



Subject Specific Vocabulary

ancient	Belonging to the distant past, especially to the period in history before the end of the Roman Empire (AD 410).
civilisations	A civilisation is a group of people with their own languages and way of life.
irrigation	The supply of water to land or crops to help them grow.
settler / settlement	People who migrate to a new place. When people start a community, this is a settlement.
society	People in general, thought of as a large organised group.
script	A script is any particular system of writing or the written means of human communication.
trade	The activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or services.
translate	To change into the words of another language.

Key Knowledge

The **Ancient Egypt**, **Ancient Sumer**, the **Shang Dynasty** and the **Ancient Indus Valley** civilisations were being developed around the same era as it was the Iron Age period in Britain around 2500BC.

All four civilisations grew up along a river. The reasons for this were:

- Water for irrigating farmland to grow crops
- Fishing for food
- Washing
- Hygiene
- Waste disposal
- Transport
- Religious reasons.

One of the greatest achievements of all four of the ancient civilisations was their writing and early number systems.

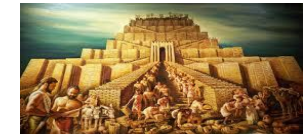
Where in the world?



Key Dates



Ancient Egyptian Civilisation
3,200BC – 30AD
(3,230 years)



Ancient Sumer Civilisation
3,200BC – 1,792BC
(1,408 years)



Shang Dynasty Civilisation
1,600BC – 1,046BC
(554 years)



Indus Valley Civilisation
2,600BC – 1,900BC
(700 years)

Chronology

Ancient Sumer

Ancient Egypt
2970 years

Indus Valley
800 years