

## PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Questions 1-4 refer to the passage below

**On the Island of Java, 13th Century**

DEPARTING from Ziamba\*, and steering between south and south-east, fifteen hundred miles, you reach an island of very great size, named Java\*, which, according to the reports of some well-informed navigators, is the largest in the world, being in circuit above three thousand miles. It is under the dominion of one king only, nor do the inhabitants pay tribute to any other power. They are worshippers of idols. The country abounds with rich commodities. Pepper, nutmegs, spikenard, galangal, cubebs, cloves, and all the other valuable spices and drugs, are the produce of the island; which occasion it to be visited by many ships laden with merchandise, that yields to the owners considerable profit.

The quantity of gold collected there exceeds all calculation and belief. From thence it is that the merchants of Zai-tun and of Manji\* in general have imported, and to this day import, that metal to a great amount, and from thence also is obtained the greatest part of the spices that are distributed throughout the world. That the grand khan has not brought the island under subjection to him, must be attributed to the length of the voyage and the dangers of the navigation.

**Source:** Thomas Wright. "The Travels of Marco Polo, the Venetian – Book III" (PDF). Public Library UK. Retrieved 25 March 2018.

\*Ziamba is most likely Champa, or Vietnam.

\*Java is an island in modern Indonesia

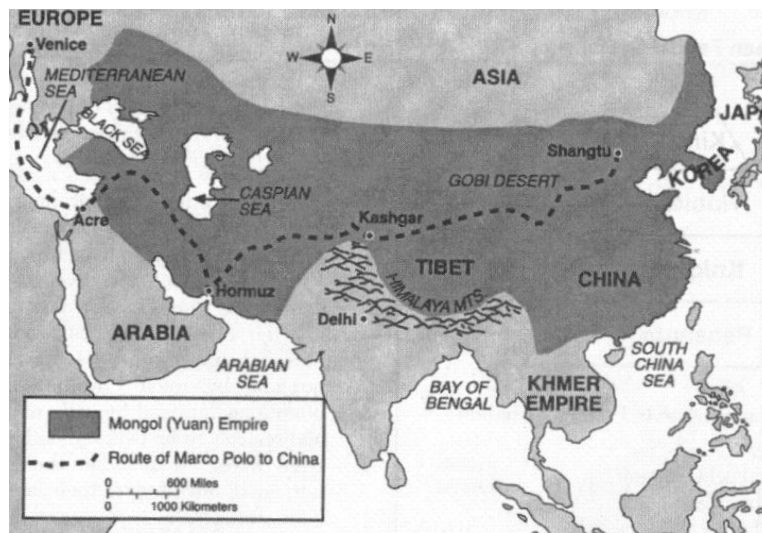
\*Zai-tun and Manji were port cities in South China

1. Marco Polo's reference in the first paragraph to the people of Java being "worshippers of idols," most likely refers to the influence of which historical development c. 1200 to c. 1450?
  - a. Arab and Persian travelers visiting Southeast Asia for the first time
  - b. The Protestant Dutch taking control of Java
  - c. Jewish merchants living in Southeast Asia
  - d. Chinese and Indian merchant diaspora communities in Southeast Asia
2. Marco Polo's focus when describing Java is evidence of which of the following developments from c. 1200 to c. 1450?
  - a. The growing desire for luxury goods across Afro-Eurasia as trade intensified
  - b. Improved commercial practices such as the use of bills of exchange on the Silk Road
  - c. The growth of trade cities where merchants could exchange goods and find comfort during their travels
  - d. Improvements in transportation technologies such as Lateen sails and navigational tools

## PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

3. From the passage, what can be determined about the political situation of Java when Marco Polo visited?
- It was part of the Chinese tribute system after being subjected to the Great Khan's rule
  - It had been annexed by the Yuan Dynasty under the leadership of Kublai Khan
  - It was solely controlled by the Deva Kingdom of South Asia
  - It was an independent kingdom due to its distance from large empires
4. The passage above clearly illustrates which of the following historical developments c. 1200 to c. 1450?
- The diffusion of literary, artistic and cultural traditions across Asia due to increased interactions
  - The increasing number of travelers within Afro-Eurasia who wrote about their travels as trade intensified
  - Increased urbanization due to the demand for luxury items and expanded production
  - The diffusion of scientific and technological innovations due to cross-cultural interactions

Questions 5-8 refer to the map below



**The Mongol Empire of Kublai Khan 1280**

**Source:** Henry Abraham and Erwin Pfeffer. *Enjoying Global History*. AMSCO. 2006

5. All of the following were significant political effects of the rise of the Mongol Empire EXCEPT:
- The fall of the Abbasid Dynasty
  - The fall of the Byzantine Empire
  - The fall of the Song Dynasty
  - The fall of Kievan Rus

## PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

6. The route of Marco Polo to China, as seen on the map most closely matches which of the following?
- The Trans-Saharan Trade Route
  - The Indian Ocean Trade Route
  - The Silk Road
  - The Mongol Mile
7. The route taken by Marco Polo as shown on the map was made possible by which of the following?
- The collapse of imperial states
  - The spread of Islam into Central Asia
  - The influence of expanding empires
  - The breakdown of the Mongol Empire into Khanates
8. Which of the following is a similarity of all major trade routes in Eurasia during the era of c. 1200 to c. 1450 CE?
- The availability of trained guides
  - They were dominated by the Mongols
  - They moved the same good
  - Their reliance on technological innovations

## PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Questions 9-12 refer to the passage below

“At Sijilmasa\* I bought camels and a four months’ supply of [food] for them. Thereupon I set out on [February 13, 1352] with a caravan including, amongst others, a number of merchants of Sijilmasa.

