

# Ancient Kush



## California Standards

### History–Social Science

**6.2** Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the early civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush.

### Analysis Skills

**HI 2** Understand and distinguish cause and effect.

### English–Language Arts

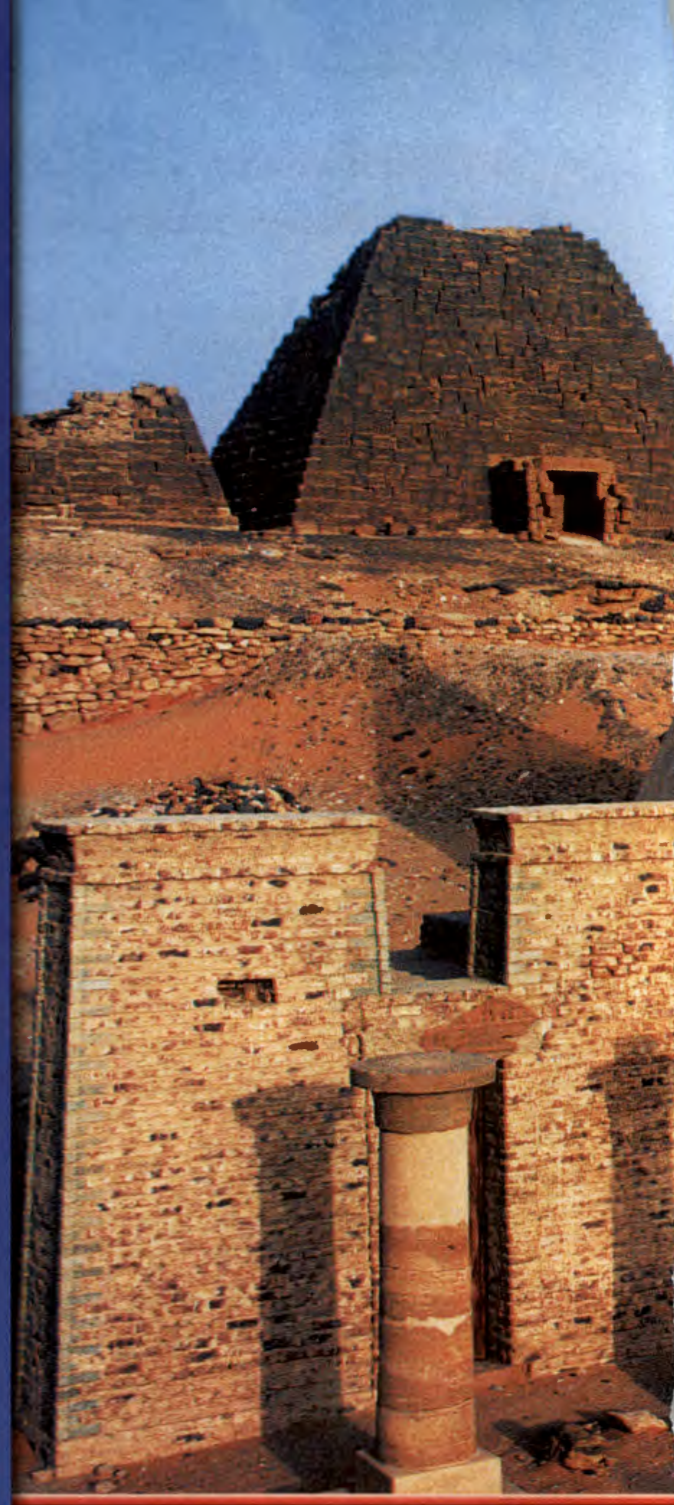
**Writing 6.2.1b** Include sensory details and concrete language to develop plot and character.

**Reading 6.2.0** Students read and understand grade-level-appropriate material.

### FOCUS ON WRITING



**A Fictional Narrative** In this chapter you will read about events of the rise and fall of Kush. Then you will write a short story about fictional characters who lived through these events. The main character in your story will be from Kush; other main characters could be from Egypt, Assyria, or Aksum.



