

# ABOUT THIS PACKET

The Reading Passages in this packet allow students to work on comprehension skills after reading the passage several times searching for evidence.

| TASK  | OVERVIEW  |
|---|---|
| <b>TASK 1:<br/>FILL IN THE BLANKS</b>         | Using Close Reading strategies, students will use context clues to fill in the missing words in the reading passage. This will then be used as the main passage to use for the remaining tasks. |
| <b>TASK 2:<br/>VOCABULARY</b>                 | The vocabulary activity helps kids identify and understand new or unfamiliar words before they complete further activities.   |
| <b>TASK 3:<br/>RESPOND</b>                    | Students will choose from three writing prompts and write their answer to just one of them using complete sentences.  |
| <b>TASK 4:<br/>TRUE OR FALSE</b>              | Students complete this activity to show overall comprehension of the passage. They may refer back to the passage when necessary. In the end, they add up the TRUE statements.                   |
| <b>TASK 5:<br/>MULTIPLE CHOICE</b>            | For a quick formative check for understanding, students will answer 10 multiple choice questions.   |
| <b>TASK 6: WORD SEARCH</b>                    | Students will search for key vocabulary words related to the topic. Several unused letters will spell out a secret message.   |
| <b>FINAL TASK:<br/>SUMMARY<br/>(OPTIONAL)</b> | This is an optional summary graphic organizer to use if needed. Could be used for early finishers as an extension activity, or as a final check for understanding.                              |
| GRADE LEVEL                                   | RANGE   |
| 4   | MIDDLE  |
| 4   | END   |
| 5   | BEGINNING   |
| 5   | MIDDLE  |
| 5   | END   |
| 6   | BEGINNING   |
| 6   | MIDDLE  |
| 6   | END   |
| 7   | BEGINNING   |

# TASK #1: FILL IN THE BLANK



EARN THIS!

Directions: Use the words below to fill in the reading.

|          |        |         |
|----------|--------|---------|
| rivers   | canals | power   |
| 1712 BC  | Code   | moon    |
| Akkadian | Iraq   | capital |

The Babylonian Empire was in Mesopotamia near modern-day \_\_\_\_\_. It was located between the Tigris and Euphrates River in the Middle East. In Greek, Mesopotamia means "land between the \_\_\_\_\_." It was one of the earliest civilizations, which is a group of people living together with their own government and way of life. At its peak, the city of Babylon was the largest city with 200,000 people living there.

Babylon means "gate to the gods" and the city used to be part of Sumer. However, over time it grew in size and \_\_\_\_\_, and Babylonians did not speak the Sumerian language. Ultimately, King Hammurabi chose Babylon as the \_\_\_\_\_ of Babylonia. He dedicated Babylon to the all-important god, Marduk. Other Babylonian deities (gods) include Ea - the god of wisdom and spells; Shamash - god of sun and justice; Sin - the \_\_\_\_\_ god; Ishtar - goddess of love and war; and Adad - the god of wind, storm, and floods.

Babylonia began as a city-state controlled by the powerful Akkadian Empire. Over time, the empire lost its power and was invaded by a group called the Amorites. The \_\_\_\_\_ Empire came to an end and Babylon began to slowly rise in power and became the center of Mesopotamia.

The city of Babylon began its rise to power in \_\_\_\_\_ under the reign of King Hammurabi. Hammurabi wanted to take control of other cities and slowly invaded surrounding cities. He set up a tax paying system so he could use the money to build walls for protection and \_\_\_\_\_ in the river. The city was located by the Euphrates River, making it the perfect location for trading.

Hammurabi was a great leader and developed relationships with other powerful leaders. He also created the \_\_\_\_\_ of Hammurabi which was the written law of Babylon and the first ever laws to be written down on clay tablets. The laws were also inscribed on tall stone pillars called steles. It had a total

# TASK #4: TRUE OR FALSE

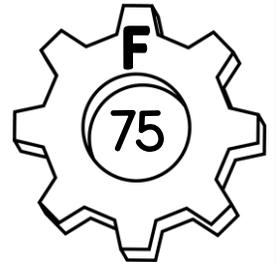


EARN THIS!

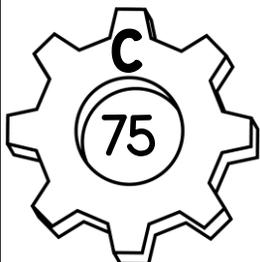
Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color the gear that corresponds to that question. If it is false, cross out the gear. When you are finished add the **TOTAL** of ALL TRUE gears.



