Notes about Reading in General (not just for Ch. 1…always!):
- This is NOT a study guide/work sheet. You need to READ…CAREFULLY AND THOUGHTFULLY! Rather than copying down sentences from the text as you read—THINK—then re-read parts as necessary. The key is to really understand what you are reading and to answer the questions/address the themes in a thorough and meaningful way…in your own words. Information relating to the questions and themes in not always together in a sentence or two.
- In many cases—especially in Ch. 1—you should actually know much more information than the text includes. Do your best to relate the reading to what you already know about ancient history. If that leads to some questions on your part, that’s great!! It means you ARE thinking! Jot your questions down—ones about connections to your prior historical knowledge or even ones about things you don’t quite understand. Bring those questions to class—they can kick start our discussion in class!

Notes about the Text:
- The text divides history into six parts that relate to six broad time periods. There is an overview of each time period at the beginning of each part as well as a retrospective at the end of each part. DO NOT SKIP THESE! They should help you keep some focus on the “big picture” of history.
- Each chapter begins with a “story” that relates to some part of the chapter. As you read the chapter, try to make sure that you ultimately understand where the intro story relates—the story often includes useful details that you won’t find in the chapter itself.
- Each chapter also ends with section entitled “Global Connections.” Make sure you read that, too! Even if there don’t seem to be any questions or themes on the reading guide. These sections will help you review what you read in the chapter and will also help you focus on understanding the bigger picture of world history.

Introduction to Part I—“Human Development to 1000 BCE,” p. 2-7
(note—Ch. 1 is the only chapter in this section)
- What does this introduction identify as possible reasons (or “triggers”) for changes that occurred in this time period?
- What were the big changes?

Chapter 1
Here is the vocabulary you should be familiar with:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paleolithic Age</th>
<th>Mesolithic Age</th>
<th>Neolithic Age</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neolithic Revolution</td>
<td>prehistoric</td>
<td>Catal Huyuk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tigris-Euphrates Civilization</td>
<td>Sumerians</td>
<td>Egyptians</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harappan Civilization</td>
<td>nomads</td>
<td>foraging societies</td>
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<tr>
<td>pastoral societies</td>
<td>Bronze Age</td>
<td>cuneiform</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mesopotamia</td>
<td>city-state</td>
<td>ziggurat</td>
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<td>Babylonians</td>
<td>Hammurabi</td>
<td>pharaoh</td>
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<tr>
<td>pyramids</td>
<td>Kush</td>
<td>Harappa &amp; Mohenjo-Daro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shang Dynasty</td>
<td>ideographic writing</td>
<td>Phoenicians</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hebrews (Jews)</td>
<td>monotheism</td>
<td>Indo-Europeans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most of these terms should be nothing new to you. One hint—terms in blue in the text are defined in the glossary at the back of the book. Some of these definitions may really help you (though I will warn you some of the “definitions” don’t really tell you anything at all!) If you still don’t understand a term even after reading and looking in the glossary…that’s something you would want to note in your questions for discussion.

Beginning to “The Neolithic Revolution” on p. 12
- What were the characteristics of life in Paleolithic societies? What can you determine about the Paleolithic Age and the following themes:
  - gender roles and relations
  - technology
religion
migration (don’t get all wrapped up in dates here—it’s all a REALLY long time ago!)
art

• What changes occurred during the Mesolithic Age (12000-8000 BCE)?

“The Neolithic Revolution” p. 12-15
• Theme: Agricultural and Pastoral Production
  This is a good example of how the information isn’t contained in a sentence or two. You will need to read the whole section to get the picture here. Here are some of the aspects of this theme that you should be able to address from this reading:
  ▪ Why did agriculture develop?
  ▪ Where did it develop…independently? Where did it spread? What crops?
  ▪ How did agricultural development change society?
  ▪ What changes occurred in pastoral production?
• How is the term Neolithic Revolution both misleading and applicable with regard to the change from hunting & gathering to farming?
• Why did disease (an AP theme!) become a problem?
• What were some of the regions where agriculture wasn’t adopted by native peoples until relatively recently?
• What does Stearns identify as the key distinction between pre-agricultural and agricultural peoples?

The First Civilizations and their Impact, p. 15-27
• What was the connection between irrigation and the development of villages?
• What does Stearns mean when he says civilization is “subjective construct”? What are the problems of using the term “civilization” as a defining concept?
  REMEMBER—read and think…then go back and re-read as necessary to answer!
• Mesopotamian civilization (here includes Sumerians and Babylonians)
  Themes:
  ▪ science & technology
  ▪ art & architecture
  ▪ religion
  ▪ political structures & forms of governance
  ▪ labor systems
  ▪ migration
  Take a look at the “Visualizing the Past” on p. 19, but the inset map of Sumer and Babylonian Empire has errors). DO READ the excerpt from Hammurabi’s Code on p. 21. THINK about the questions…we’ll discuss in class.
• Egyptian civilization
  ▪ How was Egyptian civilization different from Mesopotamia?
  ▪ Themes
    o political structure & forms of governance
    o art & architecture—also note the picture on p. 23…relation to gender relations?
    o religion
• There is so little about early Indian and Chinese civilizations here…not much more than what you should know related to the vocab.
  Note that the picture on p. 23 is NOT one of a Shang bronze elephant (as the caption says!)

***you should be surprised about how LITTLE info is included here! You should actually know much more than is contained here about the earliest river valley civilizations!

• Why are the first river valley civilizations significant to the world today? Where is the connection between these first civilizations and the modern world the strongest? Where is it the weaker? Why?
• You should also know much more about the Phoenicians and Hebrews (or Jews) than the book addresses, but:
  How was the Jewish concept of God unique in the early Middle East?
• What features did early civilizations share? How did they differ?

Part I: Global Retrospective
• What kinds on contact existed during this early phase of human history and what were the results of these contacts?