**The Agricultural Revolution**

**The shift from hunter \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to agriculture is probably the most important ecological event in the history of humanity. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­\_\_\_ revolution was a global event because it happened in parallel developments in many parts of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, although at slightly different times. It is viewed as the beginning of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Core regions of the development of agriculture were in the Fertile \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the Middle East (circa\* 10,000 BCE), ­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (circa 9,000 BCE), New \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (circa 8,000 – 6,000 BCE), and South and Central \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (circa 4,000 BCE). Agriculture revolutionised the way people interacted with other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which revolutionised the way people interacted with each other as well. It made civilisation possible as people started living in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and then eventually in complex city \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

As agriculture became more and more widespread, people began to accumulate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of food, meaning that people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more than they consumed. This resulted in the first commerce or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as people could then trade or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their surplus crops with their neighbours for the items they needed.

We cannot be certain why and how some groups of Palaeolithic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ gatherer peoples began adopting new ways of producing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and other necessities of life by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ plants and domesticating \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because there are no written records of this transition. It is thought perhaps \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ changes associated with the retreat of the glaciers at the end of the last \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (circa 12,000 B.C.), may have played an important role.

The emergence of agriculture also had a major environmental \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the earth. The most important has been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in order to make space for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and livestock. There is also strong evidence that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ clearing for agriculture, the farming of animals and the development of rice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ released significant amounts of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ gasses (methane and CO2).

\*circa is a Latin word meaning around or approximately**

**China gathering Guinea crops swap food Ice Age world America hunter Crescent paddies towns trade animals climatic agricultural civilisation cultivating species states surpluses deforestation grew impact greenhouse land states cultivating**



**THE FIRST AREAS OF AGRICULTURAL CULTIVATION**