### CHAPTER EVENTS

**c. 2000 BC**  
The kingdom of Kush sets up its capital at Kerma.

**2000 BC**

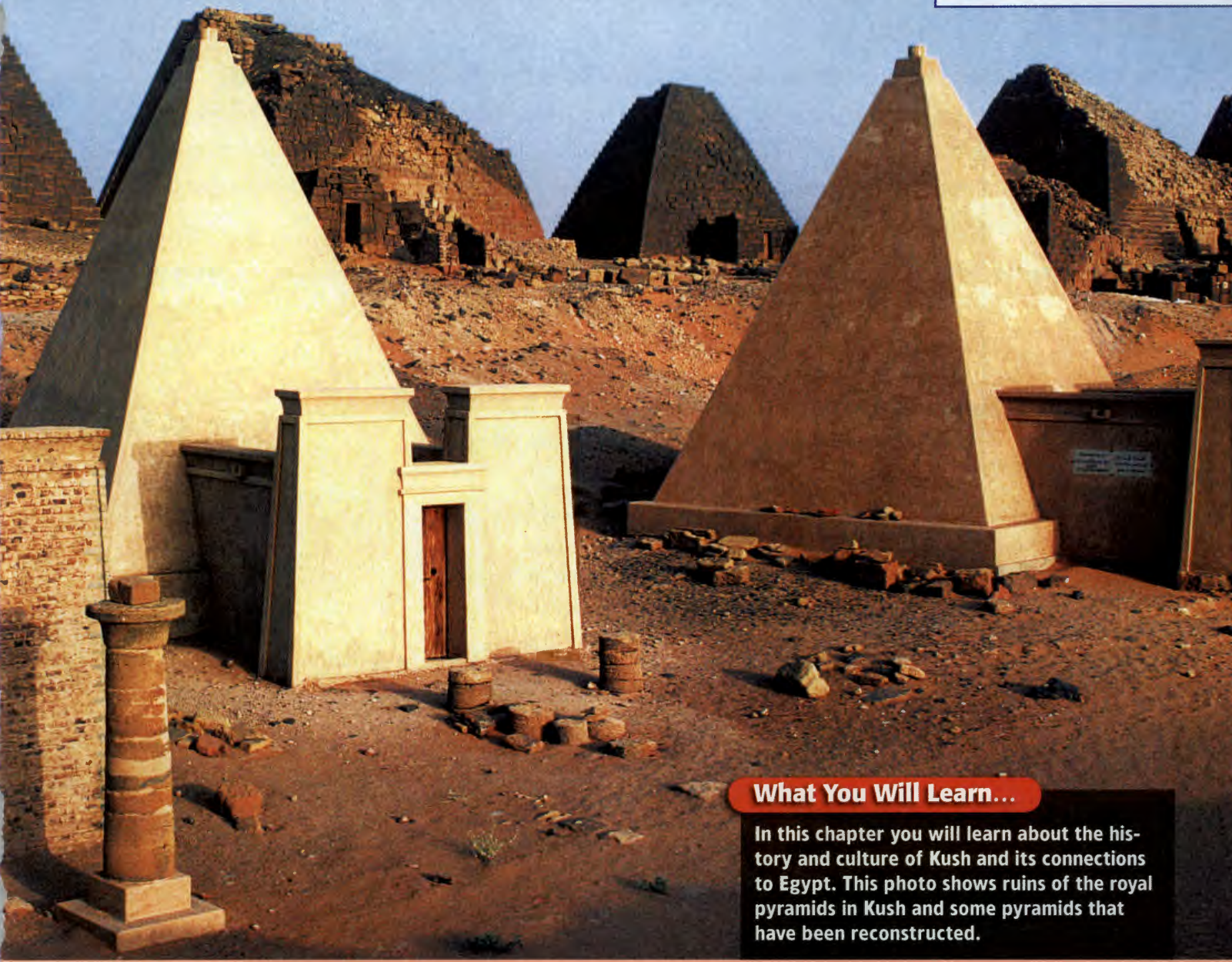
### WORLD EVENTS

**2300 BC**  
The Harappan civilization rises in the Indus Valley.

**History's Impact**

► video series

Watch the video to understand the impact of the Egyptian pyramids.



**What You Will Learn...**

In this chapter you will learn about the history and culture of Kush and its connections to Egypt. This photo shows ruins of the royal pyramids in Kush and some pyramids that have been reconstructed.



**c. 750–700 BC**  
Kush conquers Egypt.



**c. 580 BC**  
Meroë becomes capital of Kush.

**c. AD 350**  
Aksum destroys Meroë.

**1500 BC**

**1000 BC**

**500 BC**

**BC 1 AD**

**AD 500**

**c. 1550 BC**  
The New Kingdom begins in Egypt.



**c. 500 BC**  
The Nok culture develops in West Africa.



**AD 330**  
Constantinople becomes the capital of the Roman Empire.

Economics

Geography

Politics

Religion

Society and Culture

Science and Technology

**Focus on Themes** As you read this chapter, you will learn about an ancient kingdom called Kush that developed south of Egypt along the Nile River. You will see that the **geography** of the area helped this kingdom to develop. You will also learn how

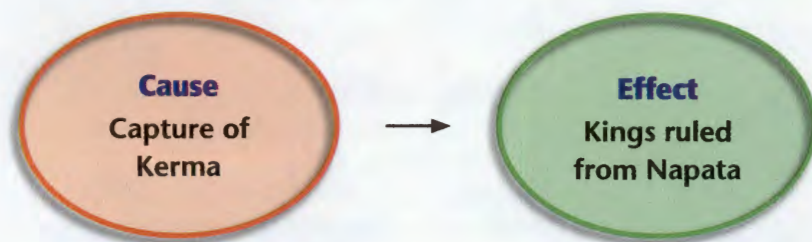
Egypt conquered and ruled Kush and then how Kush conquered and ruled Egypt. Finally, you will learn how the **economy** of Kush grew as it developed an iron industry and expanded its trade network.

## Causes and Effects in History

**Focus on Reading** Have you heard the saying, “We have to understand the past to avoid repeating it.”? That is one reason we look for causes and effects in history.

**Identifying Causes and Effects** A **cause** is something that makes another thing happen. An **effect** is the result of something else that happened. Most historical events have a number of causes as well as a number of effects. You can understand history better if you look for causes and effects of events.

1. *Because the Egyptians had captured the city of Kerma, the kings of Kush ruled from the city of Napata.* (p. 125)

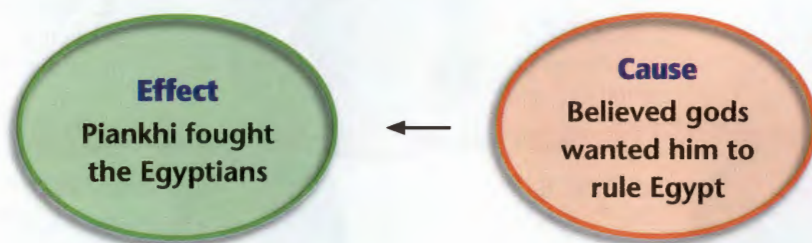


Sometimes writers use words that signal a cause or an effect:

**Cause**—*reason, basis, because, motivated, as*

**Effect**—*therefore, as a result, for that reason, so*

2. *Piankhi fought the Egyptians because he believed that the gods wanted him to rule all of Egypt.* (p. 125)



Additional reading support can be found in the

.....  
**Interactive**  
  
**Reader and Study Guide**



**HSS Analysis HI 2** Distinguish cause and effect.

**ELA Reading 6.2.0** Read and understand grade-level-appropriate material.

# Key Terms and People

## Chapter 5

### Section 1

ebony (p. 124)

ivory (p. 124)

Piankhi (p. 125)

### Section 2

trade network (p. 128)

merchants (p. 128)

exports (p. 128)

imports (p. 128)

Queen Shanakhdakheto (p. 129)

King Ezana (p. 131)

### Academic Vocabulary

**Success in school is related to knowing academic vocabulary—the words that are frequently used in school assignments and discussions. In this chapter, you will learn the following academic word:**

authority (p. 129)

## You Try It!

The following selections are from the chapter you are about to read. As you read each, identify which phrase or sentence describes a cause and which describes an effect.

