# History of the Fertile Crescent

## COMPREHENSION AND CRITICAL THINKING

1. farming, cities; Students may also present logical arguments to support "social hierarchy" or "religion" as economic structures.
2. the arts, writing, trade
3. Accept answers that students can support, such as farming, religion, and invention.

## SECTION 1

### Call-Out Boxes

1. the Tigris and Euphrates rivers
2. wheat, barley
3. Flooding destroyed crops, killed livestock, and washed away homes. When water levels were too low, crops dried up.
4. from rivers
5. cities

### Challenge Activity

Students' proposals should include the irrigation methods mentioned in the chapter: storage basins, canals, a network of ditches to bring water to fields and grazing areas.

## SECTION 2

### Call-Out Boxes

1. more people live in the cities
2. about 700 miles
3. Answers will vary but should demonstrate an understanding of the role that religion can play in public life today.
4. They made offerings to them.
5. priests and nobles

### Challenge Activity

Students' letters should reflect an awareness of the king's and priests' positions within the social hierarchy of Sumer.

## SECTION 3

### Call-Out Boxes

1. cuneiform
2. picture symbols that represent objects
3. the ox-drawn plow
4. Most people lived in one-story houses with rooms arranged around a small courtyard.
5. stringed instruments, reed pipes, drums, and tambourines

### Challenge Activity

possible answers—writing: this list, classwork, homework; the wheel: traveling to school, riding a bike, skating

## SECTION 4

### Call-Out Boxes

1. Euphrates River
2. so everyone could see the laws
3. Hittites, Kassites, Assyrians, and Chaldeans
4. Sumerian civilization
5. Mediterranean Sea

### Challenge Activity

Students' time lines should include the following: 1800 BC—Babylon rises on the Euphrates, 1595 BC—Hittites of Asia Minor capture Babylon, 1600 BC–1200 BC—Kassites rule Babylon, 1200 BC—Assyrians conquer Mesopotamia, 612 BC—Chaldeans drive Assyrians from power

# Judaism and Christianity

## COMPREHENSION AND CRITICAL THINKING

1. Christianity
2. Judaism
3. Gospels written by Apostles

## SECTION 1

### Call-Out Boxes

1. Abraham
2. the scattering of Jews outside of Israel
3. there is one and only one God
4. by studying Judaism's sacred texts and honoring Jewish traditions and holy days

### Challenge Activity

Students' recommendations will vary. Have them give reasons for their suggestions based on which aspect of Jewish history they find most interesting.

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