2-1 Notes

* Egyptians settled along the Nile River. They drank, bathed, cooked and cleaned from it.
* The Nile River is the LONGEST river in the world. It is over 4000 miles long.
* Egypt had natural geographic boundaries to protect it from invasion:

1. Cataracts – wild rapids in the river
2. Deserts on either side of the river, like the Sahara – the largest desert in the world.
3. Delta – an area of fertile soil at the mouth of the river – its marshes protected Egypt by not allowing ships to dock.

* The Nile floods were gentle and dependable, leaving behind rich fertile black mud.
* The Egyptians called the black land Kemet, “the Black Land”.
* Egyptians used the Nile to become successful farmers, growing wheat, barley and flax.
* Papyrus – a reed that grew along the Nile and was used to make baskets, sandals, rafts and later paper.
* Hieroglyphics – Egyptian writing of pictures and symbols to represent words and sounds.
* Narmer also known as Menes united the Upper and Lower kingdoms into one --- he ruled ALL of Egypt.
* Egypt was ruled by a dynasty ---- a line of rulers from one family – father to son to grandson and so on.
* Most Egyptians lived in small one room houses with flat rooftops where they talked, played games and slept.