

Name _____

Period _____

How was the Indus Valley Civilization Similar to and Different From Ancient Mesopotamia and Ancient Egypt?

Directions: Think about the three Ancient Civilizations we have studied so far. Write down any similarities you can think of between the Indus Valley and Ancient Egypt and/or Ancient Mesopotamia. Also, write down some differences between the three as well. Write down as many as you can.

<u>Similarities</u>	<u>Differences</u>
On a River Floodplain	Indus was only recently discovered
Used Stamps/Seals (M)	Indus Grew Rice and Cotton
Warm, Dry Climate	Indus had monsoons
Existed around the same time	Indus writing has not been deciphered
Agriculture	Indus used oven-baked bricks (M)
Flooding left rich soil called silt	Indus did not last as long
Grew Barley, Wheat	M & E were surrounded by desert
Traded with other civilizations	Indus had straight streets
All had some form of writing	Indus had very advanced sewer system
Used Boats for transportation	Indus - Fortress (Citadel) in center of city
Fished for food	E had pyramids for pharaoh
Wore jewelry	M built Ziggurats to their gods
All had a Division of Labor	Indus had poor weapons
Surplus of Food	Indus domesticated chickens
All used irrigation	Pigtails originated in Indus
All had some form of government	Indus ruled by merchants
All practiced polytheism	Indus had best buildings for commoners
Walled cities (M)	Indus had private bathrooms/drinking wells
Children had toys	Indus used fish hooks

Similarities	Differences
Domestication of Animals	Indus domesticated elephant
Used Wooden Plow	Indus raised Water Buffalo
Used bronze and copper	Indus had no large statues
Made Pottery	Indus built cities on top of each other
Wore amulets (E)	Indus had no wall carvings/tomb paintings
Used a barter system	Indus Valley had no slaves
Wore makeup (E)	
Practiced music and dancing	
Used the wheel	

After reading about the Indus Valley Civilization,
make a list of possible explanations for its disappearance

- Earthquake (Natural Disaster)
- Invasion by Aryans
- Indus River changed course
- Cattle overgrazing (Over-use of resources)
- Soil becomes less fertile - expansion of desert
- People Migrated
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