### Finding Causes and Effects

1. "During the mid-1000s BC the New Kingdom in Egypt was ending. As the power of Egypt's pharaohs declined, Kushite leaders regained control of Kush. Kush once again became independent." (p. 124)
2. "A series of weak pharaohs left Egypt open to attack." (p. 125)
3. "The Assyrians' iron weapons were better than the Kushites' bronze weapons, and the Kushites were slowly pushed out of Egypt." (p. 126)
4. "Because resources such as iron ore and wood for furnaces were easily available, the industry grew quickly." (p. 128)
5. "When the cows ate all the grass, there was nothing to hold the soil down. As a result, wind blew the soil away. Without this soil, farmers couldn't produce enough food for Kush's people." (p. 131)

**After you read the sentences, answer the following questions.**

1. In selection 1, is "Kush once again became independent" the cause of the Egyptians growing weaker or the effect?
2. In selection 2, what left Egypt open to attack? Is that the cause of why Egypt was easily attacked or the effect?
3. In selection 3, who is using the iron weapons, the Assyrians or the Kushites? What was the effect of using the weapons?
4. In selection 4, does the word *because* signal a cause or an effect?
5. Read selection 5 again. Decide which sentences identify causes and which identify effects. (Here's a hint: an event can be the effect of one thing and the cause of another.)

**As you read Chapter 5, look for words that signal causes or effects. Make a chart to keep track of these causes and effects.**

# Kush and Egypt

## If YOU were there...

You live along the Nile River, where it moves quickly through rapids. A few years ago, armies from the powerful kingdom of Egypt took over your country. Some Egyptians have moved to your town. They bring new customs, and many people are imitating them. Now your sister has a new baby and wants to give it an Egyptian name! This upsets many people in your family.

**How do you feel about following Egyptian customs?**

## What You Will Learn...

### Main Ideas

1. Geography helped early Kush civilization develop in Nubia.
2. Egypt controlled Kush for about 500 years.
3. Kush ruled Egypt after winning its independence and set up a new dynasty there.

### The Big Idea

The kingdom of Kush, in the region of Nubia, was first conquered by Egypt but later conquered and ruled Egypt.

## Key Terms and People

ebony, p. 124

ivory, p. 124

Piankhi, p. 125

**BUILDING BACKGROUND** Egypt dominated the lands along the Nile, but it was not the only ancient culture to develop along the river. Another kingdom, called Kush, arose to the south of Egypt. Through trade, conquest, and political dealings, the histories of Egypt and Kush became closely tied together.

## Geography and Early Kush

South of Egypt along the Nile, a group of people settled in the region we now call Nubia. These Africans established the first large kingdom in the interior of Africa. We know this kingdom by the name the ancient Egyptians gave it—Kush. Development of Kushite civilization was greatly influenced by the geography of Nubia.

## The Land of Nubia

Nubia is a region in northeast Africa. It lies on the Nile River south of Egypt. Today desert covers much of Nubia, but in ancient times the region was more fertile than it is now. Heavy rainfall south of Nubia flooded the Nile every year. The floods provided a rich layer of fertile soil to nearby lands. The kingdom of Kush developed in this area.

In addition to having fertile soil, ancient Nubia was rich in valuable minerals such as gold, copper, and stone. These natural resources contributed to the region's wealth and played a major role in its history.



**HSS 6.2.8** Identify the location of the Kush civilization and describe its political, commercial, and cultural relations with Egypt.

## Ancient Kush



This photo shows one of the Nile's cataracts, or rapids. In ancient times, most river boats could not sail past the shallow rapids.

### GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

### INTERPRETING MAPS

**Location** Where is Kush in relation to Egypt?

## Early Civilization in Nubia

Like all early civilizations, the people of Nubia depended on agriculture for their food. Fortunately for them, the Nile's floods allowed the Nubians to plant both summer and winter crops. Among the crops they grew were wheat, barley, and other grains. In addition to farmland, the banks of the river provided grazing land for cattle and other livestock. As a result, farming villages thrived all along the Nile by about 3500 BC.

Over time some farmers became richer and more successful than others. These farmers became leaders of their villages. Sometime around 2000 BC, one of these leaders took control of other villages and made himself king of the region. His new kingdom was called Kush.

The kings of Kush ruled from their capital at Kerma (KAR-muh). This city was located on the Nile just south of a cataract, or stretch of rapids. Because the Nile's cataracts made parts of the river hard to pass through, they were natural barriers against invaders. For many years the cataracts kept Kush safe from the more powerful Egyptian kingdom to the north.

As time passed, Kushite society grew more complex. In addition to farmers and herders, some people of Kush became priests or artisans. Early on, Kush was greatly influenced by civilizations to the south. Later, however, Egypt played a greater role in the kingdom's history.

### FOCUS ON READING

What words on this page signal causes or effects?

**READING CHECK** **Finding Main Ideas** How did geography help civilization grow in Nubia?

## Egypt Controls Kush

Kush and Egypt were neighbors. Sometimes the neighbors lived in peace with each other and helped each other prosper. For example, Kush became a supplier of slaves and raw materials to Egypt. The Kushites sent materials such as gold, copper, and stone to Egypt. The Kushites also sent the Egyptians **ebony**, a type of dark, heavy wood, and **ivory**, a white material made from elephant tusks.

## Egypt's Conquest of Kush

Relations between Kush and Egypt were not always peaceful. As Kush grew wealthy from trade, its army grew stronger as well. Egypt's rulers soon feared that Kush would grow even more powerful and could even attack Egypt.

To prevent such an attack from occurring, the pharaoh Thutmose I sent an army to take control of Kush around 1500 BC. The pharaoh's army conquered all of Nubia north of the Fifth Cataract. As a result, Kush became part of Egypt.

