3500 BC – 539 BC

Put the Events in Order

Name _____ Date _____

These 10 events from the Ancient Mesopotamia timeline are out of order. Write a number from 1 to 10 in each box, from the earliest event (1) to the latest (10).

☐ **The Assyrian Empire**
The Assyrians build the most powerful empire the ancient world had yet seen, stretching from Egypt to Persia, known for their terror tactics and sophisticated military.

☐ **Hammurabi's Code**
Babylonian king Hammurabi creates one of history's most complete early law codes — 282 laws carved into a stone pillar covering wages, property, trade, and injury.

☐ **The First Cities**
Sumerian people build the world's first true cities — including Uruk, Ur, and Eridu — in the river valleys of southern Mesopotamia.

☐ **Hittites Sack Babylon**
The Hittites from Anatolia (modern Turkey) sack the city of Babylon using fast war chariots, ending the Old Babylonian Kingdom.

☐ **Cyrus Conquers Babylon**
Persian king Cyrus the Great captures Babylon without a major battle, incorporating Mesopotamia into the vast Persian Empire.

☐ **Sargon of Akkad**
Sargon of Akkad conquers the Sumerian city-states and creates the world's first empire — the Akkadian Empire — ruling from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean.

☐ **Nebuchadnezzar II's Babylon**
Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar II rebuilds Babylon into one of the ancient world's greatest cities, complete with massive walls, the Ishtar Gate, and legendary Hanging Gardens.

☐ **Third Dynasty of Ur**
The Sumerian city of Ur under King Ur-Nammu creates one of history's earliest law codes and builds a great temple tower called a ziggurat.

☐ **Fall of Nineveh**
A coalition of Babylonians and Medes destroys the Assyrian capital of Nineveh, ending the Assyrian Empire in a matter of weeks.

☐ **Writing Invented**
Sumerian scribes develop cuneiform — pressing wedge-shaped marks into clay tablets — to keep track of temple goods and trade transactions.

3500 BC – 539 BC

Put the Events in Order: Answer Key

~3500 BC	1.	The First Cities
~3200 BC	2.	Writing Invented
~2330 BC	3.	Sargon of Akkad
~2100 BC	4.	Third Dynasty of Ur
~1792–1750 BC	5.	Hammurabi's Code
~1600 BC	6.	Hittites Sack Babylon
~900–600 BC	7.	The Assyrian Empire
612 BC	8.	Fall of Nineveh
~605–562 BC	9.	Nebuchadnezzar II's Babylon
539 BC	10.	Cyrus Conquers Babylon