

# Southern Asia: Place and Times

**SECTION 1** Physical Geography

**SECTION 2** Ancient India

**SECTION 3** Ancient Crossroads

**Place** The temple complex at Angkor Wat, Cambodia, is dedicated to the Hindu god Vishnu. Built in the 1100s, it covers almost one square mile.







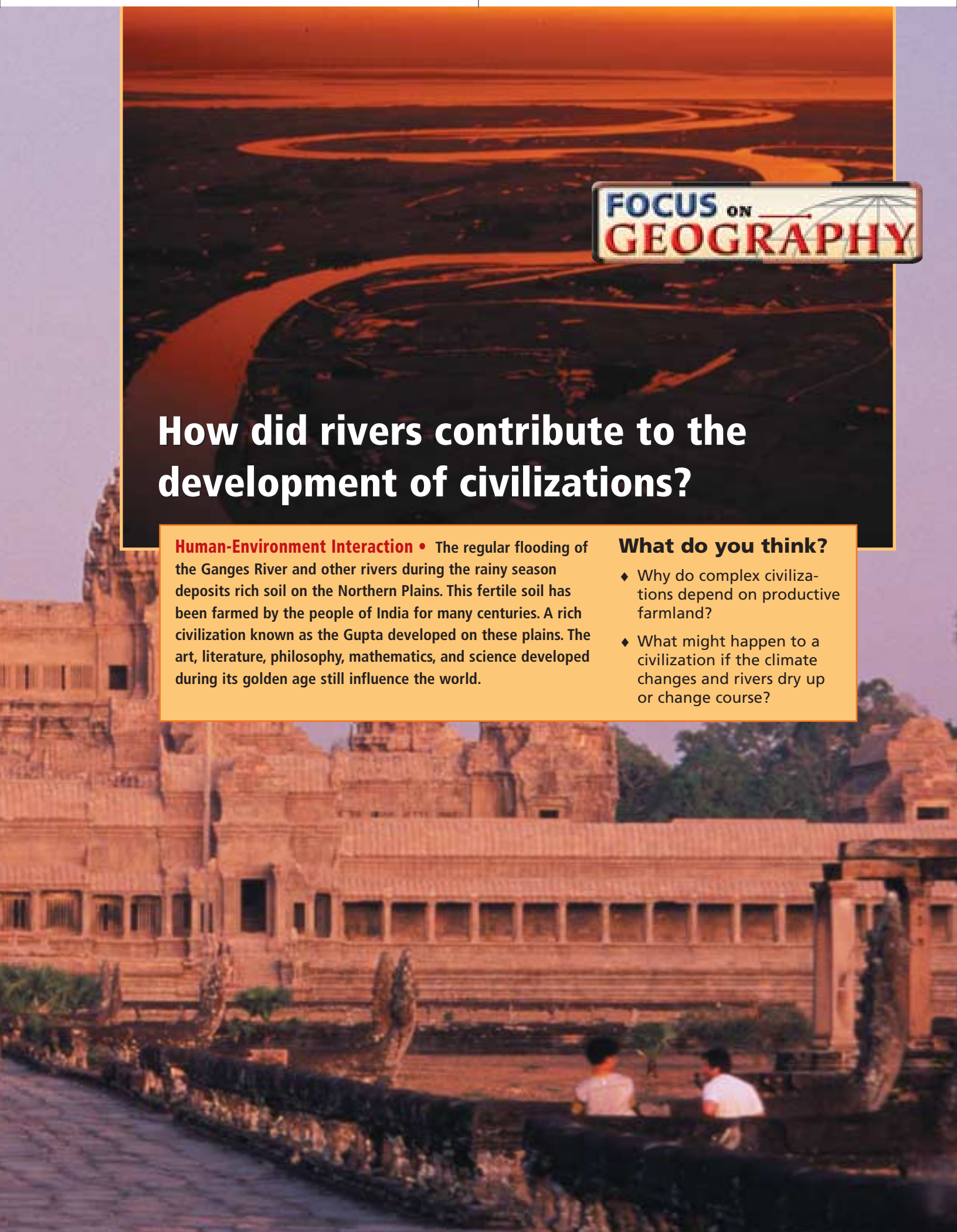
## FOCUS ON GEOGRAPHY

# How did rivers contribute to the development of civilizations?

**Human-Environment Interaction** • The regular flooding of the Ganges River and other rivers during the rainy season deposits rich soil on the Northern Plains. This fertile soil has been farmed by the people of India for many centuries. A rich civilization known as the Gupta developed on these plains. The art, literature, philosophy, mathematics, and science developed during its golden age still influence the world.

### What do you think?

- ◆ Why do complex civilizations depend on productive farmland?
- ◆ What might happen to a civilization if the climate changes and rivers dry up or change course?





# READING SOCIAL STUDIES

## BEFORE YOU READ

### ►► What Do You Know?

Before you read the chapter, consider what you already know about Southern Asia. What stories have you read or heard about climbing the Himalayas, the highest mountains in the world? What do you know about explorers who have traveled the area's rain forests? What do you know about India? Have you read or heard about Hinduism or Buddhism, the major religions of Southern Asia? Reflect on what you have learned in other classes, what you have read, and what you may have seen in documentaries or news reports about the history of this region.

### ►► What Do You Want to Know?

Decide what you know about Southern Asia. In your notebook, record what you hope to learn from this chapter.



**Culture** • Shiva is one of the Hindu gods worshiped in Southern Asia. ◀

**Place** • Mohenjo-Daro was once a thriving city in Southern Asia. ▼



## READ AND TAKE NOTES

**Reading Strategy: Categorizing** Categorizing is a useful strategy for organizing information you read about in social studies. Categorizing means sorting things or ideas into groups. Use the chart at the right to categorize information about the geographic and human factors that shaped the ancient history of Southern Asia.

- Copy the chart into your notebook.
- As you read, look for information about geographic features and human civilization.
- When you reach the end of a section, record key details next to the appropriate headings.
- Note that the geography of Southeast Asia is discussed in Section 1 and Section 3.

Factors	Impact of Geography/ Contributions of Civilizations
South Asia	
Geography of Indian Subcontinent	
Indus River Civilization (about 2500–1700 B.C.)	
Aryans (1700 B.C.)	
Hinduism	
Buddhism (500 B.C.)	
Mauryan Dynasty (about 324–185 B.C.)	
Gupta Dynasty (A.D. 320–500)	
Southeast Asia	
Geography	
Location	
Early Advances	
Southeast Asian empires (6th century A.D.)	