

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## From Cave Walls to Cyberspace: The Remarkable Journey of Writing

### Open-Ended Response Questions

1. Explore the limitations of oral tradition as a means of communication before the development of writing. How did the absence of a written language impact the transmission of knowledge, stories, and information among early humans?
2. Provide a detailed description of the cuneiform writing system, its characteristics, and its significance in early human history. How did cuneiform differ from later writing systems, and what purposes did it serve in ancient Mesopotamia?
3. Discuss the role of writing in the preservation of cultural traditions and knowledge. How did the ability to record information in written form impact the documentation of history, laws, and religious beliefs? Provide examples from different cultures and time periods.
4. Explain the significance of the Phoenicians' creation of the first alphabet, consisting of 22 consonantal characters. How did this innovation simplify writing and lay the foundation for many modern alphabets? Explore the influence of the Phoenician alphabet on subsequent writing systems.
5. Reflect on the enduring impact of writing on our world and modern communication. How has writing, in all its forms, shaped our ability to share knowledge, express creativity, and connect with people across time and space? Provide examples of how writing continues to influence various aspects of our lives.

