Early River Valley Civilizations

	Environment	Power & Authority	Science & Technology	Social Hierarchy
China Teacher Example	• Huang He flooding unpredictable • Mountains, deserts were natural barriers • Geographically isolated from other ancient civilizations	• Community and family more important than individual • Sharp divisions between nobles and peasants • Mandate of Heaven	• Writing • Silk • Coined money • Cast iron	1. Emperor 2. Nobles 3. Merchants and Artisans 4. Peasants
Egypt p. 44-49 p. 54-55	• Flooding of the Nile predictable • Nile an easy transportation link between Egypt's villages • Deserts were natural barriers	• Kingdom with strong government organization • Pharaohs ruling as gods • Pharaohs built pyramids	• Hieroglyphics • Pyramids • Mathematics, geometry • Medicine	1. Pharaoh 2. Aristocrats 3. Middle Class of merchants and scribes 4. Peasants 5. Slaves
Indus Valley p. 68-71	• Indus flooding unpredictable • Monsoon winds • Mountains, deserts were natural barriers	• Planned cities • Organized govt.	• Writing • Cities built on precise grid • Plumbing and sewage systems • Cotton weaving	Not Significant
Sumer p. 30-34	• Flooding of Tigris and Euphrates unpredictable • No natural barriers • Limited natural resources for making tools or buildings	• Independent city-states, often warring • City-states governed first by priests, then by generals who became kings • City-states eventually becoming empires	• Cuneiform • Astronomy • Mathematics • Number system based on 6 with 60 minutes and 360º • Calendars • Irrigation • Possibly the wheel	1. Ruling family and Priests 2. Middle class of lesser priests, scribes, merchants, and artisans 3. Peasants 4. Slaves