PHYSICAL FEATURES
What are the geographical advantages of deserts and mountains to a civilization?
Protection from enemies. Mountain snow provides water for rivers.

What are the geographical disadvantages of deserts and mountains to a civilization?
Difficult to farm. Barrier to other parts of the world/trading.

What are the geographical advantages of settling along rivers and seas?
Fertile soil for farming. Easy access for trading.

What are the geographical disadvantages of settling along rivers and seas?
Flooding can destroy crops, homes. Easy attack route for enemies.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS
In ancient civilizations, was writing common among the people?
No.

Who was responsible for most of the writing?
Scribes.

What kind of things would they record?
Sales and trades, taxes, gift to the gods, births/deaths.

What materials did a scribe use, and where did they find those materials?
Clay from the rivers shaped into tablets.

UNIQUE SOCIAL ASPECTS
Who were the Israelites?
People who were part of a small empire south of Phoenicia.

Where did they live?
Jordan River Valley.

How did the Israelites view their leaders?
Leaders were humans chose by God.

What religion did the Israelites practice?
Judaism.

What is Judaism?
Monotheism. Sacred text is the Torah. Core beliefs were the Ten Commandments.

Why was it significant to other civilizations (list 2 civilizations it affected)?
It influenced Islam and Christianity, spreading to civilizations around the world.

ECONOMY
What does it mean to trade?
Exchange of goods.
Who were the Phoenicians?
People who lived along the Mediterranean Sea in an area known as Phoenicia.
It was a thriving wealthy region.

What did the Phoenicians use to communicate with other traders along the Mediterranean Sea?
A written alphabet.

How did this make communication easier among traders along the Mediterranean Sea?
Everyone could communicate using the same written language, even though they spoke different languages.

How did they become a sea power?
Established trading centers along the Mediterranean Sea.

What types of things did the Phoenicians trade?
Wood (Cedar) and purple dyed clothing.

Who were the Babylonians?
People who lived in the Babylonian Empire.

Why was Babylon important?
It was the center of trade within the Babylonian Empire.

Where did the Babylonians trade their goods?
In bazaars, a common marketplace.

**GOVERNMENT / MILITARY**

What was Hammurabi's Code?
A organized set of laws.

What civilization was it found in?
The Babylonian Empire.

Why is it significant?
First time laws were written down; everyone knew the punishments for breaking the laws.

What is an empire?
An area of many territories that is controlled by one government.

What happened as empires conquered each other?
They got bigger.

Where did an empire get all of its money?
Trading and agriculture (farming).

What kind of military tactics did the Assyrians use to conquer civilizations?
Battering ram. Charioteers.