After his army's victory, the pharaoh destroyed the Kushite palace at Kerma. Later pharaohs—including Ramses the Great—built huge temples in what had been Kushite territory.

## Effects of the Conquest

Kush remained an Egyptian territory for about 450 years. During that time, Egypt's influence over Kush grew tremendously. Many Egyptians settled in Kush, and Egyptian became the language of the region. Many Kushites used Egyptian names, and they wore Egyptian-style clothing. They also adopted Egyptian religious practices.

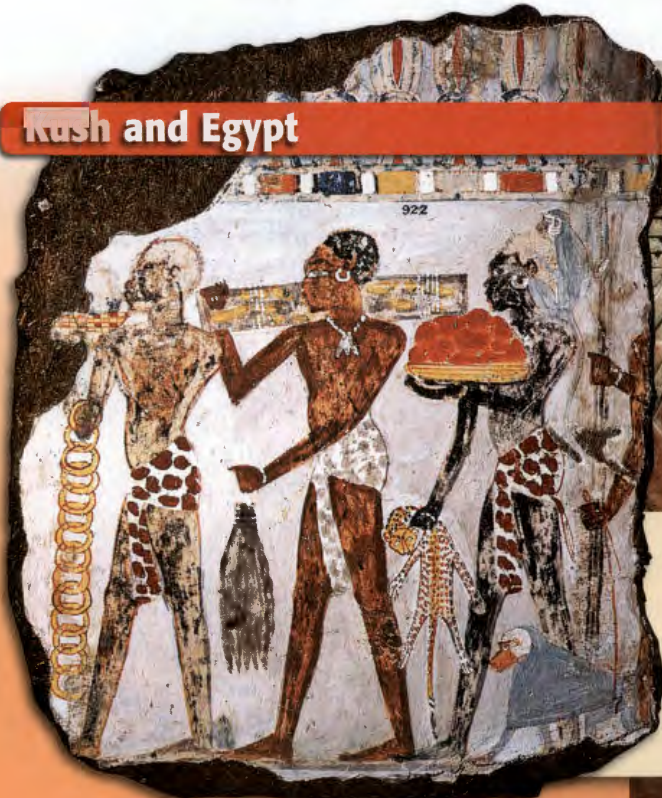
## A Change in Power

During the mid-1000s BC the New Kingdom in Egypt was ending. As the power of Egypt's pharaohs declined, Kushite leaders regained control of Kush. Kush once again became independent.

### READING CHECK Identifying Cause and Effect

How did Egyptian rule change Kush?

## Kush and Egypt



Early in its history, Egypt dominated Kush, forcing Kushites to give tribute to Egypt.



## Kush Rules Egypt

We know almost nothing about the history of the Kushites for about 200 years after they regained independence from Egypt. Kush is not mentioned in any historical records until the 700s BC, when armies from Kush swept into Egypt and conquered it.

### The Conquest of Egypt

By around 850 BC, Kush had regained its strength. It was once again as strong as it had been before it had been conquered by Egypt. Because the Egyptians had captured the city of Kerma, the kings of Kush ruled from the city of Napata. Napata was located on the Nile, about 100 miles south-east of Kerma.

As Kush was growing stronger, Egypt was losing power. A series of weak pharaohs left Egypt open to attack. In the 700s BC a Kushite king, Kashta, took advantage of Egypt's weakness. Kashta attacked Egypt, and by about 751 BC he had conquered Upper Egypt. He then established relations with Lower Egypt.



## BIOGRAPHY

### Piankhi

c. 751–716 BC

Also known as Piye, Piankhi was among Kush's most successful military leaders. A fierce warrior on the battlefield, the king was also deeply religious. Piankhi's belief

that he had the support of the gods fueled his passion for war against Egypt. His courage inspired his troops on the battlefield. Piankhi loved his horses and was buried with eight of them.

**Drawing Conclusions** How did Piankhi's belief that he was supported by the gods affect him in the war against Egypt?

After Kashta died, his son **Piankhi** (PYANG-kee) continued to attack Egypt. The armies of Kush captured many cities, including Egypt's ancient capital. Piankhi fought the Egyptians because he believed that the gods wanted him to rule all of Egypt. By the time he died in about 716 BC, Piankhi had accomplished this task. His kingdom extended north from Napata to the Nile Delta.



Later, as Kush's power increased, its warriors invaded and conquered Egypt. This photo shows Kushite and Egyptian warriors.



After conquering Egypt, Kush established a new dynasty. This photo shows one of Kush's pharaohs kneeling before an Egyptian god.

ANALYSIS  
SKILL

ANALYZING VISUALS

What did Kushites give to Egypt as tribute?





When the Assyrians invaded Egypt with their iron weapons, they forced Kush's rulers out of Egypt and south into Nubia.

### The Kushite Dynasty

After Piankhi died, his brother Shabaka (SHAB-uh-kuh) took control of the kingdom. Shabaka then declared himself pharaoh. This declaration began the Twenty-fifth, or Kushite, Dynasty in Egypt.

Shabaka and later rulers of his dynasty tried to restore old Egyptian cultural practices. Some of these practices had faded during Egypt's period of weakness. For example, Shabaka was buried in a pyramid. The Egyptians had stopped building pyramids for their rulers centuries before.

The Kushite rulers of Egypt built new temples to Egyptian gods and restored old ones. They also worked to preserve Egyptian writings. As a result, Egyptian culture thrived during the Kushite dynasty.

### The End of Kushite Rule in Egypt

The Kushite dynasty remained strong in Egypt for about 40 years. In the 670s BC, however, the powerful army of the Assyrians from Mesopotamia invaded Egypt. The Assyrians' iron weapons were better than the Kushites' bronze weapons, and the Kushites were slowly pushed out of Egypt. In just 10 years the Assyrians had driven the Kushite forces completely out of Egypt.

#### READING CHECK

#### Identifying Cause and Effect

How did internal problems in Egypt benefit Kush?

#### SUMMARY AND PREVIEW

Kush was conquered by Egypt, but later the Kushites controlled Egypt. In the next section, you will learn how the civilization of Kush developed after the Kushites were forced out of Egypt by the Assyrians.

