

CHAPTER  
**2**

**BUILDING VOCABULARY** *Early River Valley  
Civilizations*

**A. Matching** Match the description in the second column with the term or name in the first column. Write the appropriate letter next to the word.

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|---------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. cultural diffusion | a. Egyptian writing system in which symbols stood for sounds as well as ideas                 |
| ___ 2. empire             | b. seasonal winds that dominate India's climate   |
| ___ 3. polytheism         | c. group of peoples, nations, or previously independent states under the control of one ruler |
| ___ 4. theocracy          | d. paperlike writing surface that the Egyptians made from reeds                               |
| ___ 5. hieroglyphics      | e. the belief in more than one god  |
| ___ 6. papyrus            | f. fertile soil that forms a yellowish silt and is deposited when the Huang He overflows      |
| ___ 7. monsoon            | g. process in which a new idea or a product spreads from one culture to another               |
| ___ 8. loess              | h. type of government in which rule is based on religious authority                           |

**B. Multiple Choice** Circle the letter before the term or name that best completes the sentence.

- The Babylonian ruler who put together a single, uniform code of laws was (a) Narmer (b) Hammurabi (c) Herodotus.
- An arc of land in Southwest Asia that provided rich farming land in ancient times is called the (a) Fertile Crescent (b) Harappan civilization (c) Mandate of Heaven.
- A series of rulers from a single family is a (a) pharaoh (b) dynasty (c) theocracy.
- The earliest civilization in Asia arose in (a) the Indus Valley (b) the Huang He Valley (c) Mesopotamia.
- The Indus Valley civilization is also called the (a) Harappan civilization (b) Egyptian civilization (c) Shang dynasty.
- The Chinese view that royal authority came from the gods is called the (a) dynastic cycle (b) feudalism (c) Mandate of Heaven.

**C. Writing** Write a paragraph describing how the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, and China were governed using the following terms.

city-state      dynasty      pharaoh      feudalism