

Unit  
**2**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Pretest

**DIRECTIONS** Read each statement. Decide whether it is true of ancient Mesopotamia, ancient Egypt, or ancient Nubia. Select *M* for Mesopotamia, *E* for Egypt, or *N* for Nubia.

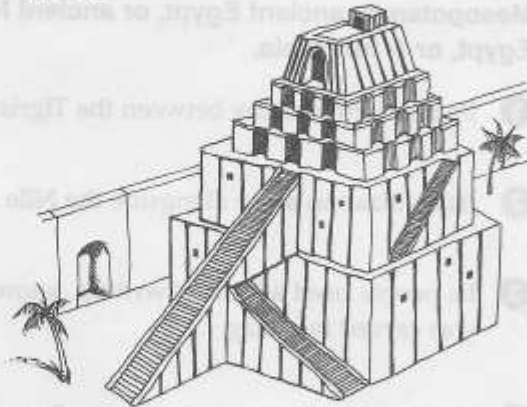
- 1 Its rich farmland lay between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.      M      E      N
- 2 Its civilization arose alongside the Nile River.      M      E      N
- 3 Its people used a form of writing, known as cuneiform, that was carved into clay.      M      E      N
- 4 In this area, the people known as Sumerians were great inventors.      M      E      N
- 5 The kings of Kush grew wealthy from trade in this area.      M      E      N
- 6 In this area, the city of Meroë was a meeting point for traders from across Africa.      M      E      N
- 7 Historians separate the ruling families of this civilization into the Old Kingdom, the Middle Kingdom, and the New Kingdom.      M      E      N
- 8 Pyramids built in this area were the largest stone constructions in the world.      M      E      N
- 9 The emperor Hammurabi collected and organized the laws of this land.      M      E      N
- 10 Hieroglyphic writing and elaborate tombs reveal this culture's strong belief in the afterlife.      M      E      N

(continued)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS** Answer the questions in the space provided.

- 11 This drawing shows a large, high structure called a ziggurat. Each Mesopotamian city had a ziggurat, mainly for religious reasons. What do you think the ziggurat shows about the culture that built it?



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

- 12 What major changes were brought about by the invention of writing?

---

---

---

---

- 13 Some ancient rulers became conquerors of other cultures and lands, creating empires. What were some reasons for building an empire?

---

---

---

---

© Harcourt