## Key Concept 1.3: The Development & Interactions of Early Agricultural, Pastoral & Urban Societies

About 5,000 years ago, “civilization” began in the following foundational areas:

- Egypt
- Mesopotamia
- Indus Valley
- Huang Ho River Region
- Nile Valley
- Andean Region

**Know These Six Geographic Locations**

Don’t waste your life delving deep into these societies. Instead focus on the following similarities:

- These were large, powerful states
- Agricultural surpluses allowed specialization
- Cities with complex bureaucrat., religion, armies, etc.
- Long distance trading relationships
- Growth had to be balanced against environmental constraints
- War (& war technologies) coincided with the increase of wealth (both with other civilizations & nomads/pastoralists)

The CollegeBoard divides these foundational/core civilizations into two categories:

### Culture

**Architecture**
- Monumental; Ziggurats, walls, roads, sewers

**Elites & Art**
- Promoted the arts from sculpture to weaving

**Record Keeping**
- Cuneiform, hieroglyphs, alphabets, quipu

**Legal Codes**
- Reflected the hierarchies (see Hammurabi)

**Religion**
- Developed here; huge impact later on

**Trade**
- Expanded to include ideas, technology, etc.

**Social/Gender Hierarchy**
- Growth coincided with Empire/state growth

**Literature**
- Reflected the culture of the authors

### Politics

**Leaders**
- Mobilized surplus resources over large areas
- Usually divine with support from the army

**Competition for Resources**
- The better your location, the bigger your society (see Jared Diamond)
- Ex. Hittites had a huge iron deposit
- Easier for them to build empires
- Ex. Mesopotamia, Babylonia, Nile

**Pastoral Innovation**
- Developed/disseminated new weapons and transportation methods to use against the more settled agrarian civilizations

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**Freeman-Pedia**