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death and prepared for the afterlife. The Egyptians were reasonably well protected from attack and thus lived lives that embraced the future and they made grand preparations for their passage into the afterlife. In contrast the Sumerians were vulnerable to attack and lived a much more volatile existence. Their funerary rites were uncomplicated for their passage into the afterlife. The Sumerians were one of the first peoples to develop a system of writing. Their writing system was called cuneiform and was named after the wedge shaped writing implement used. It was etched onto clay tablets, which were then fired in kilns to make the writing last. The Egyptians developed hieroglyphics, which were a very different style of recording information and they also wrote on papyrus made from reeds. Papyrus was cheaper and easier to produce than clay tablets, which resulted in vast record keeping capabilities with the Egyptians. The differences in geography between the two civilizations led to the development of different writing technology. When comparing the technological advances of the two great civilizations Mesopotamia's is more impressive. This is probably due to the fact that the surrounding environment of the Sumerians was harsher and more difficult to predict and manage. Sumerian and Egyptian governments were quite different. Egyptian government tended to be more authoritarian with absolute power residing with the pharaoh; however in Sumer the city-state politics allowed for more input from nobles acting as councils. Summary: 1.Both were great ancient civilizations 2.The Egyptians had more complex funerary ceremonies and afterlife mythology than the Sumerians 3.Both peoples developed complex, but different writing systems for the purpose of record keeping. 4.The Sumerians had more technological advancements than the Egyptians. 5. Egyptian government was more authoritarian than Sumerian government. Facebook Email Twitter Print Email This Post : If you like this article or our site. Please spread the word. Share it with your friends/family.