



Geography and History

CHAPTER 1 The Beginnings of Human Society

A. As You Read

Directions: As you read Section 1, answer the following questions in the space provided.

1. What did scientists learn from the Iceman's copper ax?

2. What other clues did scientists use to learn about the Iceman's life?

3. In what parts of the world did people first develop a system of writing?

4. Even though oral traditions might contain stories that are not historically accurate, what can they tell us about the past?

5. Why does the study of the geography of Egypt help us to better understand Egyptian civilization?

B. Reviewing Key Terms

Directions: Complete each sentence by writing the correct term in the blank provided.

6. The period of time in the past before writing was invented is known as _____.

7. Scientists who examine objects to learn about past people and cultures are known as _____.

8. The written records studied by historians often began as _____, or stories passed down by word of mouth.

9. The recorded events of people are known as _____.

CHAPTER 1
The Beginnings of
Human Society**Prehistory****A. As You Read**

Directions: As you read Section 2, fill in the table below with information about early humans. Under each main idea, write two supporting details.

Main Idea A	
	The ability to make crude stone tools was an important step in the development of human civilization.
1.	_____

2.	_____

Main Idea B	
	The growing of crops was one of the most important developments in the history of human civilization.
3.	_____

4.	_____

B. Reviewing Key Terms

Directions: Complete each sentence by writing the correct term in the blank provided.

5. People who have no single, settled home and who travel from place to place in search of food are called _____.
6. Plants grow well in _____ soil, which contains the substances they need to grow.
7. During the New Stone Age, humans learned to tame, or _____, wild animals.



The Beginnings of Civilization

CHAPTER 1
The Beginnings of
Human Society**A. As You Read**

Directions: As you read Section 3, fill in the table below with information about developments in early human society.

Steps in the Rise of Civilizations

Development	How It Changed Human Society
Farming and Raising Animals	1.
Growth of Population	2.
Rise of Cities	3.
Trade	4.
Social Classes	5.

B. Reviewing Key Terms

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, write the definitions for the following key terms.

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 6. irrigation | 9. civilization |
| 7. surplus | 10. social class |
| 8. artisan | |



The Beginnings of Human Society

Directions: The underlined words in the following sentences are important key terms from Chapter 1. On the back of this page or on a separate sheet of paper, write sentences of your own using the terms or forms of the terms. If necessary, look up the terms in your book's glossary.

1. Future historians may one day use our school newspaper to learn about twentieth-century history.
2. The time before people started to record events in writing is considered prehistory.
3. The archaeologist sifted through the dirt floor of the Stone Age campsite for hours before finding a stone spearhead.
4. Some oral traditions tell about family histories; others tell of events in the past.
5. The family of nomads moved their campsite down into the valley where they knew they would find fresh water.
6. In areas where the soil is fertile, many people take up farming as a way of life.
7. People of the New Stone Age learned how to domesticate animals.
8. The farmers used an irrigation system to carry water from the river to their crops.
9. After working hard all summer, the farmers were rewarded with a surplus of grain.
10. The artisan specialized in making colorful rugs by hand.
11. Egyptian civilization developed on the banks of the Nile River.
12. In ancient times, artisans, small traders, and merchants often made up a social class.

RETEACHING

The Beginnings of Human Society

Directions: Use information in Chapter 1 of your book to fill in the chart below.

Event	Approximate Date or Number of Years Ago	How the Event Affected the Way Early People Lived
People learn to use fire.	1.	2.
People learn to grow food.	3.	4.
People develop the wheel.	5.	6.
People make tools from bronze.	7.	8.



The Beginnings of Human Society

Prehistoric Villages in the Alps

Directions: Read the passage and then answer the questions.

In northern Europe, scientists have discovered the remains of hundreds of prehistoric villages along the shores of lakes. Most of these remains are located in Switzerland. The villages are so well preserved that even the remains of food and cloth have been found. From these villages, scientists have learned a great deal about how ancient people in the region lived.

The villages usually had 10 to 20 rectangular houses surrounded by a wood fence. The floors and walls of the houses were made of wood, and the roofs were made of reeds. The thick forests on the nearby mountain slopes provided the wood for building the houses and fences. The reeds for the roofs were gathered from the lakeshores.

The people of the villages fished on the lakes and farmed along the lakeshores. They grew crops of wheat, barley, beans, and peas and raised cattle, sheep, and goats. They also gathered wild plants to eat.

The lake people made a variety of tools from stone and later from bronze. They made pottery containers for cooking and storing foods. They also wove cloth of linen and wool for making clothes.

1. During what ages did the prehistoric people in the Alpine lake villages live? How do you know?

2. Were the people of the lake villages hunters and gatherers or were they farmers?

3. How did geography affect the way of life of the people of the lake villages?

CRITICAL THINKING

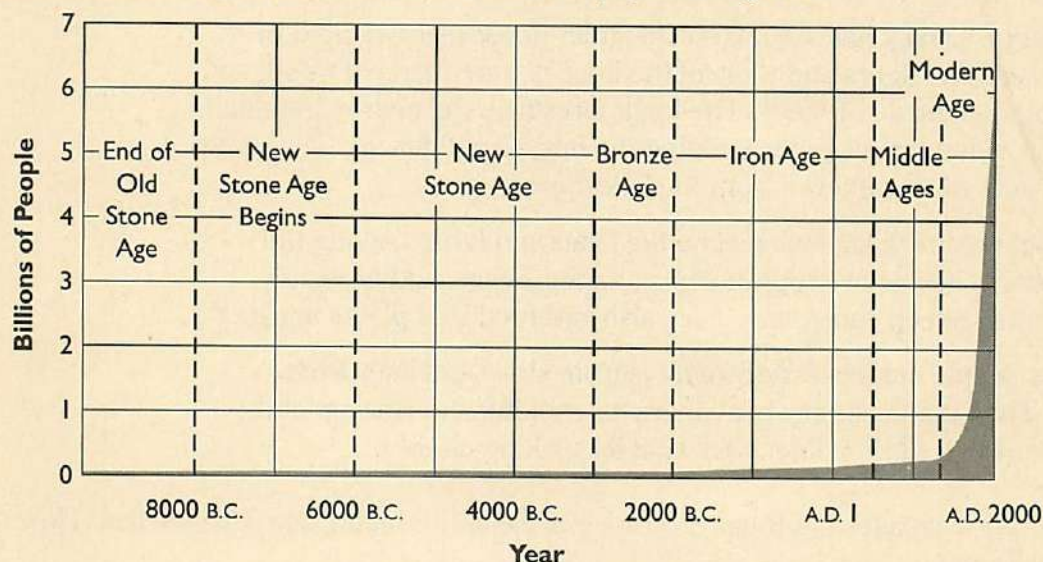
The Beginnings of Human Society

Growth of the Human Population

Drawing Conclusions

Directions: Read the passage and study the graph. Then answer the questions.

Two things affect the growth of a population—the birthrate and the death rate. When the birthrate (the number of people born) equals the death rate (the number of those who die), the population remains the same. When the birthrate is higher than the death rate, the population grows.



1. During the Old Stone Age, did the human population remain fairly steady or grow rapidly?

2. What can you conclude about the birth- and death rates during the Old Stone Age?

3. What happened to the human population from the New Stone Age through the Iron Age?

4. What can you conclude about the birth- and death rates from the New Stone Age through the Iron Age?

5. Compare the growth of the human population during the modern age with its growth during all the ages before it.
