






























The cuneiform writing system was in use for more than 30 centuries, as the world's first system through several stages of evolution, from the 34th century BC down to the 1st century AD.^[1] It was

completely replaced by alphabetic writing in the course of the Roman era and has left behind no descendant systems in continued use. For this reason, it had to be deciphered from scratch in 19th century Assyriology.

Successful completion of decipherment is dated to 1857. The system consists of a combination of logophonetic, consonantal alphabetic and syllabic signs.^[2]

The cuneiform script underwent considerable changes over a period of more than two millennia. The image below shows the development of the sign

													
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	
N													
O													
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n