## Section 1 Assessment

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Online Quiz

KEYWORD: SQ6 HP5

### Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People HSS 6.2.8

### Critical Thinking

- a. **Identify** On which river did Kush develop?

b. **Analyze** How did Nubia's natural resources influence the early history of Kush?
- a. **Describe** What is **ebony**?

b. **Analyze** Why did people in Kush adopt some elements of Egyptian culture?

c. **Evaluate** Why do you think Thutmose I destroyed the Kushite palace at Kerma?
- a. **Describe** What territory did **Piankhi** conquer?

b. **Make Inferences** Why is the Twenty-fifth Dynasty significant in the history of Egypt?

c. **Predict** What might have happened in Kush and Egypt if Kush had developed iron weapons?

- Identifying Cause and Effect** Create a chart like the one here. For each cause listed, identify one effect.

Cause	Effect
Villages appear along the Nile.	
Kush trades with Egypt.	
Piankhi conquers Egypt.	
Assyrians use iron weapons.	

#### FOCUS ON WRITING

- Characters and Plot** Make a chart with two columns labeled "Characters" and "Plot." In one column, take notes on the main characters and their interactions. In the other column, note major events and sources of conflict between the characters.

# Later Kush

## If YOU were there...

You live in Meroë, the capital of Kush, in 250 BC. Your father is a skilled ironworker. From him you've learned to shape iron tools and weapons. Everyone expects that you will carry on his work. If you do become an ironworker, you will likely make a good living. But you are restless. You'd like to travel down the Nile to see Egypt and the great sea beyond it. Now a neighbor who is a trader has asked you to join his next trading voyage.

## Will you leave Meroë to travel? Why or why not?

**BUILDING BACKGROUND** The Assyrians drove the Kushites out of Egypt in the 600s BC, partly through their use of iron weapons. Although the Kushites lost control of Egypt, their kingdom did not disappear. In fact, they built up another empire in the African interior, based on trade and their own iron industry.

## Kush's Economy Grows

After they lost control of Egypt, the people of Kush devoted themselves to increasing agriculture and trade, hoping to make their country rich again. Within a few centuries, Kush had indeed become a rich and powerful kingdom once more.

### Kushite Metalwork

Kush's craftspeople made iron spearheads and gold jewelry like you see here.



PHOTOGRAPH © 2004  
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON

## What You Will Learn...

### Main Ideas

1. Kush's economy grew because of its iron industry and trade network.
2. Society and culture in Kush had elements borrowed from other cultures and elements unique to Kush.
3. The decline and defeat of Kush was caused by both internal and external factors.

### The Big Idea

Kush developed an advanced civilization with a large trading network.

## Key Terms and People

trade network, p. 128

merchants, p. 128

exports, p. 128

imports, p. 128

Queen Shanakhdakheto, p. 129

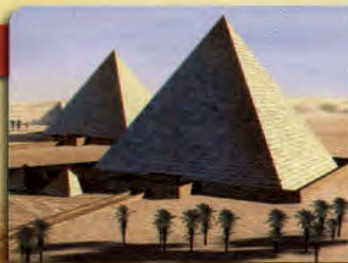
King Ezana, p. 131



**HSS 6.2.8** Identify the location of the Kush civilization and describe its political, commercial, and cultural relations with Egypt.

## Kush's Trade Network

Ancient Kush was at the center of a large trading network with connections to Europe, Africa, and Asia. Kush's location and production of iron goods helped make it a rich trading center.



Goods from the Mediterranean came to Kush through trade with Egypt.

EGYPT

Giza

Luxor

Red Sea

Nubian Desert

KUSH

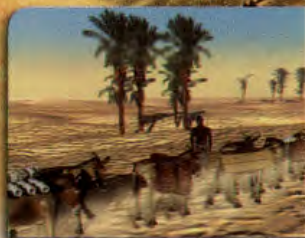
Meroë



In Meroë, workers made iron tools and weapons, jewelry, pottery, and other goods.



At ports on the Red Sea, merchants traded Kush's goods for luxury items like silk and glass.



Caravans from the south brought goods like leopard skins and ostrich eggs to Kush.

### Kush's Iron Industry

The economic center of Kush during this period was Meroë (MER-oh-wee), the kingdom's new capital. Meroë's location on the east bank of the Nile helped Kush's economy. Gold could be found nearby, as could forests of ebony and other wood. More importantly, the area around Meroë was full of iron ore deposits.

In this location the Kushites developed an iron industry. Because resources such as iron ore and wood for furnaces were easily available, the industry grew quickly.

### Expansion of Trade

In time, Meroë became the center of a large **trade network**, a system of people in different lands who trade goods back and forth.

The Kushites sent goods down the Nile to Egypt. From there, Egyptian and Greek **merchants**, or traders, carried goods to ports on the Mediterranean and Red seas and to southern Africa. These goods may have eventually reached India and China.

Kush's **exports**—items sent to other regions for trade—included gold, pottery, iron tools, slaves, and ivory. Kushite merchants also exported leopard skins, ostrich feathers, and elephants. In return, the Kushites received **imports**—goods brought in from other regions—such as fine jewelry and luxury items from Egypt, Asia, and lands around the Mediterranean Sea.

#### READING CHECK

**Drawing Inferences** What helped Kush's iron industry grow?

## Society and Culture

As Kushite trade grew, merchants came into contact with people from other cultures. As a result, the people of Kush combined customs from other cultures with their own unique Kushite culture.

### Kushite Culture

The most obvious influence on Kushite culture was Egypt. Many buildings in Meroë, especially temples, resembled those in Egypt. Many people in Kush worshipped Egyptian gods and wore Egyptian clothing. Like Egypt's rulers, the rulers of Kush used the title *pharaoh* and were buried in pyramids.

Many elements of Kushite culture were unique and not borrowed from anywhere else. For example, Kushite daily life and houses were different from those in other places. One Greek geographer noted some of these differences.

