

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Waterfront Living

Mesopotamia, the "land between the rivers" is an obvious place for a civilization because it is located near two sources of water: the Tigris River and the Euphrates River. Ancient Egypt developed along the Nile River. Most people live near water. When you locate any large city on a map, you'll probably find water nearby. People need the water for drinking, cooking, cleaning and transportation.



Many cities formed where freshwater rivers meet the ocean. New York City is located where the Hudson River meets the Atlantic Ocean. In America, New York City has a harbor. A harbor is a place where ships can seek shelter from stormy weather. Chicago grew alongside

the point where the Chicago River flows into Lake Michigan. The point where two rivers meet is known as a confluence. St. Louis, Missouri is situated near the confluence of the Mississippi and the Missouri Rivers.

A few cities are not near a significant source of water. Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and Tehran, Iran once had sources of water that no longer exist. Johannesburg, South Africa developed after the discovery of gold in 1886. The Chattahoochee River near Atlanta, Georgia is not a significant source of water. Atlanta developed as a trading city because it was the point where two railroads met. Modern technology has made it possible to bring water to very dry places, but for most of history it was necessary for a city to be near a source of water.

### Fill in the Blanks

Most cities are located near w\_\_\_\_\_ because until the m\_\_d\_\_rn age, it was the easier to move goods and people over w\_\_t\_\_r than over l\_\_\_\_\_. A local source of water was also necessary for d\_\_i\_\_k\_\_ng, cooking and c\_\_e\_\_n\_\_ng. Mesopotamia is located between the T\_\_\_\_\_ and E\_\_\_\_\_ Rivers; the civilization of Ancient Egypt developed along the banks of the N\_\_\_\_\_ River. In the United States, Chicago grew near the point where the C\_\_\_\_\_ River flows into Lake M\_\_\_\_\_. St. Louis, Missouri is located near the c\_\_n\_\_l\_\_e\_\_ce of the M\_\_s\_\_i\_\_s\_\_p\_\_i and M\_\_s\_\_o\_\_ri Rivers. While it is now possible to bring water to very \*d\_\_\_\_ places, throughout history, most cities developed near h\_\_r\_\_o\_\_s or alongside r\_\_v\_\_rs.

### Answer in complete sentences

1. Why is it important for people to live near water?

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2. Why do you think it is important for a city to be near a harbor?

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\*3. Almost every major city is located near a body of water. Use an encyclopedia to find the body of water near each city listed. I've asked you to find five, and select the sixth city on your own.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania		Tokyo, Japan	
Los Angeles, California		Seoul, South Korea	
Seattle, Washington			

NOTE: I will accept a parent signature if you do not have Internet access, but you must complete this section when we discuss it in class.

\*This is a higher order learning question. You must answer the question to the best of your ability, but any reasonable answer will be graded as correct.