

ABOUT THIS PACKET

Each reading passage in this packet allows students to work on comprehension skills after reading the passage several times searching for evidence.

OVERVIEW

THE CASE

Read the case aloud to your students so they understand the mission.

QUESTIONS

There are 18 questions to be answered by reading the passage and marking the text evidence.

CLUES

After answering each question, the students will **mark off** their answer choice on their answer sheet. After all questions have been answered, the suspect, evidence, and location will be revealed.

GRADE LEVEL

RANGE

4

BEGINNING

4

MIDDLE

5

BEGINNING

5

MIDDLE

5

END

6

BEGINNING

6

MIDDLE

6

END

7

BEGINNING

SUMERIANS

The Sumerians were believed to be the first known civilization to exist. A civilization is a group of people with their own way of life. The Sumerians lived in Ancient Mesopotamia, which was located in the Middle East between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. The area includes parts of modern-day Iraq, Kuwait, Syria, Turkey, and Iran. Mesopotamia was known as "the land between two rivers." Because of its location between the rivers, it was a great place for the Sumerians to thrive (to do well) because of the fertile soil for crops.

The Sumer were known for many inventions. One was the invention a wedge-shaped writing called cuneiform, which consisted of 500 pictographs. This was a form of writing that was made by pressing symbols into wet clay tablets using tools such as a reed (a type of plant). Much of the history known today is because of the records kept on clay tablets using this writing. Another invention they are credited with is the wheel, which they created to add to carts to make them easier to pull.

Sumerians were very good at mathematics and astronomy. In mathematics, they developed a number system that was based on the number 60. This is the reason there are 60 minutes in an hour today. They did division and multiplication and even wrote a multiplication table on clay tablets. In astronomy, they studied the solar system. The Sumerians developed a calendar based on the moon and the sun, with their months consisting of thirty days.

The Sumer civilization had four social classes: priests, upper class, lower class, and enslaved persons. The people were divided based on their wealth and power. The kings were the rulers of religion and government. The Sumerian word for king is 'lugal' which means 'big man'. Kings and priests were at the top because of their connection with the gods. The upper class were those who were wealthy but not as powerful as the kings, while the lower class were the working people.

3

What did Sargon's kingdom become known as?



Nannu



Babylonia



Akkad



Uruk

4

Who was the father of the gods and the sky?



Anu



Nannu



Enki



Enlil

5

How many major city-states did the Sumer have?



2



6



8



12

6

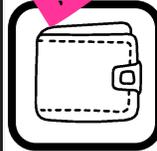
What was the capital city of the Sumer?



Eridu



Ur



Nippur



Akkad

7

Where was Ancient Mesopotamia located?



Italy



Greece



Southern Africa



Middle East

8

Mesopotamia was known as "the land between two _____."



Mountains



Clouds



Trees



Rivers

9

The Sumer pressed symbols into wet clay tablets using tools such as a _____.



Scribe



Reed



Pencil



Twine

10

Historians believe that _____ was the first city ever created.



Akkad



Eridu



Uruk



Athens

CASE FILE

Cross out the images you use as an answer. What remains will solve the case!

SUSPECTS



LOCATION



EVIDENCE



CONGRATULATIONS

YOU SOLVED
THE CASE!



LEAD DETECTIVE NAME:

CONGRATULATIONS

YOU SOLVED
THE CASE!



LEAD DETECTIVE NAME:



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