Mohamed Bachir Boumaaza High School

Level: **Third year L** **First Term Exam** **Time : 3 hours**

Part one: Reading (14pts)

A – Comprehension. (7pts)

Read the text carefully then do the activities.

Civilization is said to have started in Sumer, an ancient country of southern Mesopotamia (the land between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers) in present-day southern Iraq.

In about 7200 B.C. a settlement developed in Anatolia, south central Turkey. About 6000 Neolithic people lived there, in fortifications of linked rectangular mud-brick buildings. Food was mostly hunted or gathered, but the inhabitants also raised animals and stored surplus grains. Until recently, however, it was thought the earliest civilizations began somewhat further south, in Sumer.

For civilization to develop, the land must be fertile enough to support an expanding population. Not only did early populations need a soil rich in nutrients, but also water. The two rivers Mesopotamia lay between were the Tigris and the Euphrates. Sumer came to be the name of the southern area near where the Tigris and Euphrates emptied into the Persian Gulf. When the Sumerians arrived in about 4000 B.C. **they** found two groups of people, the one referred to by archaeologists as Ubaidians and the other, an unidentified Semitic people. In the next couple of centuries the Sumerians developed technology and trade, while they increased in population.

With the increase in trade the Sumerians needed to keep records. The Sumerians may have learned the rudiments of writing from their predecessors, but they enhanced it. **Their** counting marks, made on clay tablets, were wedge-shaped indentations known as cuneiform. The Sumerians also developed monarchy, the wooden wheel to help draw their carts, the plough for agriculture, and the oar for their ships.

1 – Are these statements true or false?

a) – In ancient civilizations, people raised animals and stored surplus grains.
b) – The earliest civilizations developed in the north of Turkey.
c) – The Sumerians invented a new form of writing to keep their records.
d) – The counting grades were made on animals ' skins.

2 –a- In which paragraph it is mentioned that

a) – writing helps in the development of the Sumerian trade
b) – the settlement of the Neolithic people.

3- What do the underlined words refer to ?

They 3§ = Their 4§ =

4 – Answer the following questions according to the text.

a) – what did ancient civilizations need to develop?
b) – Mention two signs of the development of the Sumerian civilization.
c) – Why did the Sumerians use the cuneiforms?

5– Choose the most appropriate title for the reading passage.

a) - The Sumerian Civilization b) - The Sumerians c) - Sumer, a land of civilizations

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B – Text Exploration. (7pts)

1 – Find in the text the words whose definitions follow

a) – rise (§4) b) – to keep something to be used later (§2)

2 – Fill in the table with the missing word category:

Verb	Noun	Adjective
……	civilization	……
……	……	thoughtful

3 – Select the appropriate connector to join the following pairs of sentences. Make changes where necessary.

although - after - because - thus

1 – **a-**The Sumerians arrived to the south region.**b-** The settlement of the Neolithic people.

2– **a-**The living conditions were very difficult. **b**-The Sumerians built a great civilization.

4 – Reorder the following sentences to make a coherent paragraph.

a) – Today, monumental ruins inspire the imaginations of tourists and writers everywhere.

b) – The ancient Egyptians developed many construction techniques.

c) – But it was a hard work and took a long time to build them.

d) – that facilitated the building of monumental pyramids and temples.

5 – Classify these words according to the pronunciation of their final "ed".

started - emptied - developed - needed - enhanced - lived

/t/	/d/	/id/
……	……	……

Part two: Written expression. (6pts)

Write a composition of **100** words on **one** of the following topics.

Choose

Either topic one:

Explain why most of the ancient civilizations developed along rivers.

You may use these ideas:

Water for agriculture / daily household use / irrigating lands / farming / breeding animals / transport / building…

Or topic two:

Write a letter to one of your pen friends to invite her/him to visit a famous historical place in your region. Locate the place, say what is it famous for and what people, who used to live there, could do and invent.

Good Luck ☺ ♥

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