

Africa
500 B.C. - A.D. 1600

Name _____

Selected Peoples, Places, and Things to Know

Elsewhere

429
Joan of Arc leads French troops into battle

570
Mohammed, founder of Islam, is born.

1095
First Christian Crusade to reclaim the Holy Land

1347
Black Plague spreads to Europe...will wipe out 1/3 to 1/2 of the population



Africa
500 B.C.

Nok people make iron to use in spearheads & farming tools

Native African village life shaped by farming, kinship as the basis of government, ancestor worship, Diviners of the gods, oral history... Village life continues through the rise and fall of Ghana, Mali, Songhai, and Zimbabwe.

200-500- Bantu migrations extend to reach East Africa

700-1050 Empire of Ghana (in West Africa) controls Africa's rich trade, primarily consisting of salt and gold. Koumbi, its capital, is divided into Muslim & non-Muslim sections. (Matrilineal not patrilineal succession of kings)

1000-1400 Migrating Bantu (shona) people build Great Zimbabwe (850) in East Africa. Sea ports are influential in trade dominance. Combination of Arabic language additions and Islam lead to Swahili people.

1300 (After the 1235 battle of Kirina) Empire of Mali surpasses that of Ghana. Mali Musa is Mali's greatest ruler.

1490 Portuguese missionaries arrive in Kongo - not interested in local goods or seashell currency so slave trade begins. This eventually leads to civil unrest, war, & the fall of this empire

1580 Songhai conquers Mali to develop into West Africa's greatest empire



Answer Questions in ink, in complete sentences, in your world history notebook. Use *Across the Centuries* as your resource. Most answers will be several sentences long... Start Early! (Pages are indicated within parenthesis!)

1. (112-116; 119-121) How did gold, salt, taxes and location help to create the West African empires of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai?
2. (115-117) Describe three ways the Islamic Arab traders affected Ghana's people.
3. (113) Beyond scarcity, Why were salt and gold so valuable? How did the location of the West African gold and salt mines benefit the empires of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai? (Be sure to mention taxes in your answer.)
4. (Chp. 5 Lessons 1-3) Propose at least three reasons why all of the capitals of the great West African trade empires were located on the Niger river.
5. (125-126; previous chapters) Describe the West African village religions. How was religion different from/similar to the village religions in the West African empires of Ghana, etc. ?
6. (126, incl. "understanding kinship") Describe the governmental system of rural African villages.
7. (127) Among West African clans, How might the status of a temporary slave become permanent?
8. (127) Between 1200 and 1500, how many Africans were exported across the Sahara and the Red Sea to Asia?
9. How was life in inland Bantu villages (p 139) different from life in coastal trading towns? (143)
10. (136-137) Why do most people of central and southern Africa speak a Bantu language and think of themselves as Bantu?
11. (147) How did the Shona use the gold of Zimbabwe? Give details about how they mined the gold in the 1100s.
12. (150) What products did the people of the Kongo trade with the people around them before the Portuguese arrived?
13. (150-152) How did the Kongo change after the arrival of the Portuguese?
14. (152-153) Describe the differences between the Portuguese and the Kongo people in their attitudes towards slaves.