Garbarino and Sasso Study Questions: Chapter 2

What was the most important crop of all to most early Native American cultivators? What is the site of earliest domestication for the crop? When is it first domesticated? When does this crop first make its way into the eastern part of what is now the United States? This crop is part of a “trinity” with two other crops. What are they? Which of these last two members was the last to be domesticated? What are some of the other cultigens first domesticated in the Americas? What medicines have their origins as Native folk remedies? At what point is there evidence for the domestication of dogs in the New World? Where are llamas domesticated? How about turkeys, and by what three cultures?

Characterize the special challenges faced by farmers in the American Southwest. What techniques were used to overcomes them? This chapter mentions three distinct groups of prehistoric Indians in the Southwest. What are they and who are their modern descendants thought to be? Where are these three prehistoric cultures specifically located? Which are associated with the building of pithouses? What are the advantages of this housing type in the Southwest?

The Mogollon are famous for their “killed” pottery. What is the significance of such “killed” pots? What is thought to have happened to the Mogollon after about 1000 A.D.? Who are the Hohokam and what does their name mean in the Pima language? What is the biggest difference between Hohokam agriculture and that of their neighbors? Remnants of their culture lie today under what major southwestern city? What is special about Hohokam irrigation canals? Why did they exert so much effort in their building? What is the evidence for Meso-American contacts in the Southwest? At what time do the Hohokam appear to begin a decline?

Pueblos are most associated with what prehistoric Southwestern group? What four states does their territory cover? When were the first pueblos built? What is the significance of their road system? Around what major site in Chaco Canyon are these roads centered? What are some of the possible reasons for the decline of this culture?

What are some of the suggested reasons why agriculture was never prominent outside of the areas we’ve discussed thus far?

At what time is the bow and arrow introduced to the Eastern Woodlands? How about Maize? What is the relationship between maize agriculture and sedentism? What activity seems to increase in this area at the same time that maize and sedentism come into play? How is the Mississippian cultural tradition different from other mound building cultures that preceded it? What’s the Buzzard cult? What sorts of symbols are associated with it? Is there evidence for Mexican contact with the moundbuilders, and if so, what is it? What was the estimated population of Cahokia, and where is this site located? What are some of the suggested reasons that the moundbuilders declined as a culture? What group, encountered by the French, was one of the last groups following the late Woodland tradition?

How was the culture of the eastern Plains people different from the Woodland tradition?

Key Terms (italicized words are either not found in the text or are poorly defined)

Cahokia
Kiva
Moundville, AL
Pueblo Bonito
Waffle Garden
Chaco Canyon
Mesa Verde
Oneota
Snaketown
Etowah, GA
Mimbres
Pithouse
Spiro, OK
Head gate
Monk’s Mound
Pueblo
Teosinte