“The houses in the cities are formed by interweaving split pieces of palm wood or of bricks . . . They hunt elephants, lions, and panthers. There are also serpents, which encounter elephants, and there are many other kinds of wild animals.”

—Strabo, from *The Geographies*

In addition to Egyptian gods, people of Kush worshipped their own gods. For example, they prayed to the lion-headed god Apedemek. Also, they developed their own written language, Meroitic. Unfortunately, historians are not able to understand this language.

### Women in Kushite Society

Unlike the women of some other early societies, the women of Kush were expected to be active in their society. Like Kushite men, women worked long hours in the fields. They also raised children, cooked, and performed other household tasks. During times of war, many Kushite women fought alongside men.

Some Kushite women rose to positions of great **authority**, especially religious authority. For example, King Piankhi made his sister a powerful priestess. Later rulers followed his example and made other princesses priestesses as well. Other women from royal families led the ceremonies in which new kings were crowned.

Some Kushite women had even more power. These women served as co-rulers with their husbands or sons. A few Kushite women, such as **Queen Shanakhdakheto** (shah-nahk-dah-KEE-toh), even ruled the empire alone. Several other queens ruled Kush later, helping increase the strength and wealth of the kingdom. Throughout most of its history, however, Kush was ruled by kings.

**READING CHECK** **Contrasting** How was Kushite culture unlike Egyptian culture?

### ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

**authority** power or influence

### THE IMPACT TODAY

More than 50 ancient Kushite pyramids still stand near the ruins of Meroë.

## BIOGRAPHY

### Queen Shanakhdakheto

Ruled 170–150 BC

Historians believe Queen Shanakhdakheto was the first woman to rule Kush. But because we can't understand Meroitic writing, we know very little about Queen Shanakhdakheto. Most of what we know about her comes from carvings found in her tomb, one of the largest pyramids at Meroë. Based on these carvings, many historians think she probably gained power after her father or husband died.

**Drawing Inferences** What information do you think the carvings on the queen's tomb contained?



## Rulers of Kush

Like the Egyptians, the people of Kush considered their rulers to be gods. Kush's culture was similar to Egypt's, but there were also important differences.

Like the Egyptians, Kush's rulers built pyramids, but they were much smaller and the style was different.

Kush was ruled by a few different powerful queens. Queens seem to have been more important in Kush than in Egypt.

Stone carvings were made to commemorate important buildings and events, just like in Egypt. Kush's writing system was similar to Egyptian hieroglyphics, but scholars have been unable to understand most of it.

**ANALYSIS SKILL** ANALYZING VISUALS

What can you see in the illustration that is similar to Egyptian culture?

## Decline and Defeat

The Kushite kingdom centered at Meroë reached its height in the first century BC. Four centuries later, the empire had collapsed. Developments both inside and outside of Kush led to this downfall.

### Loss of Resources

A series of problems within Kush weakened its economic power. One possible problem was that farmers allowed their cattle to overgraze the land. When the cows ate all the grass, there was nothing to hold the soil down. As a result, wind blew the soil away. Without this soil, farmers couldn't produce enough food for Kush's people.

In addition, ironmakers probably used up the forests near Meroë. As wood became scarce, furnaces shut down. Kush could no longer produce enough weapons or trade goods. As a result, Kush's military and economic power declined.

### Trade Rivals

Kush was also weakened by a loss of trade. Foreign merchants set up new trade routes that went around Kush. For example, a new trade route bypassed Kush in favor of a nearby kingdom, Aksum (AHK-soom).

## Rise of Aksum

Aksum was located southeast of Kush on the Red Sea, in present-day Ethiopia and Eritrea. In the first two centuries AD, Aksum grew wealthy from trade. But Aksum's wealth and power came at the expense of Kush. As Kush's power declined, Aksum became the most powerful state in the region.

By the AD 300s, Kush had lost much of its wealth and military might. Seeing that the Kushites were weak, the king of Aksum sent an army to conquer his former trade rival. In about AD 350, the Aksumite army of **King Ezana** (AY-zah-nah) destroyed Meroë and took over the kingdom of Kush.

In the late 300s, the rulers of Aksum became Christian. Their new religion reshaped culture throughout Nubia, and the last influences of Kush disappeared.

**READING CHECK** Summarizing Why did Kush's power decline?

### THE IMPACT TODAY

Much of the population of Ethiopia, which includes what used to be Aksum, is still Christian.

**SUMMARY AND PREVIEW** From their capital at Meroë, the people of Kush controlled a powerful trading network. Next, you will learn about one of Kush's possible trading partners—India.

## Section 2 Assessment

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**Online Quiz**

KEYWORD: SQ6 HP5

### Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People HSS 6.2.8

- a. **Recall** What city became Kush's third capital?

b. **Analyze** Why was this capital in a good location?
- a. **Identify** Who was **Queen Shanakhdakheto**?

b. **Compare** How were Kushite and Egyptian cultures similar?

c. **Elaborate** How does our inability to understand Meroitic affect our knowledge of Kush's culture?
- a. **Identify** What kingdom conquered Kush in the AD 300s?

b. **Summarize** What was the impact of new trade routes on Kush?

### Critical Thinking

- Categorizing** Draw a diagram like this one in your notebook. Use it to list causes of the rise and causes of the fall of the Kushite kingdom centered at Meroë.

Causes of rise	Causes of fall

### FOCUS ON WRITING

- Adding Details** Add details to your chart. What were your characters' lives like? What events caused Kush to change over time? Note events that your characters might take part in during your story.



Analysis

Critical Thinking

**Participation**

Study

## Participating in Groups

### Understand the Skill

Making decisions can be difficult. It can be even harder if the decision is being made by a group. Organizing tasks and taking actions might be simpler if one person decided what to do, but that approach does not respect the desires and needs of the group's other members. Group participation is an important skill. A successful group depends on its members' ability to work together.

### Learn the Skill

To be an effective part of an effective group, you and the other members need to behave in the following ways.

- 1 Be an active member of the group. Take part in setting the group's goals, making its decisions, planning, and taking action.
- 2 State your views and try to persuade others to accept them. However, be willing to listen to their views too. They have the same rights as you do. You have a duty to listen, even if you disagree.
- 3 Be willing to negotiate and compromise to settle differences.