**A.** Babylon means "stairs to the heavens."

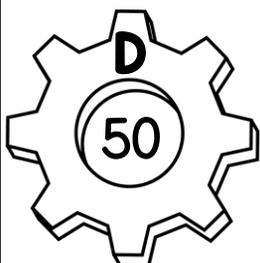
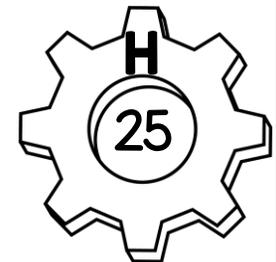


**B.** The Sumerians were the first civilization in Mesopotamia.



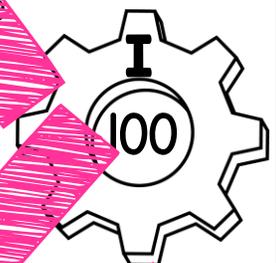
**C.** Hammurabi's Code included 282 judgements or laws.

**D.** Adad was the god of wind, storm, and floods.



**E.** In 539 BC, the Neo-Babylonian Empire, under the rule of Nabonidus, came to an end.

**F.** The Babylonian Empire was mostly in the country known today as China.

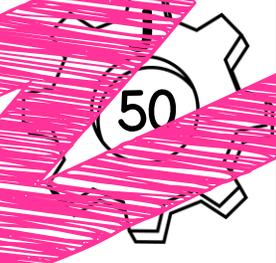


**G.** The Ishtar Gate was one of the eight gates of the Babylon city.

**H.** The Babylonians spoke using the Akkadian language.

**I.** Most cities in Mesopotamia had large religious structures called a perseopolis.

**J.** In Greek, Mesopotamia means "land between the rivers."



**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

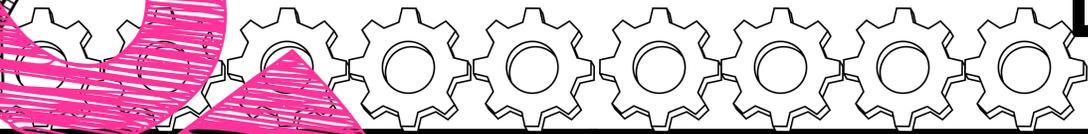
# TASK #5: MULTIPLE CHOICE



EARN THIS!



Complete the multiple choice questions below by circling the correct answer.



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. The Babylonian Empire was mostly in the country known today as _____.<br>A. Pakistan<br>B. Iraq<br>C. India<br>D. China         | 6. Mesopotamia was located between the _____ and Euphrates River.<br>A. Danube<br>B. Amazon<br>C. Tigris<br>D. Seine                         |
| 2. Who conquered the Babylonian Empire?<br>A. Cyrus the Great<br>B. King Henry VI<br>C. Darius the Great<br>D. Alexander the Great | 7. Who was the god of wisdom and spells?<br>A. Ishtar<br>B. Ea<br>C. Shamash<br>D. Marduk  |
| 3. The Babylonians spoke using the _____ language.<br>A. Byzantine<br>B. Ottoman<br>C. Sumerian<br>D. Akkadian                     | 8. The Kassites ruled for over _____ years.<br>A. 400 years<br>B. 600 years<br>C. 800 years<br>D. 1000 years                                 |
| 4. The city of Babylon began its rise to power in _____.<br>A. 649 BC<br>B. 1792 BC<br>C. 1436 BC<br>D. 878 BC                     | 9. Most cities in Mesopotamia had large religious structures called _____.<br>A. Step pyramids<br>B. Steles<br>C. Persepolis<br>D. Ziggurats |
| 5. What word means 'gate to the gods'?<br>A. Ziggurat<br>B. Stele<br>C. Babylon<br>D. Hammurabi                                    | 10. Hammurabi's Code included _____ judgements or laws.<br>A. 282<br>B. 382<br>C. 482<br>D. 582  |

# BOT CARDS

Complete all 6 tasks correctly, then color and assemble your robot.



# Brilliant Bot Builder



a *read*

*For successfully  
completing 6 reading  
comprehension tasks.*



# SPARK SOME

# *creativity*

**ESCAPE  
ROOMS**

**SCAVENGER  
HUNTS**

**SPY  
MYSTERY**

**TEXT  
DETECTIVE**

**SECRET  
MESSAGES**

**THINKTIVITY**

**BREAKOUTS**

**READING  
CHALLENGE**

**INTERACTIVE  
NOTEBOOK**

**DIGITAL  
ESCAPES**

**DIGITAL  
BOARD  
GAME**

**COLOR BY  
NUMBER**

**TASK  
CARDS  
GAME**

**GOOGLE  
SLIDES**

**GOOGLE  
FORMS**

**PUZZLE  
STATIONS**

**BOOM  
CARDS**

**BLOG**