The Islamic Empire

African Kingdoms and Trading States

Name: ____________________________

Period: __________________________

Due Date: ________________________
Caliph

Calligraphy

Lineage

Mansa

Matrilineal

Patrilineal

Slash and burn agriculture

Sultan

Sultanate

Surplus
Rise of Islam and Islamic Empires

Notes

I. Spread of Islam

A. between 600 and 900 A.D. Islam expanded throughout the _______________ and beyond

B. Regions eventually seeing converts to the Islamic faith included Middle East, North Africa, parts of Spain and Sicily, India and Southeast Asia.

II. Early Muslim Society

A. over time there is ____________

B. most non-Muslims were allowed to practice their own faith but a special ____________ was applied to them

C. slavery was common

D. initially women have many freedoms but lose them over time

III. Muslim Empires

A. ____________ Dynasty (661-750 A.D.)
   1. Empire went from Atlantic in the west to the Indus Valley in the east

B. ____________ Dynasty (750-mid 1200’s A.D.)
   1. brought a ____________ to the Muslim world
   2. empire included many cultures. Ex: Arabs, Persians, Egyptians, Europeans

IV. Golden Age of Islam

A. Numerous advances made in art, literature, learning, math, science, and medicine
The Arabs were nomadic people who lived in the Arabian Peninsula. By the 600s A.D., communities began to grow as trade increased. The city of Mecca became an important stop on a trade route. A mix of people, including Christians and Jews, lived in Mecca. The idea of believing in one God, who was called Allah in Arabic, was not new to Arabia. Mecca was a mixed religious environment around 570, when Muhammad was born.

Born in Mecca to a merchant family, Muhammad had a great interest in religion. He often spent time alone praying or meditating. When Muhammad was about 40 years old, he went to the hills to meditate. Muhammad said that while he was meditating, Allah sent him a message. In this message, Allah told Muhammad that Allah was the one and only God. He said that people should abandon all other gods and worship only Allah.

Muhammad came back from the hills and said he was a prophet of Allah. He began to preach that everyone should follow him and convert to Islam. "Islam" means "submission to the will of Allah." Followers of Islam are called Muslims.

As he gathered more followers, Muhammad became both a religious and a political leader. Some people did not like Muhammad's beliefs and acted violently toward him and his followers. Muhammad built an army to defend his group. The Muslims took over Mecca in 630, and most of the people converted to Islam. Two years later, as Islam began to spread throughout the Arabian Peninsula, Muhammad died.

After Muhammad's death, the Arabs were left with a problem. Muhammad had not said who should take over after him. His father-in-law, Abu Bakr, was chosen to be the new leader. Under Abu Bakr, the Muslims expanded throughout Arabia and beyond.

The Muslims defeated the Byzantine army and took control of Syria. They took Egypt and northern Africa. By 650, the Arabs had conquered the entire Persian Empire. The Islamic Empire continued to grow. Spain, northern Africa, and Mesopotamia were brought under Arab rule during the Umayyad Dynasty. Many people in all these places converted to Islam.

The Islamic Empire eventually split into separate kingdoms after being invaded by the Mongols from China. Although the Islamic Empire had come to an end, the religion of Islam continued. With over a billion followers, Islam is one of the world's major religions.
The Islamic Empire

Multiple Choice
Circle the best answer, and write the letter in the box.

1. The city of ____________ became an important stop on a trade route in the Arabian Peninsula.
   A. Medina
   B. Mecca
   C. Babylon
   D. Córdoba

2. The word for “God” in Arabic is “__________.”
   A. Allah
   B. Umayyad
   C. Muslim
   D. Islam

3. Muhammad was ____________.
   A. a political leader
   B. a religious leader
   C. both a religious and a political leader
   D. a scientist

4. ____________ took over to lead the Muslims after Muhammad died.
   A. The Mongols
   B. The Umayyad Dynasty
   C. The Turks
   D. Abu Bakr

5. The Muslims conquered ____________.
   A. the Persian Empire
   B. Spain
   C. northern Africa
   D. all of the above
Map – Spread of Islam
Use the map to answer the following questions. Write the answers in complete sentences.

