**Chapter 2.1 Notes: The Land Between Two Rivers**

**Vocabulary**

**Scribe:**

**Fertile Crescent:**

**City-state:**

**Polytheism:**

**Myth:**

**The Land Between Two Rivers**

The first known schools were set up in the city of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years ago.

Sumerian schools taught boys and girls the new invention of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Graduates of the schools became \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or professional \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Why were scribes important in Sumer?

**The Geographic Setting**

* Sumer is located in the region of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Mesopotamia is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ word meaning \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Mesopotamia is part of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

What geographical features made life in the Fertile Crescent possible?

Why do you think people continued to live in the Fertile Crescent despite the threat of floods?

**Rivers of Life and Death**

 The two rivers that surrounded Mesopotamia are:

1.
2.

The benefits of these rivers include:

*
*

The downside of these rivers include:

*

 **The First Cities**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ encouraged the growth of cities.

List two things that cities in Sumer shared:

1.
2.

Sumerian cities did not have the same \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Instead they ran as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Each city had their own \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

In the space below, list some of the key features of a Sumerian city (what did the city look like?):

**Sumerian Religion**

Each city included a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or temple to the main\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the city.

Activities that took place at temples include:

*
*
*

Some Ziggurats were more than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ high.

What did the Sumerians believe these temples were used for?

Sumerians worshipped \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This is known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

How did the temple priests care for the statues of gods and goddesses?

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ beliefs of the Sumerians tell us:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was also a way to express what was important to them.

**The Fall of Sumer**

 For Sumer, its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ became its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Rulers fought over \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ use.

Around 2300 B.C. Sumer was conquered by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The ruler \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ united the city-states.

He also improved Sumer’s:

For how long did the states stay united?

It fell to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rival, Babylonia, in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.