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Essay

Controlling of water levels can cause societies to break down and corrupt. Based on documents 2,3, and 4 Paleolithic man could not control his food supply because they hunted for their food. Paleolithic man had to hunt for their food so there was no guarantee that they would eat every night. The Neolithic revolution helped this problem by establishing a reliable food source according to W. Mays, "*Irrigation Systems, Ancient*". However new problems did occur because of the neolithic revolution. The physical environment became important because they needed a food source so therefore we needed to control water levels, and the amount of water flooded in the field, this caused villages to be wiped out, people and crops killed even! This is scary for many people that live near the rivers and rely on the water levels to grow their crops.

The Early River Valley Civilizations were surrounded by rivers and large bodies of water according to Gritzner, "*Exploring Our World, Past and Present*." This made it very easy for the civilization to obtain water and keep their crops healthy. However many issues occurred with too much flooding and not enough flooding. According to Larry W. Mays, "*Irrigation Systems, Ancient*," Egypt was attempting to control the Nile water levels so they could water their crops. They accidentally had a high power flow and ended up killing thousands of people in the village. Many other things play a part such as the attempts to control water.

The attempts of controlling water have benefitted too. Egypt did benefit from flooding their land, they created an abundance of food. According to *How did plantings seeds change in the 1700s?* They used seeds and plants along with flooding to create the surplus of food .

This is much like the Green Revolution where we used chemical fertilizers to increase the yield in crops but it also destroyed the land, water and air we breath. Man had new problems to secure a stable food supply when he became a farmer. At first all he needed was proximity to a river and the fertile land that came from the alluvial plains. Next as population grew he needed to move away from the rivers so the problem included irrigation solutions and then in the agricultural revolution new machines to work difficult land. This was an huge advancement in technology which was great for the crop growth but it also affects us and the environment. The Green Revolution and the introduction of chemical fertilizers, synthetic herbicides and pesticides, high-yield crops, and the method of multiple cropping, the agricultural industry was able to produce much larger quantities of food. This increase in productivity made it possible to feed the growing human population. The Green Revolution also had many problems with it, the new pesticides and herbicides created lots of pollution and erosion to the Earth. The benefits of the green revolution are very good but yet they don't outweigh the costs so therefore our planet won't be able to sustain this and we will have to do something about it in the near future.