Reading Worksheet for Sections 3.1/3.2

History of Mathematics

Section 3.1:

1. Why did mathematics arise, according to Aristotle?

2. Give a short description of Thales (if you can keep it short!): what is the most remarkable thing about him?

3. Contrast Eastern and Greek education, from this reading.

Section 3.2:

1. Who might be called the first known woman mathematician?

2. What are the seven liberal arts?

3. What were some of the more bizarre beliefs of the Pythagoreans?

4. What impact did Nicomachus have on mathematics?