

## Contextualization 5 (Set 4)

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### Analysis: History - Sumerian Civilization

#### Contextualization: Framing

This paper scores a 5 for framing; while there is not much framing for the Frey text, the scholar provides mostly reasonable framing for the definition of a civilization, the fact that Sumeria was the first civilization, and the location of Sumer within the Mesopotamia. This could have scored a six with framing of the Frey text and the time period.

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### Essay: History - Sumerian Civilization

Prompt: Was Sumer a civilization? Select 3 of the 7 indicators of civilizations to best defend your thesis.

#### Sumeria as a Civilization

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A civilization is an advanced community that includes the important seven indicators, which is essential to make a community a civilization. The first place to show the meaning of a civilization was Sumer, a city state in Mesopotamia. Sumer was a civilization. The indicators that proves Sumer was a civilization was technology, which made life easier, government, which kept life in Sumeria safe and orderly, and stable food supply, that represents how Sumerians control their food.

Technology is an important indicator that made Sumeria a civilization. A very important artifact that caused technology was the wheel. "Wheeled carts made it much easier to move goods over long distances, which was easier than before when they moved around sledges. A second artifact that proves technology was a bow. A bow is a weapon that Sumerians used in the wars that they faced. The bow helped defeat enemies far range without having to get close to the person battle them. The bow example in technology because it helped the army kill soldier/warriors easier. All this evidence proves technology helped make Sumeria a civilization.

Government is an important indicator that caused Sumer to become a civilization. An artifact that showed

Government was the laws of Sumeria. Government helped make laws that kept people from doing things they were not supposed to do. Laws show government because the laws kept from doing bad things like killing and murdering people. This kept the place safe and orderly. A second artifact that exemplified in Government was a king. "Governments have a ruler that leads the people of Sumeria" (Frey 40). This artifact represents government because the ruler kept the people orderly and was the ruler of the army. All this evidence shows how government made Sumer a civilization.

Stable food supply was a significant indicator that helped Sumer become a civilization. An irrigation system is one of the artifacts that the Sumerians left. "Sumerians built networks of canals, dams, reservoirs to provide their crops with a regular supply of water. These things are called complex irrigation systems all together" (Frey, 43). An irrigation system represents stable food supply because it is how they controlled water to be able to plant crops. A second most important artifact that is in the category of stable food supply is the plow. A plow is a tool that farmers used for turning the soil so that the ground is ready for the seeds. A plow represents stable food supply because it is the strategy they used to plant crops for food. All this evidence shows that stable food supplies helped make Sumer a civilization.

In conclusion, Sumer was a great civilization. Technology, government, and stable food supplies are three important indicators that prove Sumer is a great civilization. Sumer is one of the many reasons why cities/countries are civilizations with the help of Sumer. Sumer reflects on how city/countries are today. For example, many people today still use wheels to carry goods, and how they even use it as transportation. We also have many laws and rules (basically everywhere) that keep life in countries/cities safe and orderly. Cities/countries get most of these accomplishments from the foundational work of Sumer.