

Mesopotamia Timeline

20,000 BCE

20,000 – 9,600 - Epipaleolithic (Ross and Steadman, 2017, pp.54)

Fairly sedentary communities, surviving through hunting and foraging (Ross and Steadman, 2017, pp.54).

9,600

9,600 – 7000 - A-ceramic Neolithic (Ross and Steadman, 2017, pp.54)

A pre-pottery era, with the emergence of Farming and the first Monumental Architecture (Ross and Steadman, 2017, pp.54).

7000

7000 – 5000 - Ceramic Neolithic (Wengrow, 2010, pp.XII)

The first pottery is used, and irrigation is used to aid farming (Wengrow, 2010, pp.XII)

5000

5000 – 4100 - Ubaid Period (Wengrow, 2010, pp.XII)

The first productive economy begins to produce a surplus. Other techniques come into use, such as Metalworking (Wengrow, 2010, pp.XII). This is the development of an Early Complex Society (Wenke and Olszewski, 2007, pp.339).

4100

4100 – 3000 - Uruk Period (Wenke and Olszewski, 2007, pp.344)

City states begin to develop (Wenke and Olszewski, 2007, pp.325), and trade becomes more widespread (Wengrow, 2010, pp.XII). At this point societies such as the state of Uruk have obtained a full checklist of a complex civilisation (Wenke and Olszewski, 2007, pp.341).

3,400

3400 - Uruk develops Early Cuneiform writing, aiding trade with other city states (Wengrow, 2010, pp.XII).

3200

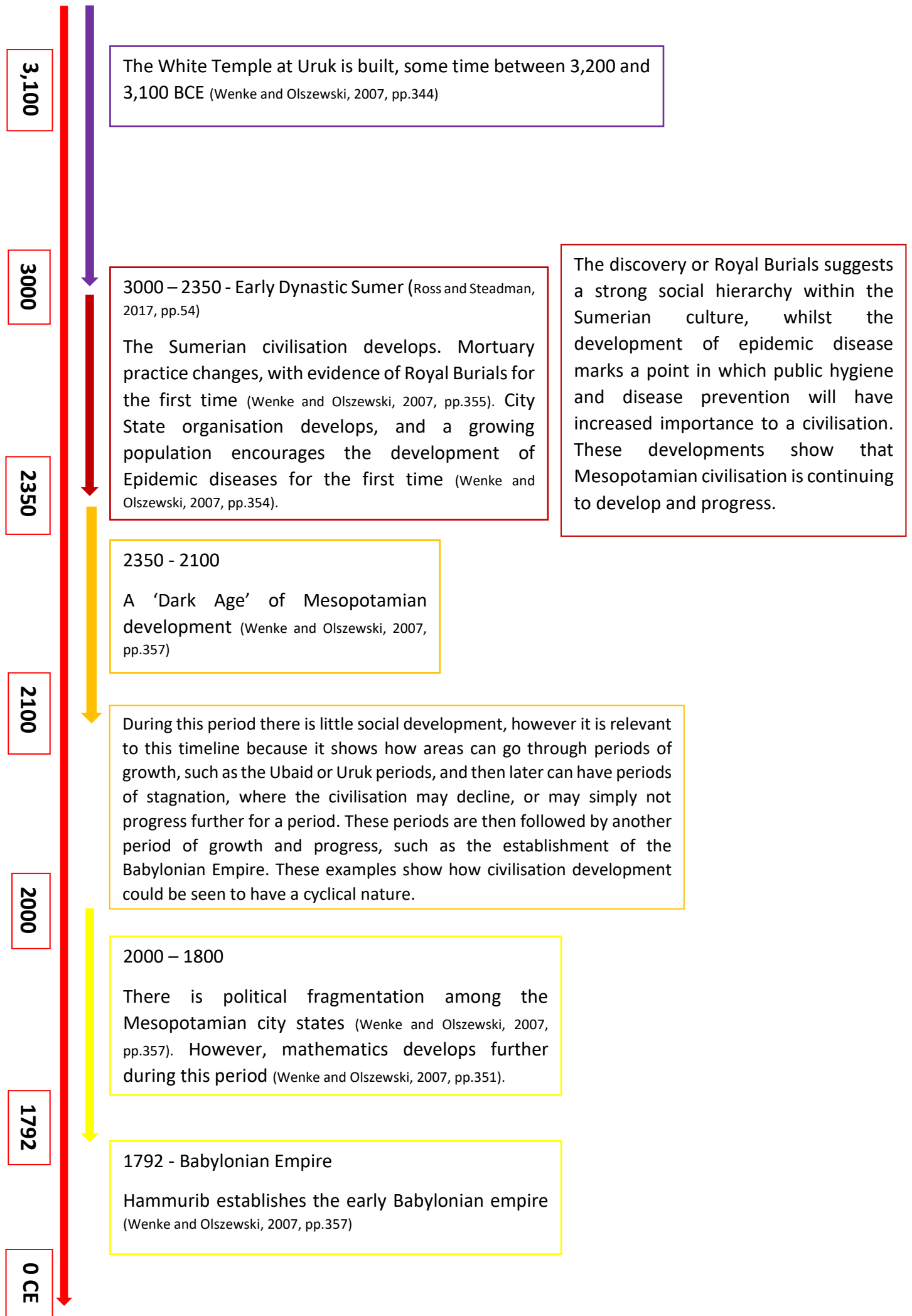
Writing is an essential development to mark. It allows for increased communication between people and states, and allows things to be recorded in a new way.

This Timeline covers Ancient Mesopotamia, from the earliest Epipaleolithic era through to the establishment of the Babylonian Empire. Marked on it are important developments in civilisation, such as the first use of writing, the building of monumental architecture, and changes in mortuary rights. These points will help to track the slow development of Mesopotamian civilisation from small hunter-gatherer communities to complex civilisations.

Irrigation of farmland is an important development as it allows for increased food production, which can lead to population growth as a result of fewer food shortages.

The first development of an early complex society is important because it shows that certain requirements have been met, which allow society to progress beyond the point of simply focusing on survival

The development of city states suggests increased organisation within society, and trade supports that, as well as allowing more communication, and the spread of ideas along with goods traded. Therefore, these are important markers in the development of civilisation.



Bibliography

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Wenke, R.F.; Olszewski, D.J. 2007 (5th edition). *Patterns in Prehistory: Humankind's First Three Million Years*. Oxford: OUP.