

## Check for Understanding

### Multiple-Choice Questions (5 marks)

**Answer** the following multiple-choice questions.

**Select** the most appropriate answer:

1. Animals suitable for domestication needed to:
  - a. Eat small amounts of food.
  - b. Have a calm temperament.
  - c. Be able to sleep outdoors.
  - d. Survive for days without water.
2. Plants chosen for domestication were those that:
  - a. Produced a crop that was small in size.
  - b. Produced a crop that needed to be harvested every month.
  - c. Produced few offspring.
  - d. Produced a crop with desirable characteristics.
3. Agriculture started:
  - a. Around the same time, throughout the world.
  - b. In Mesopotamia.
  - c. As a result of food shortages throughout the world.
  - d. In several different places at different times.
4. Forms of technology used by early agriculturalists included:
  - a. Irrigation.
  - b. Hand and ox-drawn ploughs.
  - c. Crop rotation.
  - d. All of the above.
5. Geographical features that influenced agricultural farming in Mesoamerica included:
  - a. Mountainous terrain and the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.
  - b. Mountainous terrain and the Nile river.
  - c. Flooding.
  - d. Mountainous areas with rugged highlands.

**Short Answer Questions** (13 marks)**Question 1** (4 marks)

**Name** and **describe** two foods that early farmers first grew.

Foods that early farmers grew	Description
Millet	Millet is a wild grain that requires little watering and grows well in dry and cold climates.
Legumes	Legume is the term used to describe the fruits or seeds of some plants.

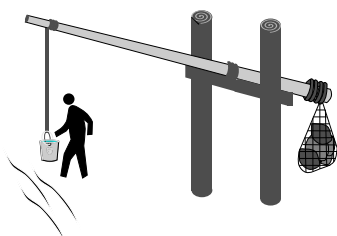
**Question 2** (4 marks)

**Explain** the differences between cross-breeding and plant breeding. 4 marks

Cross-breeding occurs when farmers mate or reproduce two different species, breeds, or varieties of plants and animals. In contrast, plant or selective breeding involves the selection of specific plants with specific desirable characteristics and using the seeds from these plants to produce more plants with the same traits.

**Question 3** (2 marks)

The shaduf (pictured below) is a form of technology used by early Egyptian farmers.



Using the diagram, **explain** how the shaduf assisted Egyptian farmers.

A long pole was used with something that would weigh it down at one end, allowing a bucket to be dipped in canals filled with water. The pole could then spin around and deposit water where it was needed.

**Question 4** (5 marks)

- a. **Identify** one region in the world where early agriculture began. 1 mark

The Nile River

- b. **Explain** two reasons why this region was a suitable place to start agriculture. 2 marks

Every year, the Nile would flood; the water that would flood the flat desert land brought with it black soil from the river. This black soil was full of nutrients; it would spread out onto the land surrounding the riverbanks. This nutrient-rich soil was a form of natural fertiliser and contributed to the success of a range of crops.

- c. **Explain** one form of technology people from this region invented or used on a farm to assist them in farming. 2 marks

Egyptian farmers invented two types of ploughs that donkeys or oxen drew. The first plough was suited to cutting furrows in the soil, while the second plough was much lighter and turned the soil. Developing both of these ploughs saved them time and energy preparing fields for planting. This made planting crops quicker and easier for Egyptians.