Unit Assessment: The Neolithic Revolution & Early Civilizations

Student Name: _____ **Date:** _____ **Class Period:** _____

Directions: Circle the best answer for multiple-choice questions and True or False for each statement. For Question 3, number the events from 1 (first) to 4 (last).

1. **Multiple Choice:** Which environmental and demographic factors primarily caused the transition from hunting and gathering to settled agriculture?
   A) Global cooling and a decrease in human population
   B) Post-Ice Age climate warming and local population pressure
   C) Severe droughts that forced humans to move into river valleys immediately
   D) The sudden extinction of all wild wheat and barley species

2. **True / False:** Plant and animal domestication involved selective breeding, which ended nomadic movement and led to the creation of permanent mud-brick villages with storage jars for surplus grain. **[True / False]**

3. **Sequence:** Place the following four events in the correct chronological order from 1 (first) to 4 (last):

   ☐ Agricultural food surpluses allow job specialization and trade.

   ☐ Post-Ice Age climate warming encourages wild grain growth.

   ☐ Complex river valley civilizations establish state governments.

   ☐ Communities domesticate plants and settle in permanent villages.

4. **Multiple Choice:** How did agricultural food surpluses directly transform the social structure of early human communities?
   A) They forced every community member to work exclusively in farming.
   B) They caused human populations to return to nomadic foraging.
   C) They enabled job specialization, allowing individuals to become artisans, priests, and rulers.
   D) They eliminated the concept of personal property and village defense walls.

5. **True / False:** Early civilizations emerged along major river valleys—such as the Tigris, Euphrates, Nile, Indus, and Yellow Rivers—because annual floods deposited fertile silt that supported canal irrigation. **[True / False]**

6. **Multiple Choice:** Why did early river valley societies like Sumer require the development of centralized city-state governments?
   A) To organize large-scale labor for building irrigation canals and controlling seasonal floods.
   B) To train armies to conquer neighboring mountain regions.
   C) To eliminate the need for writing systems and trade networks.
   D) To force all citizens to live outside the river valleys.

7. **True / False:** The primary significance of the Neolithic Revolution was that agriculture converted food from a daily hunt into a managed, long-term asset. **[True / False]**

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