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| City-state | A city that forms an independent state or country |
| Code of Hammurabi | 282 laws of King Hammurabi, engraved on a stele, for the Babylonian people to be able to see |
| Crescent | The curved shape of the waxing or waning moon |
| Cuneiform | Wedge shaped writing invented by the Sumerians |
| Domesticate | To tame or make suitable for farming use; not wild |
| Epic of Gilgamesh | Mythological tale of King Gilgamesh and his adventures |
| Fertile | Land suitable for growing crops |
| Hanging Gardens | One of the seven wonders of the ancient world, known for its appearance of floating trees and vines |
| Hunter-gatherer | Early humans who survived by killing large game or by finding edible plants |
| Levee | Earth piled to prevent flooding from a water source, such as a river |
| Mesopotamia | “Land between the rivers” |
| Mythology | Religious or cultural stories, often with a basis of truth but many embellishments |
| Nomad | A lifestyle where one does not have a permanent home |
| Scribe | An individual with the task of writing, recording, or copying information |
| Staple food | A key crop grown that could provide most of the nutrients needed for survival |
| Stele | An upright stone with engraving, such as a gravestone |
| Ziggurat | A rectangular, stepped temple of the Mesopotamians |