

Answers

The Growth of Egyptian Civilization

Read p. 148-154 in *Art in Focus* and then answer the following questions.

1. Around 5000 B.C., prehistoric hunters and their families settled in the fertile valley of the Nile River.
2. As far as experts can tell, the prehistoric hunters and their families came from western Asia.
3. The prehistoric hunters and their families are seen as direct ancestors of most Egyptian peoples.
4. Each summer, the Nile River valley ^{flooded} its banks and deposited layers of fertile soil in the valley.
5. Through living in a fertile environment, people gradually changed from food gatherers to food producers.
6. True or false: An Egyptian civilization emerged along the banks of the Nile more than 3000 years before the birth of Christ.

7. What is a **pharaoh**?

A pharaoh or ruler governed with complete authority.

8. Identify the names of the three main periods of Egyptian history.

① Old Kingdom

③ New Kingdom / Empire

② Middle Kingdom

9. What is a **dynasty**? It was a period during which a single family provided a succession of rulers.

10. Summarize each main period of Egyptian history. Write in point form.

The Old Kingdom:

- began around 3100 B.C. when Upper and Lower Egypt were united by a powerful pharaoh named Menes.
- Menes est. his capital at Memphis and founded the 1st of 31 Egyptian dynasties
- ended when independent nobles weakened the gov. est. by the pharaohs.
- ↳ split the country into small states.