

Section 3: The Legacy of Mesopotamia  
The Fertile Crescent

## Reading Readiness Guide

### Anticipation Guide

How much do you think you know about the legacy of Mesopotamia? As your teacher reads the statements, mark whether you think each statement is true (T) or false (F) in the Me column. Then discuss your answers with your group and mark the group's decision in the Group column. As you read, look for information that will clarify whether the statements are true or false.

After you read the section, read the statements again and mark the After Reading column to indicate whether they are true or false.

Before Reading		Statements	After Reading
Me	Group		
		1. Hammurabi's Code, set down for the people of the empire of Babylonia to follow, had laws for such things as adopting children and practicing medicine.	
		2. According to Hammurabi's Code, a person who accidentally broke a law was not as guilty as a criminal.	
		3. If a victim of a crime was of a higher class, Hammurabi's Code stated that the person responsible for the crime would face a harsher punishment.	
		4. Hammurabi's Code was the first set of organized, recorded laws found in history.	
		5. Scribes, record keepers in Mesopotamia, kept their notes and records on an ancient type of paper.	
		6. Before using written words, people drew symbols to represent what they wanted to say.	

- 1.) What kind of justice did Hammurabi/Babylonians believe in?
- 2.) Were these the first laws? Explain.
- 3.) When was writing first developed?
- 4.) Why were scribes so important? List as many reasons as possible.
- 5.) What did the scribes write on?
- 6.) Where did they get this writing material?