Ancient River Valley Civilizations

**Locations**
- Mesopotamia
  - Tigris & Euphrates
- Egypt
  - Nile
- Indus River Valley
  - Indus
- China
  - Huang He

**Characteristics of Civilization**
- Division of Labor
- Complex Social Institutions
  - Ex. Government, Religion
- Advanced Technology
- Calendar
- Written Language (Last Aspect to develop)

**Governments & Religions**
- Monarchy
- Empires
- Dynasties
- Polytheism
- Monotheism
  - Judaism

**Economic Patterns**
- Use of new metals
  - Bronze & Iron
- Increased Agricultural Production
  - Use of Irrigation Systems & Plows
- Trade begins
- World’s 1st Cities Develop - Sumer
- Use of Slaves for Labor

**Written Language**
- Pictograms
- Cuneiform
  - Sumer
- Hieroglyphics
  - Egypt
- Alphabet
  - Phoenicia

**Law Codes**
- Hammurabi’s Law Code
  - Unified Babylonian Society
  - Harsh Laws
  - Strict class distinctions

**“The Firsts of Everything”**
- The Epic of Gilgamesh
  - World’s 1st Epic

**Literature**
- The Epic of Gilgamesh

**The Four Old-World River Valley Cultures**

[Map of the four river valleys: Mesopotamia (Tigris & Euphrates), Egypt (Nile), Indus River Valley (Indus), China (Huang He).]