I have developed stimulus based multiple choice questions that correlate with the new 2016 AP World curriculum guidelines. Each question contains a stimulus and 3-4 prompts. This sample includes 10 questions from Period 1 to 600 B.C.E. covering economic, social, environmental, and state building themes, while utilizing historical thinking skills.

Directions: Each of the questions or incomplete statements below is followed by four suggested answers or completions. Select the one that is best in each case and then enter the appropriate letter in the corresponding space on the answer sheet.

Source material may have been edited for the purpose of this exercise.

**Questions 1-3 refer to the image below.**

![Lascaux Cave Painting c. 15000 BCE](image)

1. The painting above depicts Neolithic people working together to hunt deer or antelope. This type of cooperative activity best exemplifies which of the following?
   a. Humans using tools and technologies to establish communities.
   b. Humans adapting to environmental factors to enable migration.
   c. Humans using tools and technologies to overcome geographic and social barriers.
   d. Humans adapting technology to foster economic goals.

2. The social, economic, and political activity of Neolithic man can best be described as:
   a. Agricultural communities that worked cooperatively to clear land and create systems for hunting and crop production.
   b. Family groups existing in geographic and social isolation from other family groups.
   c. Isolated individuals who rarely had contact or exchange with other people.
d. Small bands that regularly exchanged people, ideas, and goods with other bands.

3. According to historians, the primary benefit of the activities shown in the painting above could best be described by which of the following statements?
   a. By following the herds for food sources, Neolithic man gradually overcame geographic barriers to settle uninhabited parts of the earth.
   b. Cross cultural interactions among Neolithic peoples resulted in the diffusion of technologies and scientific knowledge.
   c. Hunting with people from other societies during the Neolithic period influenced human settlements.
   d. Neolithic man was able to use technology to overcome geographic barriers to migration over time.

Questions 4-6 Refer to the image below.

Map of irrigation systems to the west of the Euphrates River, Babylon 1684 - 1647 BCE

4. Which of the following best describes the primary environmental consequence of agricultural communities working to clear land and create water control systems (like those pictured above) for crop production?
   a. Environmental diversity decreased with the advent of irrigation systems across all cultures.
   b. Pastoralism negatively affected the environment through overgrazing and the over reliance on existing water systems.
   c. Population pressures made adequate food sources unsustainable despite sophisticated irrigation systems.
   d. Through the domestication of animals strains were placed on natural water systems requiring the construction of man-made irrigation systems.
5. In India, Egypt, and Mesopotamia the advent of irrigation systems had similar consequences for each society. Which of the following best describes the economic impact of these types of systems?
   a. Gender hierarchies and patriarchy excluded women from economic systems during this period.
   b. Labor organization remained loosely associated with the family or clan.
   c. Social systems became stratified as a result of the labor required to build major irrigation projects.
   d. Trade and commerce expanded as agricultural surpluses increased.

6. The development of irrigation systems necessitated the advent of new types of Government able to mobilize surplus labor for construction and use military support to defend these systems from outsiders. How did the rulers in these states legitimize their reign?
   a. Rulers were often the most skilled laborer in the community.
   b. Rulers claimed supremacy through kinship groups.
   c. Rulers claimed divine connections to power.
   d. Rulers maintained military supremacy.

Questions 7-10 Refer to the Map Below
7. The Harrappan civilization as shown on the map demonstrates the norm of core foundational civilizations to form primarily along these geographic structures.
   a. Mountains
   b. Oceans
   c. Plateau’s
   d. Rivers

8. Based on the map, which civilization conducted extensive trade with the Indus Valley prior to 1750 B.C.E.?
   a. The Hittites
   b. The Chinese
   c. The Phoenicians
   d. The Sumerians

9. The number and location of cities indicated on the map have value as an evaluative tool of ancient trade networks. Which of the following statements best evaluates the extent of trade from 2600 B.C.E. to 1900 B.C.E.?
   a. Trade centered primarily in regional areas and did not include the cross cultural exchange of goods, technology, and ideas.
   b. Trade expanded most quickly in societies that had compatible religious, governmental, and social systems.
   c. Trade in goods, ideas, and technology expanded throughout this period from local to regional to interregional.
   d. Trade was both regional and interregional but was principally conducted along major river systems.

10. Archaeologist have noted that the standardization of the cities labeled in the map above provide historians with evidence of this marker of civilization.
   a. Systems of record keeping and writing
   b. Monumental architecture and urban planning
   c. Legal codes reflecting hierarchies and facilitating rule by Governments
   d. New religious belief systems
**Answer Key w/ Explanations**

1. A - The use of tools (spears & bow & arrow) and the cooperative aspect of the painting indicate early community building.
2. D - Small bands of people worked together as indicated in the painting.
3. A - Beiring stait land bridge is an example of this process.
4. A - this is the beginning of mono-agriculture.
5. D - more agriculture = more trade.
6. C - See any creation myth primary source for corrobation.
7. D - Rivers were the mainstays of all core civilizations.
8. D - Although evidence for trade with each of these civilizations may exist, based on the map the Sumerians are the accurate choice.
9. C - Ocean and land trade occurred within all three types of networks regardless of social or religious ideology.
10. B - The standardization (grid patterns) of the cities provides evidence of urban planning and monumental architecture.