

Outcome 4.2: explain the significance of innovations during the Neolithic Period (C. 10 000 BCE to between 4500 BCE and 2000 BCE)

Use your text pp. 40-44 to learn about the Neolithic Revolution.

- 1. Knowledge:** Provide examples of technologies used by early hunter-gatherers that helped them to survive.

- 2. Knowledge:** How do we know about the culture and artistic life of early humans?

- 3. Concepts:** Complete the items below to better understand the Neolithic Revolution.

What was the Neolithic Revolution?	
What do historians think caused this change in lifestyle?	
What method of farming was common in the Neolithic period? Explain how it worked.	
Explain how domestication of animals changed people's lives.	

4. **Analyze:** Look at the map on p. 43 of your text and complete the items below.

In which areas did farming first develop?	
What types of crops were grown by Neolithic peoples?	
Farming began in low latitude areas. Why do you think this was the case?	
According to the map, describe how farming spread over time.	

Case Study: Neolithic Life in Catal Huyuk

View the sources below and complete the items that follow.

Source 1

Among the many ancient settlements of human beings in the world was the village of Catal Huyuk. Founded approximately 8,000 years ago in the hills of what is now Turkey, Catal Huyuk lasted for nearly 2,000 years before mysteriously disappearing.

The settlement was the world’s most advanced human center of the first agricultural age. However, Catal Huyuk did not develop near a major river system, as might have been expected of a farming village. Instead, it developed near a small stream in the shadow of three menacing volcanoes.

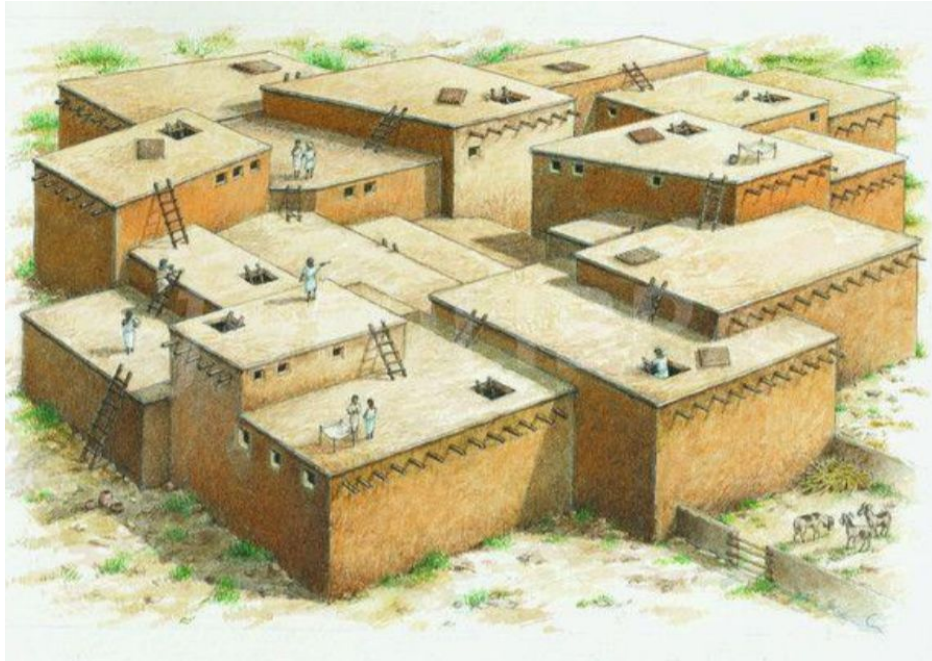
The people of Catal Huyuk fortified themselves against invaders and wild animals by building a village that contained no doors or streets. Instead, inhabitants used a hole in the roof to enter and exit and people simply moved around on top of each other’s dwellings. Families constructed their houses with strong mud-dried brick. The roofs were made of woven reeds and mud and were connected on one or more sides to the units next to them. Each family dwelling contained an open hearth, an oven in the wall, and clearly defined sleeping areas.

The residents of Catal Huyuk appeared to be a religious people. Elaborate shrines were constructed in the same fashion as the dwellings, and contained four or five rooms. Paintings filled the walls of these shrines and often included the chief deity, who was believed to be a goddess. This goddess was frequently depicted giving birth, nursing a child, or living as an old woman accompanied by a vulture.

The economic base of Catal Huyuk was also highly sophisticated for the time. Like their ancestors, these people still hunted, but they also bred goats, sheep, and cattle. In addition, they produced many different types of foods, including peas, several grains, berries, and berry wine. However, like other prehistoric humans, the people of Catal Huyuk did not live much past their twenties.

Source: World History: Patterns of Interaction Teacher Resource

Source 2



5. **Cause and Consequence:** Using the case study and what you have learned in this section, explain what factors caused people to settle in villages like Catal Huyuk.

6. **Comparison / Significance:** How was life in Catal Huyuk similar to and different from that of Paleolithic hominids?

Catal Huyuk (Neolithic)	Similarities	Early Hominids (Paleolithic)

What would be the greatest benefits of life in a Neolithic farming village? What would be the greatest challenges?