

The Rise of Sumer (page 62-66)

Sumer-an area in southern Mesopotamia

Most people were farmers.

Many city-states=city (urban) and surrounding areas (rural)

Wanted more land--so had strong armies, thick walls, fought each other.

Gilgamesh--legendary king in Sumerian Literature-1st superhero

Akkadians--new society and people

Sargon-king-1st to have a permanent army. Conquered all of Mesopotamia

1st empire-many lands and people under one ruler

After he died-many invaders/fighting

Sumarians finally regain control (Ur)

Religion in Sumer

Polytheism-worshipped many gods

**Each city had a god protector
Pleasing the gods brought success
Priests interpreted the god's wishes**

**Social hierarchy= Social order
(Division of society by rank or class)**

Kings (top)

Priests

Skilled craftsmen, merchants, traders

Farmers and laborers

Slaves (bottom)

Men- In politics and made laws

Women-Cared for home and children

Enheduanna-Sargon's daughter

1st known female writer (hymns)

Sumerian Achievements

Cuneiform-writing

clay tablets and reed stylus

Scribe=writer

Pictographs- Picture symbols (earliest)

**Writing--first for business, records
--later for history, laws, math
and literature**

**Epics--long poems that tell stories
(Gilgamesh)**

Advances and Inventions

Wheel, carts, wagons

Potter's wheel

Plow

Clock run by water

Sewers

Bronze for tools and weapons

Make-up

Glass Jewelry

Math and science

60 Number system

**Recorded lists of animals, plants,
minerals**

**Medicine from animals, plants and
minerals**

Medical knowledge

The Arts

Architecture

2 story homes-- some 12 rooms

Most 1 story--6 or 7 rooms

Courtyard

Mud bricks

Ziggurat (large temple to gods)

Arts

Statues-all sizes

Jewelry-gold, silver and gems

Cylinder Seals--rolling stamps

-to sign documents

-to decorate

**Music- reed pipes, drums,
tamborines, lyre (stringed
instrument)**

Dance

Singing