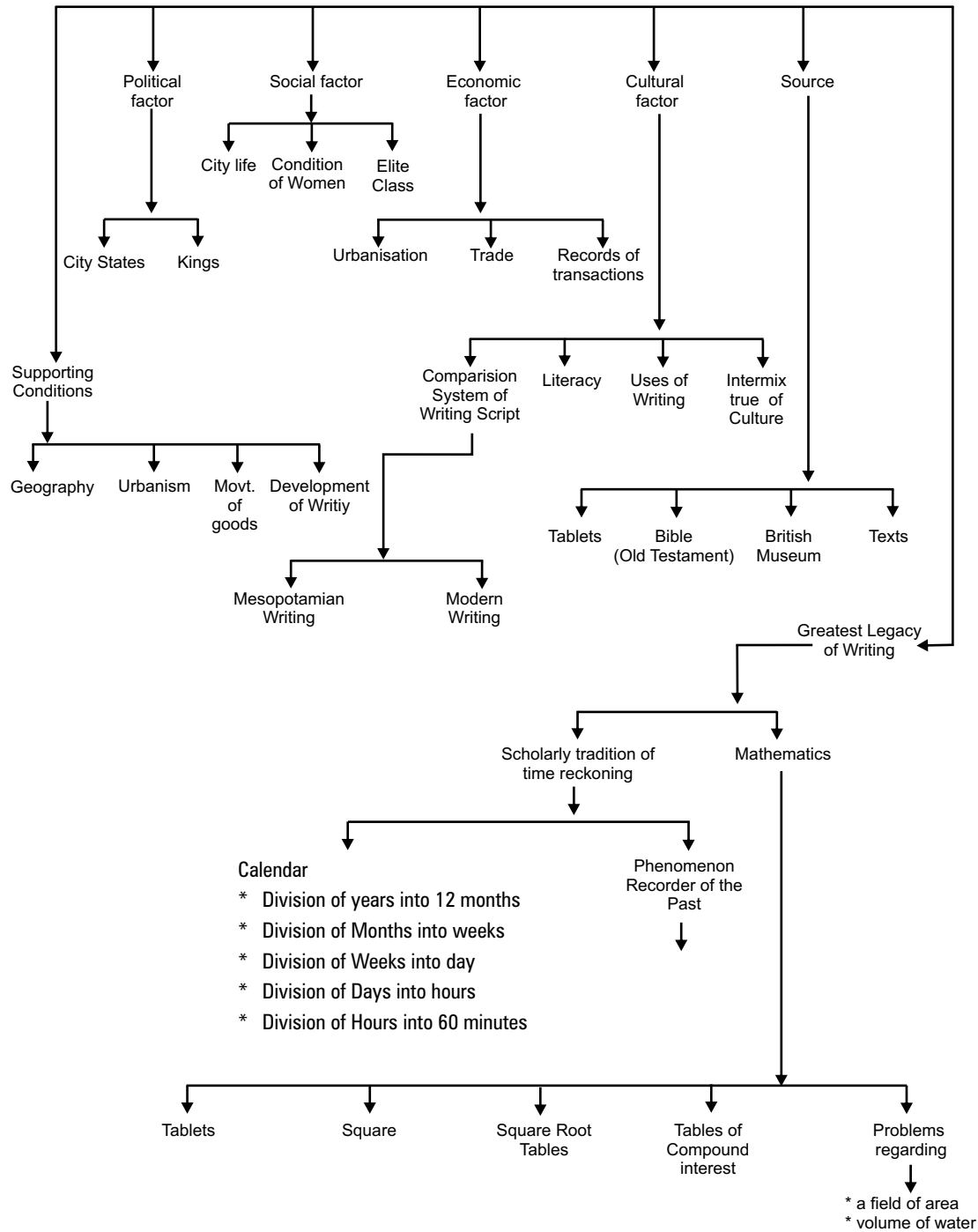