1. During what span of years did Spain become part of the Islamic Empire?

2. Which city became part of the Islamic Empire first: Cairo or Medina?

3. Which three bodies of water border Arabia?
**Islam and the Sciences**

*Video*

**Directions:** While watching the video in class, list a minimum of seven achievements of the Islamic World during their golden age.

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

7)
Golden Age

Islamic civilization experienced a golden age under the Abbassid Dynasty, which ruled from the mid 8th century until the mid 13th century. Under the Abbassids, Islamic culture became a blending of Arab, Persian, Egyptian, and European traditions. The result was an era of stunning intellectual and cultural achievements.

Arts & Literature

According to the teachings of the Qur’an, Islamic artists were forbidden from using human figures in religious art. Therefore, they developed a style of geometric shapes and patterns that were used to decorate religious buildings called Mosques. These geometric patterns usually contained verses from the Qur’an written in a stylized form of decorative handwriting called calligraphy.

Non-religious artists were allowed to use human figures. This type of work most often appears in scholarly works of science or literature, which were lavishly illustrated.

Islamic architects borrowed heavily from the Byzantine Empire which used domes and arches extensively throughout their cities. An example of this use can be seen in the Dome of the Rock, a famous mosque in Jerusalem.

There were many different styles of Islamic literature. Most works were based on the Qur’an, but some Islamic artists wrote poetry about the joys and sorrows of love. Also, stories from other cultures were adapted and rewritten for Islamic civilization. The most famous collection is called *The Thousand and One Nights*, which is a collection of tales that includes such well known stories as *Aladdin and His Magic Lamp*.

Philosophy

Islamic scholars translated philosophic texts from a variety of cultures. These include works from China, India, and Ancient Greece. Scholarly commentary written about these texts influenced a variety of cultures, including European civilizations.

Math & Science

Islamic scholars studied both Greek and Indian mathematics before making important contributions of their own. The most well known Islamic mathematician was al-Khwarizimi, who pioneered the study of algebra. His
textbook on the subject became a standard in European universities for centuries.

Islamic scholars were also skilled in astronomy. They studied eclipses, the rotation of the planets, and calculated the circumference of the earth to within a few thousand feet.

**Medicine**

Many advances were also made in the field of medicine. Physicians and pharmacists were required to pass exams before treating patients. They setup hospitals that had separate areas for trauma cases, this is the basis for today’s emergency rooms. Physicians developed treatments for cataracts, used a variety of herbal remedies, and were adept at treating a variety of injuries. Islamic pharmacists were the first to mix sweet tasting syrups with medicine, ensuring that they would be taken.

Ibn Sina, a famous Islamic physician, wrote a book called *Canon on Medicine*, which was an encyclopedia of Greek, Arabic, and his own knowledge of medicine. This book became the standard medical text in Europe for over five hundred years.

**Economic Achievements**

Under the Abbassids, a vast trading network was created which helped to spread religion, culture, and technology among the different peoples of the empire. New business practices such as, partnerships, the use of credit, and banks to exchange currency, were developed to handle the increase in trade. The establishment of such vast trading networks made the many nations within the Islamic Empire very wealthy, and helped to stimulate many of their cultural and intellectual achievements.

**Law**

Islam developed a system of law based on the Qur’an. This system was created to help people apply the Qur’an to everyday life and situations. The book of laws, called the *Sharia*, regulates all aspects of life including, moral behavior, family life, business dealings, and government.

Activity: Using the above information, fill in the graphic organizer on the next page with the proper details under each achievement heading.
Geography of Africa

I. Climate Zones

A. _________ - less than 5% of Africa
B. _________ - grassy plains, where most of the people live, good soil, inconsistent rainfall, some areas infested with tsetse fly
C. _________ - harsh terrain, ex: Sahara, largest desert in the world
D. _________ - good soil; warm, wet winters; hot, dry summers

* The topography of Africa is very ______________.
* Almost half of Africa is covered by desert and savannas.

