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| *Mesopotamia* | *Both* | *Egypt* |
| 1. The name means, **“the land between two rivers”** in Greek 2. Settled between the **Tigris and Euphrates Rivers** 3. Their rivers would flood unpredictably 4. Specialized in military skill because their lack of geographic boundaries left them vulnerable to invasion 5. Major cities: Babylon, Ur, Sumer, Akkad 6. Politically organized into **city-states (decentralized)** 7. Built **ziggurats** for religious worship 8. Found in modern day Iraq, Syria and Turkey 9. Created the first epic, ***The Epic of Gilgamesh*** 10. Established the earliest known writing system of **cuneiform** 11. Established the earliest known law code, ***“Hammurabi’s Law Code”*** | 1. Settled near rivers for irrigation 2. Facilitated trade with other civilizations 3. Political and religious leaders managed public works and infrastructure, like irrigation 4. Kept records with written languages 5. Government leadership passed through family lineage in a dynastic system. (power was passed from father to son) 6. Polytheistic religion 7. Citizens were divided into social classes 8. Slaves were used for agricultural production   3. Advanced studies in math to assist with large building projects | 1. Politically unified under a single ruler, the **pharaoh**   2. Located in modern day, Africa  26. Settled along the **Nile River**  27. Had predictable flooding of river, making irrigation organized and efficient   1. Geographic barriers protected settlement along the river   22. Local trade was effective and abundant due to easy travel along the river system using prevailing winds   1. Government systems functioned as a **theocracy** because the political leader was also the religious leader   15. Constructed pyramids for leaders so they could journey into a happy afterlife   1. Created a holy text known as the, ***Book of the Dead*** about the afterlife   12. Wrote in **hieroglyphs** on **papyrus** to communicate  6. Developed a calendar system to track river flooding |

Compare and Contrast – KEY

Compare and Contrast Mesopotamia and Egypt

## **Directions**: Pick a partner to work with. One partner should read the article on Mesopotamia and the other student should read the article on Egypt. As you read, determine which statements below apply to your assigned article. Write those statements under the correct topic below. Next, partner up and decide which statements apply to *both* civilizations.

1. Established the earliest known law code, ***“Hammurabi’s Law Code”***
2. Located in modern day, Africa
3. Advanced studies in math to assist with large building projects
4. The name means, **“the land between two rivers”** in Greek
5. Slaves were used for agricultural production
6. Developed a calendar system to track river flooding
7. Government leadership passed through family lineage in a dynastic system. (power was passed from father to son)
8. Polytheistic religion
9. Slaves were used for agricultural production
10. Built **ziggurats** for religious worship
11. Facilitated trade with other civilizations
12. Wrote in **hieroglyphs** on **papyrus** to communicate
13. Settled near rivers for irrigation
14. Major cities: Babylon, Ur, Sumer, Akkad
15. Constructed pyramids for leaders so they could journey into a happy afterlife
16. Found in modern day Iraq, Syria and Turkey
17. Settled between the **Tigris and Euphrates Rivers**
18. Political and religious leaders managed public works and infrastructure, like irrigation
19. Citizens were divided into social classes
20. Specialized in military skill because their lack of geographic boundaries left them vulnerable to invasion
21. Politically organized into **city-states (decentralized)**
22. Local trade was effective and abundant due to easy travel along the river system using prevailing winds
23. Their rivers would flood unpredictably
24. Created a holy text known as the, ***Book of the Dead*** about the afterlife
25. Kept records with written languages
26. Settled along the **Nile River**
27. Had predictable flooding of river, making irrigation organized and efficient
28. Politically unified under a single ruler, the **pharaoh**
29. Created the first epic, ***The Epic of Gilgamesh***
30. Established the earliest known writing system of **cuneiform**
31. Geographic barriers protected settlement along the river
32. Government systems functioned as a **theocracy** because the political leader was also the religious leader

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| *Mesopotamia* | *Both* | *Egypt* |
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