

# PREHISTORY - MESOPOTAMIA -

## - EXAM QUESTION PRACTICE -

### PREHISTORY

1. What is the difference between prehistory and history?
2. Which is the longest period: Prehistory or History?
3. The word history comes from the ancient Greek word *historia*, what does it mean?
4. Why is Atapuerca such a significant archaeological site?
5. In which province in Spain is Atapuerca?
6. Which hominid did they find at Atapuerca?
7. What is our oldest relative in Western Europe?
8. Put the following hominids in chronological order, starting with the oldest:  
*Homo antecessor* - *Homo erectus* - *Homo sapiens* - *Australopithecus*  
- *Ardipithecus* - *Homo habilis* - *Neanderthal*
9. What are three periods of Prehistory?
10. What does bipedal mean?
11. What does Palaeolithic mean?
12. What does Neolithic mean?
13. Which of the three periods of Prehistory is the longest?
14. How many years ago did early humans appear in the Palaeolithic age?
15. What event marked the beginning of the Neolithic age?
16. How long ago was agriculture invented?
17. What was the first great revolution of mankind?
18. What invention changed Neolithic society?
19. Was Neolithic society sedentary or nomadic?
20. What is man's most important 'weapon'?
21. How many years ago did the Metal ages begin?

22. What type of society was Palaeolithic society? (H \_\_\_\_\_  
G \_\_\_\_\_)
23. What was the great discovery of the Palaeolithic age?
24. Fire was discovered in which age of Prehistory?
25. What type of stone did Palaeolithic man use for hunting, cutting and making fire?
26. Describe Palaeolithic art
27. Compare Palaeolithic art with Neolithic art, what are their differences?
28. Why is the fact that Palaeolithic man buried his dead important?
29. Where can you find the oldest paintings by man?
30. Where in France are there famous Palaeolithic paintings?
31. In the Neolithic age which crops were grown in the Middle East and Europe?
32. In the Neolithic age which crops were grown in Asia?
33. In the Neolithic age which crops were grown in the Americas?
34. Which were the first animals to be domesticated by man?
35. Why is agriculture the defining moment for civilization? (Because it meant man could....)
36. How did Neolithic society benefit from agriculture?
37. Before the invention of agriculture what did men and women do every day of his life?
38. Name the three types of megalithic monument?
39. Why is Stonehenge in England such a famous megalithic monument?
40. Did the pyramid in Egypt exist at the time of Stonehenge?
41. Which was the first metal to be used of the Metal Ages?
42. Bronze was made by melting which two metals together?
43. Which metal replaced Bronze?
44. Name the three metals of the Metal Ages?
45. Put in chronological order the three metals of the Metal Ages:  
Bronze, iron, copper
46. Where is the oldest Palaeolithic settlement in Catalunya?
47. What were the three most important inventions of the Metal Ages? (W \_\_\_\_\_, S \_\_\_\_\_, P \_\_\_\_\_)

48. What social change occurred during the Metal Ages?
49. Describe Neolithic art
50. What Neolithic invention was used for wool and making textiles?
51. What 'God' did Neolithic man believe in?
52. What does the word *necropolis* mean?
53. Where did Neolithic society bury their dead?
54. What is a dolmen?
55. On which continent did life begin?
56. The last continent to be occupied by man was \_\_\_\_\_.
57. Where was Europe's oldest ancestor found? (In the C\_\_\_\_\_)
58. Metal was discovered about \_\_\_\_\_ years ago.
59. Fire was discovered about \_\_\_\_\_ years ago.
60. Agriculture was invented about \_\_\_\_\_ years ago.
61. What were the four principle crops planted by Neolithic man?
62. How do you think they discovered how to make fire?
63. How do you think they invented the wheel?
64. Which came first: pottery or the wheel?
65. If we compressed all the history of Earth into just one year, at what point during the year did mankind appear?
66. Hunter-gatherer society was from which period of Prehistory?
67. Sedentary society began in which period of human Prehistory?
68. What does nomadic mean?
69. Why is a sedentary society better than a nomadic one?

## MESOPOTAMIA

70. What does *Mesopotamia* mean?
71. Mesopotamia was between which two rivers?
72. Why are rivers important for civilizations?
73. Name three of Mesopotamia's civilizations?
74. Name at least one famous Mesopotamian king?
75. What was the name of Mesopotamian writing?
76. What was the first use for writing?

77. Name two other ancient civilizations, often referred to as 'river civilizations'?
78. Kings in these civilizations did three things: led the a\_\_\_\_\_, made the L\_\_\_\_\_ and was the r\_\_\_\_\_ leader.
79. The river civilizations had three common characteristics: P\_\_\_\_\_ power; S\_\_\_\_\_ hierarchy; large-scale b\_\_\_\_\_ works.
80. Writing was used to remember: T\_\_\_\_\_, t\_\_\_\_\_ and p\_\_\_\_\_
81. Which was the biggest city in the world 5,000 years ago?
82. Which was the first city in the world?
83. What was the first building constructed in the world's first city?
84. Were there slaves in the world's first civilization?
85. The Mesopotamians were *polytheistic*? What does this mean?
86. What was Hammurabi's Code?
87. Name one law from Hammurabi's Code?
88. Why is Eridu famous in world history?
89. Who or what was Gilgamesh?
90. What was the name for a temple in Mesopotamia?
91. Name one famous story from Mesopotamia?
92. Which Mesopotamian empire ruled the largest territory?
93. Which civilization conquered Mesopotamia in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC and thus ended Mesopotamian civilization?
94. In architecture the Mesopotamians invented which two things? V\_\_\_\_\_ and the a\_\_\_\_\_
95. What were scribes?
96. True or false: the scribes were the most important people in Mesopotamian society after the king.
97. Name one famous story from Mesopotamia that is also mentioned in the Old Testament of the Bible. The Epic of G\_\_\_\_\_