

Comparing Mesopotamia to Egypt

	Mesopotamia	Egypt
Natural Defenses	Flat mud plains; few natural defenses	Many defenses: Nile delta, Sahara, Eastern Desert, and cataracts
Rivers	Tigris and Euphrates Rivers	Nile River
Floods	Unpredictable, and a constant threat to the people	Dependable and regular; not feared
Economy	Farming and trade	Farming and trade
Government	City-state led by kings and priests; eventually empires formed	Villages led by chiefs, then united into kingdoms; kingdoms later united and ruled by pharaohs
Work of Artisans	Metal products, pottery, cloth	Metal products, pottery, cloth
Advances	Cuneiform writing Number system based on 60 12-month calendar Wagon wheel, plow, sailboat	Hieroglyphic writing 365-day calendar Number system based on 10, and fractions Medicine and first medical books

MESOPOTAMIA

- Wheel, plow, sailboat
- City-states with kings and priests
- Unpredictable, threatening flooding
- Tigris and Euphrates Rivers
- Empires
- Few natural defenses

- Farmers
- Traders
- River Civilizations
- Artisans are same
- Writing System
- Number System
- Calendar System

EGYPT

- Medicine and first medical books
- Number system based on 10
- Nile River
- Many natural defenses
- Predictable flooding, not feared
- Villages with chiefs
- Empires with pharaohs