

Chapter One Answers

Short Answer

1. 1793 (the text gives his age as twelve in 1805)
2. Virginia
3. Scots migrated to Ireland where many then emigrated to America. (Note: these Scots-Irish often did have a mix of Irish or other ancestry due to the stay in Ireland.)
4. He preached the gospel.
5. prince (or ruler)
6. Samuel Houston, San Houston's father
7. Texas had mild weather and was rich with wildlife.
8. Asia
9. Incas (Peru), Aztecs and Mayas (Mexico).
10. Caddo
11. Head of a cow

Discussion/Essay

1. The preaching of the gospel in Scotland had two main effects: political turmoil increased emigration to America (and thus settlement of the frontier), and second, the character of the Scots-Irish people was influenced by the gospel. The text mentions the opinion of John Knox, that the law of the land is above the will of the prince, a common view of government among Christians. At this point the students may not know that the abrogation of the Mexican Constitution of 1824 was a key provocation of the Texas Revolution, echoing the protests of American colonists in 1776. Basically, the students should grasp that the kind of people settling the western frontier (and eventually Texas) and how they thought had an influence on events.
2. John Knox believed that the law of the land was above the will of the prince; the "rule of law." This belief was apparently shared by the American descendants of the Scottish Reformation, and by many other colonists as well. Also, independent frontiersmen and settlers tended to support the Revolution.

3. The development of agriculture frees a people from constantly gathering food. Having a surplus and/or store of crops enables individuals to engage in other productive endeavors. Without agriculture, a society exists on a subsistence level.

4. The Roman Empire is a good example of the development, rise, and eventual decay of a civilization. Others can be used as well to support a cyclical view of civilization. However, some students may wish to argue for an overall increase in knowledge, citing developments in technology, medicine, a trip to the moon as examples of things which presumably have never before been possible.

5. In a hunter/gatherer group individuals would spend much time gathering and preparing food, and there would be periods of time when food was scarce; the Coahuiltecans, an example of such a group, practiced infanticide because they regarded the earth (their part of it) as overpopulated. In other words, there wasn't quite enough food to go around. Hunter/gatherers tended to be very simple in lifestyle, clothing, building, etc. On the other hand, agriculture made other endeavors possible: the student may be able to see that handicrafts, woven cloth, metalworking, and even mathematics or astronomy would be then possible.