### Practice and Apply the Skill

You learned in Chapter 5 that trade caused Egypt to fear Kush's power. Imagine that you are a citizen of Kush. To prevent an invasion by Egypt, the king has named you to a council of merchants, farmers, craftspeople, and soldiers, a council represented by a group of your classmates. The council has been asked to create rules that will govern trade between Egypt and Kush and calm Egypt's fears. When your group has finished, answer the following questions.

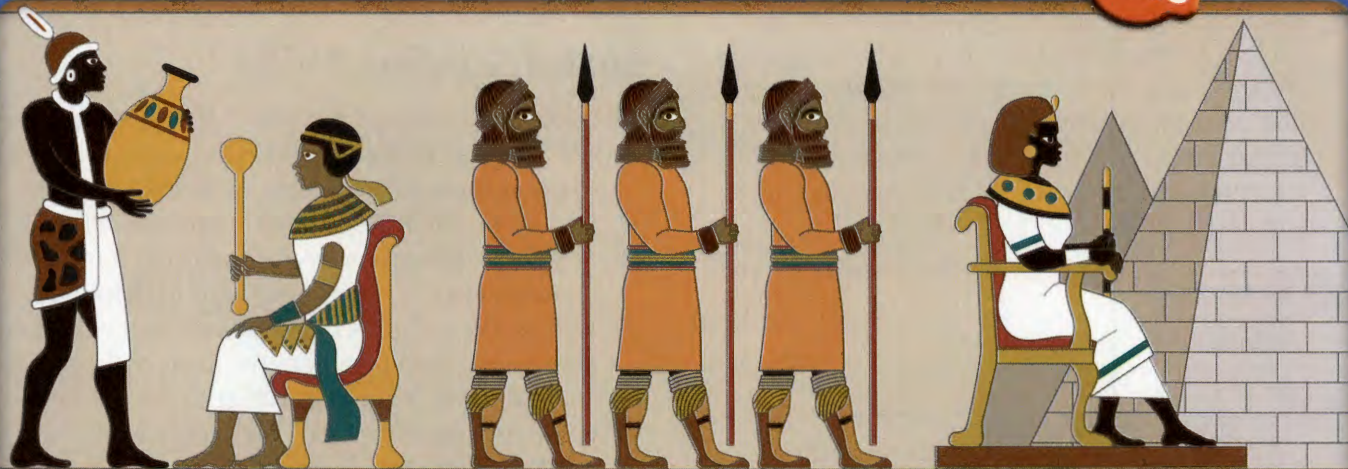
1. Did the members of your group have differences of opinion about what to do? Explain. Evaluate your part in this discussion.
2. Did your group work well together to make decisions? Why or why not? Was compromise involved in your final decision? Explain.



## Visual Summary

Use the visual summary below to help you review the main ideas of the chapter.

**QUICK FACTS**



Egypt dominated early Kush and forced the Kushites to pay tribute.

After Kush conquered Egypt, invaders forced the Kushites to move south to their ancient homeland.

Kush developed an advanced civilization that blended Egyptian culture with cultures from other parts of Africa.

## Reviewing Terms and People

Match the words in the columns with the correct definitions listed below.

- |              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 1. ebony     | 5. export         |
| 2. Piankhi   | 6. import         |
| 3. authority | 7. Shanakhdakheto |
| 4. merchant  | 8. trade network  |
- 
- a. item sent to other regions for trade
- b. king who extended the Kushite empire into Egypt
- c. a trader
- d. dark, heavy wood
- e. groups of people in different lands who trade goods back and forth
- f. may have been the first woman to rule Kush by herself
- g. item brought in for purchase from other regions
- h. power or influence

## Comprehension and Critical Thinking

### SECTION 1 (Pages 122–126) HSS 6.2.8

9. a. **Describe** How did Nubia's physical features affect civilization in the region?
- b. **Analyze** Why did the relationship between Kush and Egypt change more than once over the centuries?
- c. **Predict** If an archaeologist found an artifact near the Fourth Cataract, why might he or she have difficulty deciding how to display it in a museum?

### SECTION 2 (Pages 127–131) HSS 6.2.8

10. a. **Identify** Who was Queen Shanakhdakheto? Why don't we know more about her?
- b. **Compare and Contrast** What are some features that Kushite and Egyptian cultures had in common? How were they different?
- c. **Evaluate** How did two types of environmental damage contribute to the decline of Kush?



## Using the Internet

go.hrw.com  
KEYWORD: SQ6 WH5

### 11. Activity: Researching Life in Ancient Nubia

Would you like to travel back in time to ancient Nubia and explore the wonders of that era? Enter the activity keyword. Then find out about the people, their customs, and their homes. Finally, imagine that you are a person living in ancient Nubia. Take notes about your imagined life and use a chart like the one below to organize your information. Write a journal entry to show what you have learned. In your journal entry, specify which parts of your life have Egyptian influences.

Activities	
Religion	
Homes	

## Reading and Analysis Skills

**Understanding Cause and Effect** Match each cause in List A with an effect from List B.

### List A

- The army of Kush conquered Egypt.
- The Nile flooded every year.
- Meroë had large deposits of iron ore.
- Kush and Aksum were trade rivals.
- The Assyrians' iron weapons were better than the Kushites' bronze weapons.

### List B

- Kush developed an iron industry.
- Aksum conquered Kush.
- The Kushites were driven out of Egypt.
- The soils of Nubia were very fertile.
- The Kushite dynasty took power.

## Reviewing Themes

- Geography** How did Kush's location on the Nile shape its early history?
- Economics** What led to the creation of Africa's first iron industry in Kush?

## Social Studies Skills

- Developing Group Interaction Skills** Working with a small group of your classmates, imagine that you are the leaders of a small village located between Egypt and Kush. The rulers of the two countries have demanded that you choose which country you want to belong to. As a group, decide which country you will join. Remember to look at benefits and challenges associated with joining each country before you make your decision. You may want to use a chart like the one below to help your group organize your thoughts and make your decision.

