

Numidia, an ancient kingdom of North Africa

Long before the arrival of the Romans, the Berber tribes of North Africa had built a powerful kingdom called Numidia. Its most famous king, Massinissa, who ruled in the second century BC, united the tribes and made Cirta his capital. He encouraged farmers to grow wheat, which became one of the main exports of the kingdom. Numidia also developed its own coins and a writing system known as Libyan script. After Massinissa had died, his successors struggled to keep the kingdom independent, and Rome eventually took control of the region. Today, monuments such as the Medracen remind us of this rich civilization.

Part One: Reading (15 points)

A. Comprehension : (8 points)

1. Choose the right answer: The text is a) a biography, b) a historical account, c) an advertisement.
2. True or false? a) Massinissa made Cirta his capital. b) Numidia had no writing system.
3. Answer: What did Massinissa encourage farmers to do?
4. What do the underlined words refer to? "Its most famous king" → "which became one of the main exports" →

B. Text exploration : (7 points)

1. Find in the text words closest in meaning to: joined together — finally.
2. Put the verbs in the correct tense: After the king (unite) the tribes, he (build) a strong army.
3. Join with a relative pronoun: "Massinissa was a king. He ruled Numidia."
4. Give the opposite using a prefix: possible — legal.

Part Two: Written expression (5 points)

Written expression

Write a short article (about 120 words) for your school magazine about an ancient civilization you admire. Mention where and when it existed and its main achievements.

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