II. Diverse Physical Features and Effects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Nile River, Red Sea, Mediterranean Sea</td>
<td>(1) helped _________ and transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Great Rift Valley</td>
<td>(2) helped _________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Congo, Niger, Zambezi Rivers</td>
<td>(3) limited trade and transportation because these rivers have many ________________, cataracts, and steep waterfalls and are not navigable for their entire length</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Sahara, Kalahari, Namib Deserts</td>
<td>(4) limited _________, sparsely populated, protected some kingdoms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) mountains</td>
<td>(5) _________ to trade and movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) smooth coastline</td>
<td>(6) few good _________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) many natural resources: salt, iron, gold, copper</td>
<td>(7) _________ among Africans and Arab merchants</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Many diverse cultures developed in Africa because of its great size and many geographic barriers. The cultures of North Africa developed differently from the rest of Africa because of the Sahara Desert.

III. __________________ AD 500- 1,000

West African farmers and herders migrated south and east, spreading their skills wherever they settled. They adapted to Africa’s many climates and developed a diversity of cultures. They spoke many languages derived from ______________.

* Migrations contributed to the rich diversity of African people and cultures.
Directions: color the above climates on the map using a different color for each climate.
THE BANTU MIGRATION

Who were the Bantu?

The term Bantu refers to group of people who speak the same or similar language with common word "NTU" which means a person. The Bantu-speaking groups include the Baganda, Banyoro, Batoro in Uganda, Kikuyu, Akamba, Meru, Embu, Taita, Giryama, Digo in Kenya and Pokomo, Chagga, Yao, Segeju, Zaramo in Tanzania, as well as many other smaller groups.

What is the Bantu Migration?

The Bantu-speaking peoples migrated from Western Africa-- near modern-day Nigeria--southward and eastward, spreading out across all of the southern half of the African continent. This migration started at about 1000 B.C.E., and ended at about 1700 A.D. although that date is still in dispute.

Reasons for Bantu Migration

*Drought and famine:* They moved due to the fear of famine, which broke out due to overcrowding and drought. The climate in their cradle land had become unreliable and unpredictable.

*Population increase which resulted into overcrowding:* They migrated due to population pressure. They became overpopulated in their cradle land. This led to the scarcity of grazing and agriculture land, and so they had to move to look for more land, both for agriculture and for their cattle.

*Constant attacks (external pressure):* Attacks from stronger tribes in West Africa and the Nile Valley. They moved due to external pressure, especially due to the migration of the Arabs into West Africa. The Arabs were believed to be more hostile, and so Africans were forced to move southwards.

*Internal conflicts from the Bantu tribes:* They migrated due to internal misunderstandings and conflicts between the different clans. These conflicts concerned the ownership of agricultural areas, the shortage of grazing lands and watering areas.

*Epidemics and diseases/natural calamities:* The Bantu moved due to natural disasters which may include earthquakes, over flooding of rivers, sickness, diseases such as Nagana caused by Tsetse flies and sleeping sickness.

*Search for fertile land:* Since they were predominantly farmers, the Bantu migrated in order to find more land which could be more fertile than the cradle land, which could no longer support them. E.g. they had changed from hunting and gathering fruits, to farming and had even discovered new crops such as yams and bananas.

*Love for adventure:* They moved due to their desire for adventure. They wanted to find out what was happening in other areas.

*Group influence:* Some moved because they had seen their relatives and friends move.

*Need for water and pasture:* Their animals forced them to move.
Exportation of their iron-working culture: They had discovered the knowledge of iron working and had invented iron tools. These iron tools had transformed the agricultural sector by making the clearing of land for cultivation faster and more efficient.

Effects of the Bantu Migration

The results of the Bantu migration were both positive and negative.

Positive results

Introduction of iron working: They introduced iron-working and the use of iron tools in the interior of East Africa. At first they used stone tools but when iron-smelting was started, there was an increase in food production.

Introduction of new crops: The Bantu introduced and increased the knowledge of food and extensive crop cultivation. Earlier on, the inhabitants of East Africa were food gatherers, but with iron smelting and its results, food production started.

