

Internet Scavenger Hunt:

Asian Heritage and Cuneiform Writing



Name: _____

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. The ancient Sumerians of West Asia are credited with being the first to write, using signs called "cuneiform." Use the Web site below to answer the questions.

Web site: Kidipede – West Asian Writing

URL: <http://www.historyforkids.org/learn/westasia/literature/index.htm>

1. Being a scribe was an important job. What did scribes do?

2. On what surface, and using what tool, did the Sumerians write? _____

3. Each cuneiform sign stands for a(n):

a. letter

b. syllable

c. object

d. person's name

4. What was the Code of Hammurabi? _____

5. What new kind of writing replaced cuneiform? Why? _____

Something to think about: How are modern Hebrew and Arabic related to ancient cuneiform?

Learn more: Watch this video about cuneiform: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dpjm9LeoASY> .