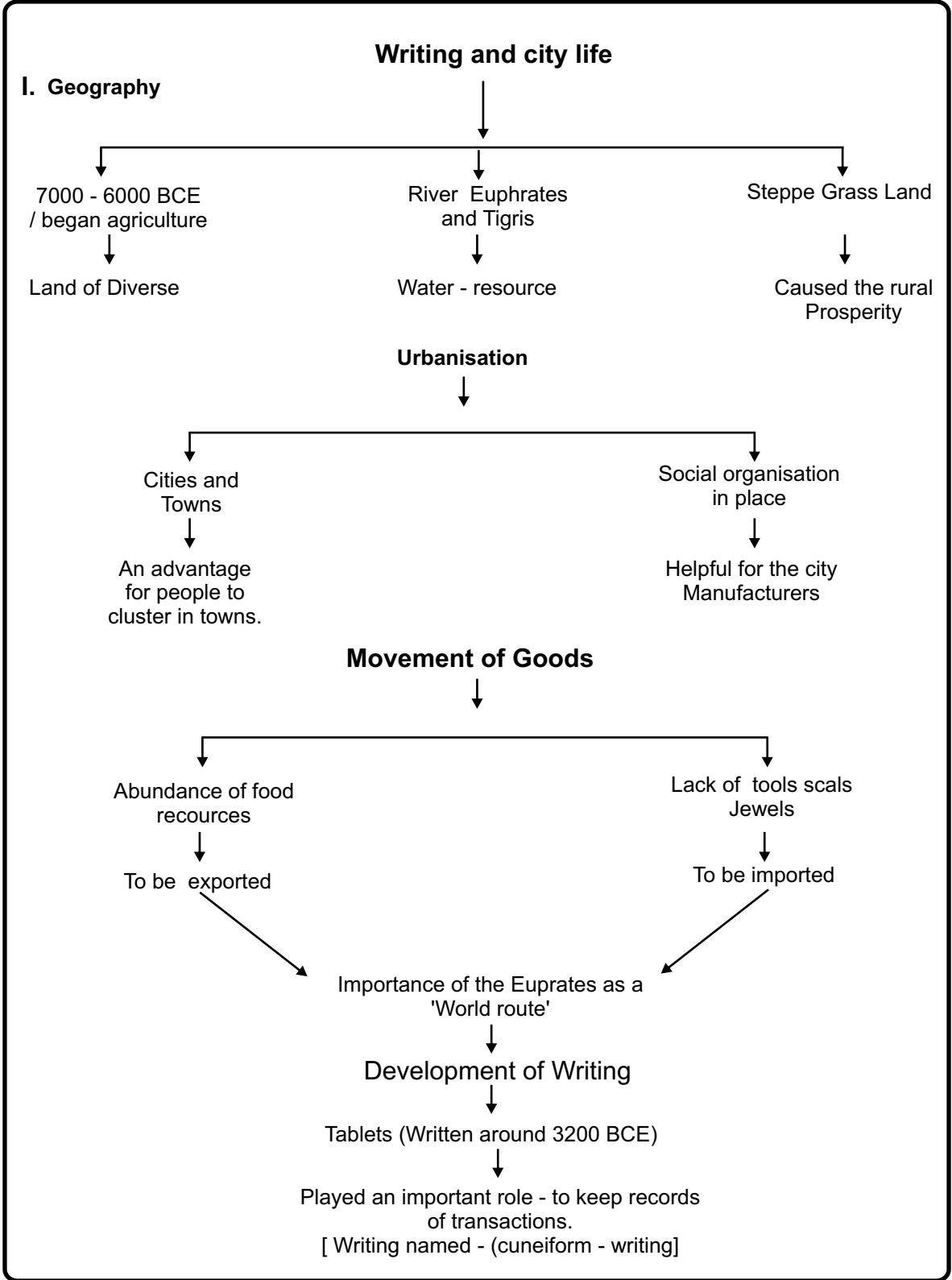