The absorbed other tribes: This led to a widespread Bantu languages of “NTU” prefix in East Africa.

They introduced centralized administration: They introduced a centralized system of government whereby the king acted as the overall ruler, under who were the other chiefs, down to the lay person.

 Introduced a system of building permanent homes: They opened new lands to settlement in families, clans and villages.

The knowledge of iron smelting: The Bantu introduced iron smelting which led to the making of hoes and pangas for tilling and clearing land, as well as bows, arrows and spears for defense and protection.

They introduced subsistence agriculture: They grew enough food for home consumption, and the rest could be kept in case of shortages, or be exchanged in barter trade.

They led to a rise of large states and bigger tribes in East Africa, e.g. the Baganda, Kikuyu, Nyamwezi. e.t.c

Negative effects

The Bantu migration led to depopulation: This was caused by the frequent attacks made by the Bantu against the people of East Africa for land, through wars. Many people died through these wars.

There was loss of culture due to cultural absorption: This was brought about due to Bantu intermarrying with the non-Bantu peoples, whom they came across.

There was transformation of languages into new ones: This led to the dying down of some of the Bantu languages, while others remained.

Source: http://www.elateafrica.org/elate/history/bantumigration/causesandeffects.html
Bantu Migration Questions

1. Who are the Bantu?

2. Why did they move from their cradle land?

3. What were the positive effects of their movement and settlement on the people of East Africa?

4. What were the negative effects of their movement and settlement on the people of East Africa?
In what part of Africa did the Bantu originate; to what parts of Africa did they migrate?
African Kingdoms and Trading States

Notes

I. East African Trading States

A. Nubia/Kush (1000 B.C. – 350 A.D.)

1. Trading kingdom located in the __________ corner of Africa

2. Conquered by and then they conquered Egypt

3. Built up wide trade network where they exported ____________
   ____________

4. Produced iron tools and weapons

5. Developed system of __________

6. Adopted many Egyptian traditions (pyramids, palaces)

7. Conquered by the kingdom of ____________.

B. Axum (900 B.C. – 600 A.D.)

1. Trading kingdom located on the East African coast (Ethiopia)

2. Trade linked Africa, India and Mediterranean world through the Red Sea

3. Descendants of African farmers and traders from Arabia who brought
   the ___________ and __________ faith to the region

4. Decline due to ___________ and Muslim invasions

II. West African Trading States

A. Ghana (800 A.D. – 1000 A.D.)

1. Controlled ____________ trade routes across West Africa

2. Viewed king as semi-divine

3. High status held by ____________

4. Influenced by Muslims through king’s advisers and Muslim settlers
5. Defeated by the ________ (north African Muslims)

B. Mali (1200 A.D. – 1450 A.D.)

1. Expanded influence over ____________ trade routes
2. Built large cities like ____________
3. Expanded borders to the Atlantic Ocean
4. Conquered Berber cities in the north
5. Famous Ruler: _______________ – converted to Islam and made a pilgrimage to Mecca
6. Mali becomes a center of learning: large university built at Timbuktu
7. Succession issues causes several groups to breakaway

C. Songhai (1450 A.D. – 1600 A.D.)

1. Largest West African state
2. Controlled key trade routes and wealthy cities
3. Held traditional religious beliefs, with Muslim influence later on
4. Set up ________________ and bureaucracy
5. ____________ and eventually take over from northern invaders (Moroccans) lead to its downfall
Africa has a variety of geographical features. The huge continent is made up of snowy mountains, deserts, tropical rain forests, grasslands, and coastal areas. Deserts cover almost half of Africa. On the northern coast and the southern tip, a mild climate zone provides fertile farming land. Ten percent of the continent has rain forests with heavy rains and hot temperatures. Savannas, or grasslands that have small trees and shrubs, cover much of the rest of Africa.

The varied regions offer many valuable resources, like salt, gold, iron, copper, diamonds, and oil. These natural resources made Africa a perfect place for trading empires to develop. As early civilizations grew, trade became an important part of Africa’s growth.

