

THE FIRST TERM EXAMINATION

-PART ONE: Reading

(15 points)

-A. COMPREHENSION

(07 points)

-Read the text carefully then do the activities.

Rivers are considered the most important geographical feature of ancient civilizations. There are many reasons rivers are important. One is that a river provides fresh water for nearby inhabitants. Freshwater is very important because people can drink it to survive. Without it, people would die from dehydration. Secondly, rivers help to create good farmland. When a river floods, it leaves behind silt, which is very rich soil that most civilizations in ancient times farmed on. Without silt and good farming land, it is very hard to imagine various civilizations surviving.

The third reason ancient civilizations bloomed near rivers is for transportation. Transportation is important for a civilization to trade, or exchange goods, to another civilization. Ancient civilizations could have traveled by land to get to another civilization, but that would have taken more time. With a river, ancient people could easily get to another civilization in much less time. Many civilizations were based on rivers. Two examples are Ancient Egypt and Ancient Sumerian Civilization.

Sumerian farmers began to create irrigation systems to provide water for their fields. They built earth walls, called levees, along the sides of the river to prevent flooding. When the land was dry, they poked holes in the levees. The water flowed through the holes and into the thirsty fields. In Ancient Egypt, local authorities merely directed farmers to dig channels and construct small earthen dams and riverbank levees to divert floodwaters into or away from certain areas. The first extensive Egyptian irrigation projects did not occur until after 300 B.C. in the area of the Faiyum Oasis.

—Adopted from the Internet—

-1) Indicate whether the following statements are true or false.

- Rivers are essential and necessary features of ancient civilizations.
- They play a big role in exchanging goods.
- Few civilizations emerged along rivers.
- Ancient Egyptians and Sumerians created an irrigation system.

-2) Answer the following questions according to the text.

- State two(02) benefits of rivers in ancient civilizations.
- Why did the Sumerian farmers build earth banks along rivers?
- Was it easier for ancient people to travel through rivers? Justify

-3) What or who do the underlined words refer to in the text.

- It (§1) -That (§2) -They (§3)

-4) Identify in which paragraph is the following idea mentioned.

- The efforts of ancient people for better exploitation of water resources.

-B. TEXT EXPLORATION

(08 pts)

1.Find in the text words or expressions that are closer in meaning to:

- Essential (§1)
- Flourished (§2)
- Started (§3)

2. Give the opposites of the following words keeping the same root.

-Construct – appearance - known

3 .Join the following pairs using the connectors given. Make changes where necessary.

- Some ancient civilizations were established in desert areas. They had much water resources.(**Despite**)
- Ancient people built huge banks along rivers. Ancient people settled near rivers and valleys. (**After**)

4. Classify the following words according to the pronunciation of their final “ed”.

Convinced – educated – transformed – transmitted

/t/	/d/	/id/

5- Fill in each gap with the appropriate word from the list given:

started – now – first – land

The earliest civilizations developed in river valleys because the land was good for farming. The world's(1)..... civilization emerged in Mesopotamia. This(2)..... was between Tigris and Euphrates rivers, in what is(3)..... Iraq. People first(4)..... settling there in about 4500 BC.

PART TWO: WRITTEN EXPRESSION

- Choose either topic One or topic Two.

(05 points)

-Topic One:

-Your friend wants to visit Algeria and he/she asks for information about the Roman ruins in Algeria. Use the following notes to write an email to your friend about Tipaza.

- Located 70 km west of Algiers.
- The first Phoenician trading center.
- Became Roman military colony by the emperor Claudius.
- Destroyed by the Vandals in 430 AD.
- Reconstructed by the Byzantines one century later.
- Destroyed again by Umayyad forces.

- Topic Two: You visited Egypt and you were fascinated by the pyramids, the oldest and best preserved of all ancient wonders, which were built about 2600 BC. Write a poster of about 80 to 100 words for your school wall magazine telling about your visit and the fascinating Egyptian old structures.