Theme - 2

Writing and city life (Ancient Mesopotamia)





II.

Comparision

Mesopotamian Writing :
As the world phenomenon
Recorder of the Past

Modern - Writing
Greatest - Legacy of Writing
* Calendor
* Mathematics

III.

Political Factor

(5000 BCE - Settlements began in Mesopotamia)

Religions Factor

Gods

Temples

City States

Kings (in the imperial cities)

1. Assurbanipal
2. Hammurabi
3. Zimriin

3. Mari
2. Babylone
1. Assyria

IV.

Social Factor

Life in the City -

- A ruling elite had emerged
- Red a major share of wealth
- Followed nuclear family system & Patriarchal system
- Condition of Women
- System of Marriages

Ur - was a town, one of the earliest cities.
* Compared with Mohenjodaro

V.

Economic Factors

Urbanism

- * Cities and Towns were the places for economic development
- * Places for city manufacturers

Trade

- * Traded - Textiles and agricultural product for
- * Wood, Copper, tin Silver, gold, s... and various stones from - turkey and Iron
- * Canals and natural channels were in fact routes for good transports.
- * Euphrates became as a world route

Record of Transaction

- * Writing began in Mesopotamia in 3200 BCE .
- * Writing became as a records of transactions
- * 2600 BCE the letters became cuneiform and language was Sumerian

VI.

Cultural Factors

System of Writing

- * Writing was skilled craft
- * Visual form of system of sounds of a particular language

Literacy

- * Writing reflected the mode of speaking
- * King and very few could read
- * Official letter from a king could be read

Uses of Writing

- * Connections between city life trade and writing is brought out.
- * It has brought out in a long Sumerian epic poem about Enmerkar (king)
- * Kingship was able to organise trade and writing.

Inter Mixture culture

- * Mesopotamian society and culture were open to different people and cultures.
- * Thus the vitality of the civilisation was of course - an intermixture culture

* Cuneiform Script

Meaning

Uses

Sources

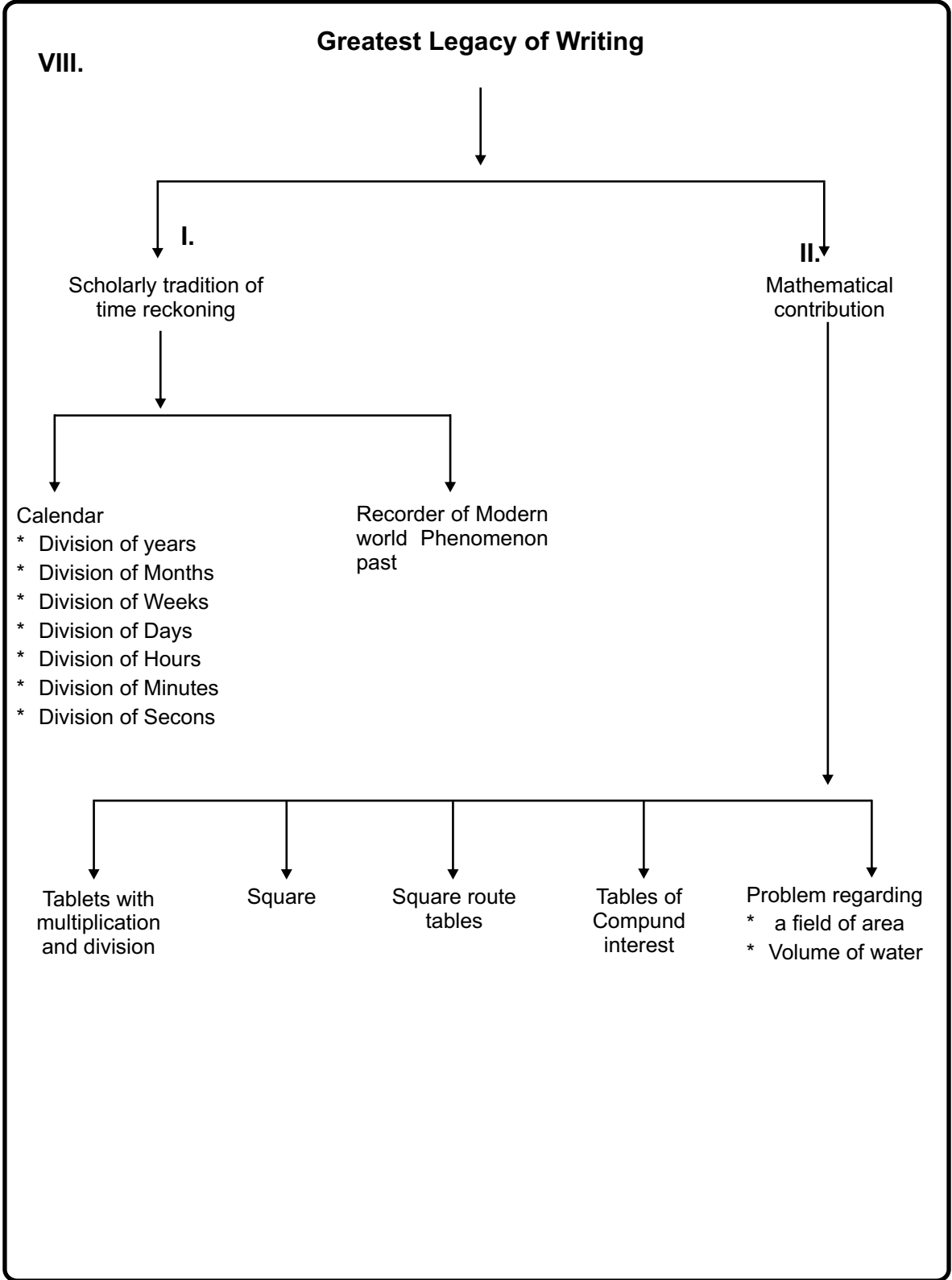
VII.