For example, Ghana emerged in about 500 A.D. and became one of the first great trading states. Located on the savannah of West Africa, Ghana’s gold made it the center of an enormous trading empire. Ghana traded its gold for products brought from North Africa. Muslim merchants brought metal goods, cloth, horses, and salt to Ghana. Because salt was scarce in the savannah, it was worth its weight in gold. People needed salt to help prevent them from getting dehydrated. Ghana also traded ivory, ostrich feathers, animal skins, and slaves for items from other areas.

A great deal of trade was done across Africa’s deserts. Muslim merchants bought goods from local traders. Then, they sold the items to the Berbers. The Berbers were nomadic traders who traveled in camel caravans. Camels were useful for desert travel because they could drink large amounts of water at one time. They could also travel for many days with little food. Camels became known as “ships of the desert.”

On Africa’s eastern coast, people traded up and down the coastline. Beginning in about the 600s, Muslims from the Arabian Peninsula began to settle at coastal ports. They formed a string of trading ports, including Mogadishu, Mombasa, and Kilwa. Merchants in those cities became very wealthy. They traded ivory, animal skins, iron, copper, and pearls for items from India, Southeast Asia, and China. These things included cotton cloth, silk, spices, porcelain, glassware, and swords.

Trade made Africa a prosperous continent. It also allowed for a lot of mixing of cultures. Because the Muslim traders interacted with the Africans, a mixed African-Arabian culture grew in the coastal areas. The Muslim religion and Arabic architectural styles became a part of African culture.
Africa’s Trading Empires

Crossword Puzzle
Write the best answer in each blank, and complete the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS
2. Africa has many ___________ ___________, like salt, gold, and diamonds.
4. A/an ___________ ___________ developed in West Africa.
7. The Berbers were ___________ traders.
9. ___________ began to settle in Africa’s coastal ports.
10. ___________ made Africa a prosperous continent.

DOWN
1. People needed ___________ to help prevent them from getting dehydrated.
3. ___________ are grasslands that have small trees and shrubs.
5. ___________ was the center of West Africa’s trading empire.
6. ___________ were called “ships of the desert.”
8. Trade allowed Africa to have a mixed ___________.

World History Shorts 1 63
Africa's Trading Empires

Chart – African Trading Empires, 1000 B.C. – 1600 A.D.
Use the chart to answer the following questions. Write the answers in complete sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Kush</th>
<th>Axum</th>
<th>Ghana</th>
<th>Mali</th>
<th>Songhai</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Africa</td>
<td>East Africa</td>
<td>West Africa</td>
<td>West Africa</td>
<td>West Africa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>south of Egypt</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods Traded</td>
<td>iron</td>
<td>ivory</td>
<td>iron</td>
<td>gold</td>
<td>gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ivory</td>
<td>frankincense</td>
<td>animal products</td>
<td>salt</td>
<td>salt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>gold</td>
<td>myrrh</td>
<td>gold</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ebony</td>
<td>slaves</td>
<td>ivory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>slaves</td>
<td></td>
<td>slaves</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Where was the trading empire of Songhai located?

_________________________________________________________________________

2. List the trading empires that traded gold.

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

3. What is the name of the first African trading empire?

_________________________________________________________________________
Mansa Musa
(1312-1337)

Mansa Musa is mostly remembered for his extravagant hajj, or pilgrimage, to Mecca with, according to the Arab historian al-Umari, 100 camel-loads of gold, each weighing 300 lbs.; 500 slaves, each carrying a 4 lb. gold staff; thousands of his subjects; as well as his senior wife, with her 500 attendants. With his lavish spending and generosity in Cairo and Mecca, he ran out of money and had to borrow at usurious rates of interest for the return trip. Al-Umari also states that Mansa Musa and his retinue "gave out so much gold that they depressed its value in Egypt and caused its value to fall."

However, attention should be focused on the effects of the hajj, rather than the pilgrimage itself.

The hajj planted Mali in men's minds and its riches fired up the imagination as El Dorado did later. In 1339, Mali appeared on a "Map of the World". In 1367, another map of the world showed a road leading from North Africa through the Atlas Mountains into the Western Sudan. In 1375 a third map of the world showed a richly attired monarch holding a large gold nugget in the area south of the Sahara. Also, trade between Egypt and Mali flourished.