	Benefits	Challenges
Egypt		
Kush		

## FOCUS ON WRITING



- Writing Your Story** Use the notes you have taken to write your short story about a character from Kush. First, introduce your characters and describe them to readers. In your next paragraph, develop the plot of your story by telling about the conflicts that arise between the characters. In a final paragraph, describe how these conflicts come to a climax and eventually get resolved. Use as many concrete, descriptive details as possible to make your characters and your story come alive for your readers.

# Standards Assessment

**DIRECTIONS:** Read each question, and write the letter of the best response.

- 1** Geography greatly influenced the development of Kushite society. Which of the following was *not* a benefit that geography provided for Kush?
  - A fertile soil for farming
  - B a port on the Red Sea
  - C protection against invaders for many years
  - D valuable gold, copper, and wood for trade
  
- 2** The ancient kingdom of Kush arose in what region?
  - A Egypt
  - B Nubia
  - C Aksum
  - D Mesopotamia
  
- 3** Which of the following statements about the relationship of Egypt and Kush is *not* true?
  - A Egypt ruled Kush for many centuries.
  - B Kush was an important trading partner of Egypt.
  - C Egypt sent the first people to colonize Kush.
  - D Kush ruled Egypt for a period of time.
  
- 4** How did Egypt influence Kush?
  - A Egypt taught Kush how to raise cattle.
  - B Kush adopted Christianity.
  - C Egypt taught Kush to make iron products.
  - D Kush learned about pyramids from Egypt.
  
- 5** The fall of the Kushite civilization resulted from all of the following events *except*
  - A the conquest of Kush by Egypt.
  - B Kush's exhaustion of its natural resources.
  - C new trade routes that bypassed Kush.
  - D the rise of a rival kingdom in the region.

## Connecting with Past Learnings

- 6** You recently learned about the development of civilization in Sumer. Kush and Sumer had all of the following in common *except*
  - A the importance of farming in their early civilization.
  - B the rise of manufacturing and crafts.
  - C involvement in trade.
  - D the Meroitic writing system.
  
- 7** Kush, Egypt, and Sumer all share which of the following characteristics?
  - A All developed along rivers.
  - B All worshipped the same gods.
  - C All used the same money.
  - D All spoke the same language.

## Assignment

Write a description of a place—a city, village, building, or monument—in ancient Mesopotamia or Africa.

### TIP Organizing Details

Organize the details you gather in one of these ways.

- **Spatial Order** Arrange details according to where they are. You can describe things from right to left, top to bottom, or faraway to close up.
- **Chronological Order** Arrange details in the order they occurred or in the order that you experienced them.
- **Order of Importance** Arrange details from the most to least important or vice versa.



**ELA Writing 6.2.0** Students write descriptive texts.

# A Description of a Historical Place

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then a thousand words could add up to a good description. Writers turn to description when they want to explain what a place is like—what you would see if you were there, or what you might hear, smell, or touch.

## 1. Prewrite

### Picking a Subject and a Main Idea

Think about the civilizations of ancient Mesopotamia and Africa. Which civilization seems most interesting to you? What villages, cities, or buildings seem interesting? Select one place and use this textbook, the Internet, or sources in your library to find out more about it.

You also need to decide on your point of view about your subject. For example, was this place scary, exciting, or overwhelming?

### Choosing Details

As you conduct your research, look for details to show your readers what it would have been like to actually be in that place.

- **Sensory Details** What color(s) do you associate with your subject? What shape or shapes do you see? What sounds would you hear if you were there? What could you touch—rough walls, dry grass, a smooth, polished stone?
- **Factual Details** How big was this place? Where was it located? When did it exist? If people were there, what were they doing?

When you choose the details to use in your description, think about your point of view on this place. If it was exciting, choose details that will help you show that.

## 2. Write

This framework will help you use your notes to write a first draft.

### A Writer's Framework

#### Introduction

- Identify your subject and your point of view on it.
- Give your readers any background information that they might need.

#### Body

- Describe your subject, using sensory and factual details.
- Follow a consistent and logical order.

#### Conclusion

- Briefly summarize the most important details about the place.
- Reveal your point of view about the place.

### 3. Evaluate and Revise

#### Evaluating

Use the following questions to discover ways to improve your paper.

#### Evaluation Questions for a Description of a Place

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Do you immediately catch the reader's interest?</li><li>■ Do you use sensory and factual details that work together to create a vivid picture of your subject?</li><li>■ Do you clearly state your point of view or most important idea?</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Is the information organized clearly?</li><li>■ Do you end the description by summarizing the most important details?</li></ul> |
|--|---|

#### TIP

#### Showing Location

When describing the physical appearance of something, make sure you use precise words and phrases to explain where a feature is located. Some useful words and phrases for explaining location are *below*, *beside*, *down*, *on top*, *over*, *next to*, *to the right*, and *to the left*.

#### Revising

We often help others understand or imagine something by making a comparison. Sometimes we compare two things that are really very much alike. For example, "The city grew like San Diego did. It spread along a protected harbor." At other times we compare two things that are not alike. These comparisons are called figures of speech, and they can help your readers see something in an interesting way.

- Similes compare two unlike things by using words such as *like* or *so*. **EXAMPLE** *The city center curved around the harbor like a crescent moon.*
- Metaphors compare two unlike things by saying one is the other. **EXAMPLE** *The city was the queen of the region.*

When you evaluate and revise your description, look for ways you can make your subject clearer by comparing it to something else.

### 4. Proofread and Publish

- Make sure you use commas correctly with a list of details. **EXAMPLE** *The temple was 67 feet high, 35 feet wide, and 40 feet deep.*
- Share your paper with students who wrote about a similar place. What details do your descriptions share? How are they different?
- Find or create a picture of the place you have described. Ask a classmate or a family member to read your description and compare it to the picture.

#### Practice and Apply

Use the steps and strategies outlined in this workshop to write your description of a place in ancient Mesopotamia or Africa.