E. Cuneiform writing develops.
- c. 4000 B.C.E. The wheel is first used.
- c. 2000 B.C.E. Sumerian power in Mesopotamia ends.
- c. 1790 B.C.E. Hammurabi becomes king of Babylonia.
- c. 1400 B.C.E. Phoenicians develop first alphabet-like script.



Mesopotamia: Archaeology and Artifacts

Archaeologists are scientists who study past cultures by looking at the things early people left behind. This includes digging through burial sites. As they dig, they carefully set aside any objects they find. Then they use these objects to try to form a picture of how people lived thousands of years ago.

Here are some of the things archaeologists found in one burial site in Mesopotamia. Based on these items, what conclusions might you form about the people buried here?



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beads

gold jewelry

gold dagger

manicure kit

silver belt

gold helmet

gold dishes

ox-drawn wagon

oil lamp

game board

musical instrument





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Mesopotamia: The *Epic of Gilgamesh*

The *Epic of Gilgamesh* is the oldest written story in the world. It dates to around 2700 B.C.E. and was originally written on clay tablets in cuneiform script. It tells the story of Gilgamesh, ruler of Uruk, a Mesopotamian city-state. Gilgamesh is described as the ideal king.

Here is an excerpt from the poem. Read it carefully. Based on the excerpt, write what characteristics the people of Uruk valued in a ruler.

Supreme over other kings, lordly in appearance,
He is the hero, he is of Uruk, he is the butting bull.
He walks out in front, the leader,
And walks at the rear, trusted by his companions.
Mighty net, protector of his people,
Raging flood-wave who destroys even walls of stone!



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The Voyages of Zheng He

During the Ming dynasty, Chinese sailors sailed as far as Africa and Southeast Asia. A court official named Zheng He led a number of voyages. Between 1405 and 1433, his fleet made seven long voyages.

On his early expeditions, he sailed to Southeast Asia, Sri Lanka, and India. Later voyages took him to Persia, Arabia, and the east coast of Africa. He carried pearls and fine pottery to show China's wealth. He brought back gifts from the lands he visited, including giraffes, zebras, and ostriches. China seemed set to become an important seagoing power.

In 1433, these voyages came to a sudden end. Chinese ships no longer set out to other places. What happened to cause this? Write two or three sentences for your answer.



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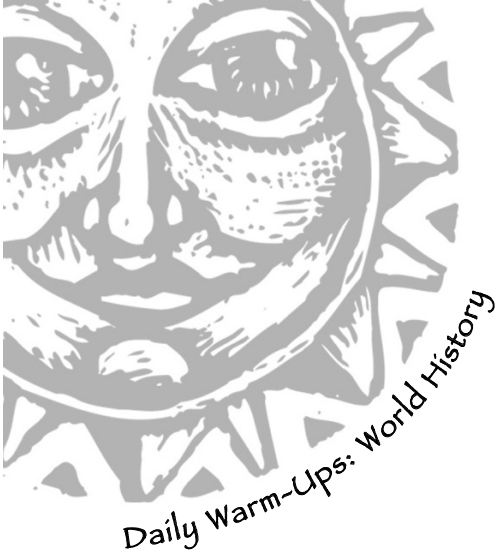
Sub-Saharan Africa: Words to Know

The words in the box are often used when talking about ancient sub-Saharan Africa. Match each word with the correct definition below. Write the letter of the term on the line.

a. delta	c. griot	e. sahel
b. ghana	d. mansa	f. savanna

- ___ 1. a region of grasslands that contains scattered trees and vegetation
- ___ 2. a strip of dry grasslands along the southern edge of the Sahara
- ___ 3. war chief, or ruler, of the Soninke people of West Africa
- ___ 4. a low area of land at the mouth of a river formed from the silt, sand, and small rocks carried downstream by the river
- ___ 5. a storyteller who recites oral history
- ___ 6. in the language of the Mandinke people of Mali, “emperor”

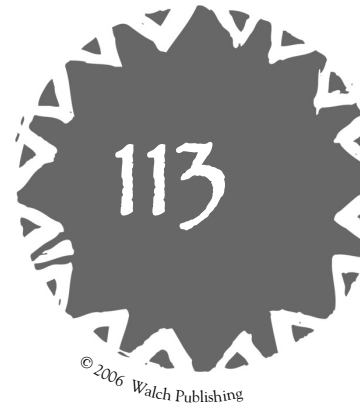




Sub-Saharan Africa: Time Line

Here are some important events in the history of sub-Saharan Africa. Use them to create a horizontal time line. Space the dates appropriately. Don't forget to give your time line a title.

- 500 B.C.E. earliest evidence of Nok culture in Nigeria
- 300–500 C.E. rise of the kingdom of Ghana
- c. 900–1100 Ghana dominant power in West Africa
- c. 1000 Islam reaches West Africa
- c. 1050 kingdom of Ife arises
- c. 1200–1450 kingdom of Mali
- c. 1312–1337 Mansa Musa king of Mali
- 1324–1325 Mansa Musa makes pilgrimage to Mecca
- 1353 Ibn Battuta visits Mali
- 1500 kingdom of Songhai at its peak





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Renaissance Europe: Words to Know

The words in the box are often used when talking about Renaissance Europe. Match each word with the correct definition. Write the letter of the term on the line.

a. fresco	c. linear perspective	d. patron
b. humanism		e. Renaissance

- ___ 1. a way of creating the illusion of space and distance on a flat surface
- ___ 2. a person who gives an artist financial support
- ___ 3. the belief that human actions and ideas are important
- ___ 4. a period of scientific and cultural rebirth in Europe
- ___ 5. a painting done on wet plaster



Renaissance Europe: Time Line

Here are some important events in the history of Renaissance Europe. Use them to create a horizontal time line. Space the dates appropriately. Don't forget to give your time line a title.

- 1347 Bubonic plague comes to Europe.
- 1350 Renaissance begins in northern Italy.
- 1381 Peasants rebel in England.
- 1455 Johannes Gutenberg prints the Bible using movable type.
- 1469 Lorenzo de' Medici comes to power in Florence.
- 1506 Leonardo da Vinci paints the *Mona Lisa*.
- 1508 Michelangelo begins painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.
- 1558 Elizabeth I becomes queen of England.
- 1605 *Don Quixote de la Mancha*, by Miguel de Cervantes, is published.



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Renaissance Europe: Who's Who?

The Renaissance was a period of great achievements in many fields. The people listed below made important contributions. For each one, decide whether the person was an artist (A), a writer (W), or a scientist (S). Write the correct letter on the line.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Dante Alighieri | ___ 7. Albrecht Dürer |
| ___ 2. Roger Bacon | ___ 8. Galileo Galilei |
| ___ 3. Giovanni Boccaccio | ___ 9. Hypatia of Alexandria |
| ___ 4. Michelangelo Buonarrotti | ___ 10. Raphael |
| ___ 5. Geoffrey Chaucer | ___ 11. William Shakespeare |
| ___ 6. Nicolaus Copernicus | ___ 12. Leonardo da Vinci |



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