Mansa Musa brought back with him an Arabic library, religious scholars, and most importantly the Muslim architect al-Sahili, who built the great mosques at Gao and Timbuktu and a royal palace. Al-Sahili's most famous work was the chamber at Niani. It is said that his style influenced architecture in the Sudan where, in the absence of stone, the beaten earth is often reinforced with wood which bristles out of the buildings.

Mansa Musa strengthened Islam and promoted education, trade, and commerce in Mali. The foundations were laid for Walata, Jenne, and Timbuktu becoming the cultural and commercial centers of the Western Sudan, eclipsing those of North Africa and producing Arabic-language black literature in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Diplomatic relations were established and ambassadors were exchanged between Mali and Morocco, and Malinke students were sent to study in Morocco.

For the forty-seven years between the time of the death of his grandfather's brother, Sundiata, and Mansa Musa's accession to the throne, Mali endured a period of political instability. Mansa Musa ruled for 25 years, bringing prosperity and stability to Mali and expanding the empire he inherited.

Mali achieved the apex of its territorial expansion under Mansa Musa. The Mali Empire extended from the Atlantic coast in the west to Songhai far down the Niger bend to the east; from the salt mines of Taghaza in the north to the legendary gold mines of Wangara in the south.

Mansa Musa died in 1337. He had brought stability and good government to Mali, spreading its fame abroad and making it truly "remarkable both for its extent and for its wealth and a striking example of the capacity of the Negro for political organization" (E.W. Bovill, 1958, The Golden Trade of the Moors).

1. What are some of Mansa Musa's accomplishments?

2. Why was his reign remembered as a "golden age"?
Document 1

Aksum reached its height between 325 and 360. Aksum's location made it an important international trading center. This map shows the trade routes to and from Aksum between 300 and 700.

How did Aksum's location enable it to become a trading center?

Document 2

Between 800 and 1076, the kingdom of Ghana was rich and powerful. It controlled the trans-Saharan gold and salt trade. This document describes the king's court in ancient Ghana. It was written by the Arab scholar Al-Bakri in 1067.

The court of appeal is held in a domed pavilion around which stand ten horses with gold embroidered trappings. Behind the king stand ten pages holding shields and swords decorated with gold, and on his right are the sons of the subordinate kings of his country, all wearing splendid garments and with their hair mixed with gold. The governor of the city sits on the ground before the king, and around him are ministers seated likewise. At the door of the pavilion are dogs... [wearing] collars of gold and silver, studded with a number of balls of the same metals.

DBQ 7: AFRICA BEFORE EUROPEAN ARRIVAL

What evidence of wealth did Al-Bakri describe?

What evidence of an advanced political structure did Al-Bakri describe?

Document 3

The following excerpt is an explanation for the wealth of the kingdom of Ghana.

The Arab traders of this region wanted gold as much as the Wangara wanted salt, but both had to pass through Ghana to trade... Ghana controlled the land... [and] it had the military forces... to maintain peace in the area, thereby assuring safe trade for the Arabs and the Wangara.

Ancient Ghana was an extremely complex empire. It possessed many of the characteristics of powerful nations today: wealth based on trade, sufficient food to feed its people, income derived from taxes, social organization that ensured justice and efficient political control, a strong army equipped with advanced weapons, and a foreign policy that led to peace and cooperation with other people.


What was ancient Ghana's role in the gold-salt trade?

What characteristics of an advanced civilization did ancient Ghana possess?

(continued)
DBQ 7: AFRICA BEFORE EUROPEAN ARRIVAL

Document 4

Mansa Musa expanded the Mali empire to twice the size of the Ghana empire it replaced. On his hajj to Mecca in 1324-25, Mansa Musa stopped in Cairo, Egypt. An Egyptian official described him.

This man, Mansa Musa, spread upon Cairo the flood of his generosity: there was no person, officer of the court, or holder of any office of the Sultanate who did not receive a sum of gold from him.

What about Mansa Musa impressed the Egyptian official?