Tables
(Written around 3200 BCE)

Bible
(old Testament)

British
Museum

Texts



- ix) Time line - refer to the text book Page No. 48
- x) Key Words
Mesopotamia, Cuneiform, Syllable, Steles, Nuclear Family.

Model Questions [2 marks Questions]

1. Write the meaning of Mesopotamia and its importance in world history.
2. Why did the writing begin with its visible sign. & in Mesopotamia ?
3. Write the two major necessities for urbanisation,
4. Name the four major cities of Mesopotamia.
5. Mention the two major Mesopotamian legacy .

5 Marks Qs.

1. 'Iraq is a land of diverse environments' Illustrate.
2. Mention the significance of Urbanism in Mesopotamia.
3. Compare the one of the earliest cities 'Ur' with Indian - town Mohenjodaro.
4. Mention the importance of the palace at Mari of king Zimrilim (1810 - 1760 BCE)
5. Why would the early temple have been much like a house ?

10 Marks Qs.

1. 'After 2000 BCE the royal capital of Mari flourished' Justify'
2. Discuss the greatest legacy of Mesopotamia to the world in scholarly tradition of time reckoning and mathematics.

Passage - based questions :

1. The Warka Head - refer to the text book Page - 32
 2. The Palace at Mari of King Zimrilim (1810 - 1760 BCE) refer to the text book - page - 43
1. a) When was Warka Head sculpted and with what material ? [2]
 - b) Write any three special features of this sculpture. [8]
 - c) Do you think that city life is possible without use of metals ? [1]
 - d) 'The division of labour is a mark of urban life' Comment.
2. a) When was the royal city capital of Mari flourished ? [1]
 - b) Why was 'the royal capital of Mari too much famous in its time? [3]
 - c) How were the large, open courtyards so beautifully paved ? [2]
 - d) Mention the plan of the palace maintained by the King Zimrilim. [2]

Map Work :

1. Locate on the given outline map of world the following : [5]
 - a) Ur
 - b) Uruk
 - c) Babylon
 - d) Persian Gulf
2. Locate on the given outline map of the world the following places :
 - a) Nineveh
 - b) Assur
 - c) Mari
 - d) Baghdad
 - e) Babylon

Model Questions with answer

1. Write the meaning of Mesopotamia and its importance in world history.

Ans.

- * Meaning - Land between two rivers Euphrates Tigris
- * City life began in Mesopotamia.
- * That is now part of the Republic of Iraq.
- * Mesopotamia civilisation is known for its prosperity, city life, voluminous and rich literature, Mathematics and astronomy.
- * It's Writing system and literature spread to the eastern Mediterranean, northern Syria and Turkey after 2000 BCE.

5 Marks Question :

Q 'Iraq is a land of diverse environments' Illustrate.

- * North east lie - green undulating plains, gradually rising to tree covered mountain ranges with clean streams and wild flowers, with enough rainfall to grow crops.
- * In North - There is a stretch of upland called a steppe - where animals' herding offers people a better livelihood than agriculture.
- * In the east - tributaries of the Tigris provide routes of communication into mountains of Iran.
- * The South is a desert - the place where the first cities and writing emerged. [five relevant points must]

10 Marks Question

1. Discuss the greatest legacy of Mesopotamia to the world in scholarly tradition of time reckoning and mathematics.
 - * Tradition of time

- * Division of years
 - * Division of Months
 - * Division of Weeks
 - * Division of Days
 - * Division of Hours
 - * Division of Minutes
 - * Division of Seconds
 - 2. Recorder of Modern world Phenomenon past
 - Writing use of writing, system of writing
 - Writing and cities and trade.
 - II. Mathematics :
 - * Tablets with multiplication and division
 - * Square
 - * Square - routes tables
 - * Table of compound interest
 - * Problems regarding
 - a field of area
 - Volume of water
- [10 relevant points to be given]
