

Clues to Change

Use evidence and patterns to identify a turning point.

6.2d "Historians use archaeological and other types of evidence to investigate patterns in history and identify turning points. A turning point can be an event, era, and/or development in history that has brought about significant social..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the archaeological evidence listed in paragraphs 1 and 2. Circle the three bold change labels. Number them 1 (social), 2 (economic), and 3 (ecological) to separate evidence from types of change.

The Neolithic Revolution

- ① Historians investigate the Neolithic Revolution using archaeological and other evidence. Archaeologists have found charred wheat and barley seeds, grinding stones, animal bones, pottery, and the remains of mud-brick houses at some early farming settlements. Evidence traces the beginnings of farming in Southwest Asia to about 12,000 years ago; these objects appeared at different stages. Comparing settlements reveals patterns: a repeated pattern can show a change in more than one place over time.
- ② Before farming, many people moved seasonally to find wild plants and animals. As some groups farmed and herded, they could remain near fields and animal pens for longer periods. **Social change:** Some people lived in more permanent homes and worked with neighbors to build, plant, harvest, or care for animals. **Economic change:** People produced food, stored grain in containers, and exchanged some goods. Houses, storage areas, and tools are archaeological evidence that helps historians trace these changes.
- ③ Farming also changed the environment. **Ecological change:** People cleared some land for fields, planted selected seeds, and kept herds near settlements. These actions altered local plants, soils, and animal populations. This long development occurred at different times across regions. Its major social, economic, and ecological changes make it a turning point in history.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What can a repeated pattern in evidence from more than one settlement show historians?

2 Name one social change caused by farming or herding. What archaeological evidence from the passage could help historians trace that change?

3 What economic change is described in the passage? Name one kind of archaeological evidence that could support it.

4 Why can historians identify the Neolithic Revolution as a turning point? Use two types of change from the passage in your answer.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

At a newly excavated settlement, archaeologists find small houses, stone sickles, charred grain, clay storage jars, and sheep and goat bones. Write exactly 4 sentences explaining what the evidence suggests and why this development could be a turning point. Name at least two types of change.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the archaeological evidence listed in paragraphs 1 and 2. Circle the three bold change labels. Number them 1 (social), 2 (economic), and 3 (ecological) to separate evidence from types of change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What can a repeated pattern in evidence from more than one settlement show historians?	It can show that a change happened in more than one place over time.
2	Name one social change caused by farming or herding. What archaeological evidence from the passage could help historians trace that change?	One social change was that some people lived in more permanent homes. The remains of mud-brick houses, or houses found at settlements, could help trace this change.
3	What economic change is described in the passage? Name one kind of archaeological evidence that could support it.	People produced food and stored grain in containers, and they exchanged some goods. Charred wheat or barley seeds, pottery, storage areas, or grinding stones could support this claim.
4	Why can historians identify the Neolithic Revolution as a turning point? Use two types of change from the passage in your answer.	It was a long development that brought major changes. Accept any two: social changes in homes and work with neighbors, economic changes in producing or storing food and exchanging goods, or ecological changes to land, plants, soils, and animal populations.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The charred grain, sickles, and storage jars suggest that people grew and saved food. The sheep and goat bones suggest that people kept herds near the settlement. These finds show economic change because people produced and stored food, and social change because they lived in permanent homes. This development could be a turning point because it changed how people got food and lived together.

Accept supported answers that connect a specific archaeological find to a change described in the passage. For the open response, accept a reasonable turning-point claim supported by the given evidence and at least two correctly named change types.