Document 5

In this excerpt, a Moroccan traveler using the name Leo Africanus describes the city of Timbuktu in West Africa.

Here are many doctors, judges, priests, and other learned men that are well maintained at the king’s costs. Various manuscripts and written books are brought here . . . and sold for more money than other merchandise.

Source: Leo Africanus, “The Description of Africa (1526),” Reading About the World, Volume 2, Harcourt Brace Custom Publishers, 1999 (adapted)

What about Timbuktu impressed this writer?


(continued)
**DBQ 7: AFRICA BEFORE EUROPEAN ARRIVAL**

**Document 6**

Ibn Battuta traveled in Mali in 1352. In this adapted excerpt, he describes his travels.

They are seldom unjust, and have a greater abhorrence [hatred] of injustice than any other people. Their sultan shows no mercy to anyone who is guilty of the least act of it. There is complete security in their country. Neither traveler nor inhabitant in it has anything to fear from robbers.


What two things impressed Ibn Battuta about Mali?

---

**Document 7**

This description of the lost-wax process of making bronze sculpture comes from an oral account of a Hausa artisan.

In the name of Allah the Compassionate, the Merciful. This account will show how the [Benin] figures are made. This work is one to cause wonder. Now this kind of work is done with clay, and wax, and red metal [copper], and solder [zinc], and lead, and fire. . . . Next it is set aside to cool, then [the outside covering of clay] is broken off. Then you see a beautiful figure. . . .


Why is this bronze statue described as a “wonder”?

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(continued)

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Document-Based Assessment for Global History
DBQ 7: AFRICA BEFORE EUROPEAN ARRIVAL

Document 8

Ibn Battuta also visited Kilwa, an East African coastal city-state, in 1331. He described it as one of the most beautiful cities in the world. He admired the luxury enjoyed by the Muslim rulers and merchants. Kilwa controlled the overseas trade between the interior of Africa and sites around that part of the world. This map shows East African trade routes in 1000.

What sea routes was Kilwa connected to? What geographical areas did these sea routes lead to?

What products were brought from the interior of Africa to Kilwa by the land route?

PART B

What were the achievements of the African empires, kingdoms, and cities before the arrival of the Europeans? Explain and evaluate these achievements.
AFRICAN TRADING KINGDOMS
Document Based Question

Historical Context:

Africans had developed advanced civilizations before the Europeans arrived in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Beginning with Aksum (Ethiopia today) in East Africa in the 300's, the kingdoms, empires, and cities arose and declined. In west Africa, three empires- Ghana, Mali, and Songhai- controlled the gold and salt trade. Between 1000 and 1500, cities on Africa's east coast also gained wealth and power through trade. There were several centers of advanced civilization in Africa between 300 and 1400.

Task: Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to the question will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to

Using the information from the historical context:
- Describe the characteristics of early African trading kingdom societies.
- Discuss achievements of the people of Africa before the arrival of the Europeans.

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to
- Develop all aspects of the task
- Incorporate information from at least five documents
- Incorporate relevant outside information
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme
DIRECTIONS: Using the information from the documents in your packet and the task on the other side of this paper, create a document analysis sheet by completing the outline below.
Islamic Empire and African Trading Kingdoms
Review Sheet

Teachings of Islam

- The following are practices of Islam: Pray 5 times a day, make a pilgrimage to Mecca, fast during Ramadan, Allah is God and Muhammad is his prophet.

- Islam is practiced by many cultures in many parts of the world.

Achievements of Islamic Civilizations

- During the golden age of Islam, several advancements were made in the areas of math and science.

- During the golden age of Islam, Muslim leaders practiced tolerance of other groups and religions.

African Trading Kingdoms

- The ancient African trading kingdoms of Mali, Ghana, and Songhai were located on major trading routes and their economies were based on trade.

- They developed extensive trade in gold, ivory, and salt.

- Mansa Musa’s journey to Mecca showed that Islam had a major influence on the Mali Empire.

- Ibn Battuta and Mansa Musa’s journals are fine examples of primary sources describing the observations of each of these travelers.