

Sample Outline from Spodek Book:

In order to receive full credit, your outlines should be detailed enough to supplement reading the book again. Development of excellent notes is essential to your success in an AP History class. After reading the first page of chapter 2, compare the text with the outline below as a sample.

Chapter 2: From Village Community to City-State (10,000 BCE – 750 BCE)

- I. Humans started settling down in agricultural villages c. 10,000 BCE
 - a. Why?
 - i. Not because agriculture is easier than gathering/hunting
 - ii. Perhaps population pressure and worsening climate
 - b. Chinese myth tells of transition
 - i. “no longer enough animals and birds to supply their needs...”
 - ii. “so it was that Shen Nung taught the people how to cultivate the earth.”
 - c. Earliest known agricultural villages are in “fertile crescent”
 - i. Neolithic Era
 1. New tools for farming, other sedentary tasks
 2. Trade to obtain good stone for tools, etc.
 3. Growing use of pottery and other goods (jewelry, statuary, and figurings)
 - ii. Villages in some parts of world formed without agriculture (Jomon in Japan)
- II. First Cities
 - a. Problem of innovation v. diffusion
 - i. General agreement that urbanization invented in seven places
 1. Mesopotamia
 2. Nile Valley
 3. Indus Valley
 4. Huang He Valley
 5. Niger Valley
 6. Mexico
 7. Andes Mountains