

Name: _____

Sumerian Parts of Life

Reading	In Your Own Words
<p>Food: The Sumerians ate what was available to them. They had apples, pears, grapes, figs, quinces, plums, apricots, mulberries, melons, and pomegranates. Bread was a large part of their meals. They ate fish as their source of protein. The Sumerians grew barley, chickpeas, lentils, wheat, dates, onions, garlic, lettuce, leeks and mustard.</p>	
<p>Clothing: The Sumerians wore clothes made mainly of wool or flax. Flax is a plant that can be woven into cloth. Men were bare-chested and wore skirt-like pieces of clothing that they tied at the waist. Women wore gowns that covered them from shoulder to ankle usually leaving their left or right arm and shoulder uncovered. During special occasions, they would wear bright, precious stones. Hair is worn in a wide variety of styles, in braids or wrapped around the head, with a decorative headband, or topped by a short, helmet-like hat.</p>	
<p>Education: Boys of wealthy families attend school, while girls are educated at home. The school is located next to the royal palace, and is a part of the building because the main object of education is to provide the king with more government officials. In the Sumerian world there is no safety net for failures, so they take their work seriously. To be able to be a government official when they are older will be the best possible start to their adult lives.</p>	
<p>Homes: The average Sumerian house was a one-story structure made from mud-brick. The house consisted of several rooms. Wealthier citizens lived in two-story brick structures. Typical rooms included reception rooms, bathrooms, kitchens, servants' quarters, and a private chapel. Floors and walls were covered with reed mats and animal skins.</p>	