After twenty-five days, we reached Taghaza\*, an unattractive village, with the curious feature that its houses and mosques are built on blocks of salt, roofed with camel skins. There are no trees there, nothing but sand. In the sand is a salt mine; they dig for the salt, and find it in thick slabs, lying one on top of the other, as though they had been tool-squared and laid under the surface of the earth. A camel will carry two of these slabs.

No one lives at Taghaza except the slaves of the Massufa tribe, who dig for the salt; they subsist on dates imported from [a river valley in southern Morocco] and Sijilmasa, camels’ flesh, and millet imported from the Sudan. The blacks come up from their country and take away the salt from there. At Oualata\* a load of salt brings eight to ten mithqals\*; in the town of Niani\* it sells for twenty to thirty, and sometimes as much as forty. The blacks use salt as a medium of exchange, just as gold or silver is used; they cut it up into pieces and buy and sell with it. The business done at Taghaza, for all its meanness, amounts to an enormous figure.”

\*Sijilmasa is a city in North Africa, present day Morocco

\*Taghaza is a town in present-day northern Mali

\* Oualata is a small Oasis town at the edge of the Sahara desert

\*A mithqal is about 1/10 of an ounce of gold dust

\*Niani was the capital of Mali at the time of Ibn Battuta’s travels

**Source:** The Journey of Ibn Battuta. 1352-1354

9. Which innovation that encouraged interregional trade explains Ibn Battuta’s ability to travel to West Africa c. 1200 and c. 1450?

- a. Supplies of food that could last four months
- b. Camel skin roofs
- c. Caravans
- d. Slaves

10. What effect did the trade described by Ibn Battuta have on the kingdom of Mali?

- a. Mali became a rich and powerful kingdom because it was a center of trade
- b. Mali was heavily influenced by the culture of countries to the south, described by Ibn Battuta as being inhabited by blacks
- c. Mali became a part of the Abbasid dynasty who prized it for its lucrative camel trade
- d. The kingdom of Mali collapsed as their spending was greater than the profits they were able to take in from trade

## PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

11. Ibn Battuta's discussion of slavery best illustrates which continuity from c.1450 to c.1750?
- Slavery continued existence within Africa
  - Slavery continued to be prohibited within the Islamic world
  - The continuation of the mit'a system
  - Arabs continued to be enslaved by Africans
12. Connections between Mali and North Africa through trans-saharan trade routes led to what cultural development between c.1200 and c. 1450?
- Mali's capital became an international hub and the home of the House of Wisdom where scholarship from across Eurasia was preserved
  - Sufis & Islamic scholars traveled to Mali converting the elites to Islam and creating a center of scholarship at Timbuktu
  - Mali became a culturally diverse empire where Hindus and Muslims lived together in harmony due to the policies of Mali's Muslim rulers
  - Mali developed a maritime empire based on technology that it learned from the Muslim world

## PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Questions 13-15 refer to the passage below

“The plague frightened and killed. It began in the land of darkness [Northern Asia]. Oh, what a visitor!... China was not preserved from it. The plague afflicted the Indians in India... It attacked the Persians... and gnawed away at the Crimea... The Plague destroyed mankind in Cairo... the scourge came to Jerusalem... It overtook those people who fled to the al-Aqsa Mosque\*...

Oh God, it is acting by your command. Lift this from us.

The pestilence caused the people of Aleppo\* the same disturbance....Oh, if you could see the nobles of Aleppo studying their inscrutable books of medicine. They multiply its remedies by eating dried and sour food... They perfumed their homes with ambergris and camphor... They wore ruby rings and put onions, vinegar, and sardines together with daily meals...

We ask God’s forgiveness for our souls’ bad inclinations; the plague is surely part of His punishment.

The plague is for Muslims a martyrdom and a reward, and for the disbelievers a punishment and a rebuke... It has been established by our Prophet... that the plague-stricken are martyrs... And this secret should be pleasing to the true believer....

One man begs another to take care of his children, and one says goodbye to his neighbors. A third perfects his work, and another prepares his shroud. A fifth is reconciled with his enemies, and another treats his friends with kindness... One man puts aside his property [in a religious endowment called a *waqf*]; one frees his servants. One man changes his character, while another amends his ways. There is no protection today from it other than His mercy, praise to God.”

\*al-Aqsa Mosque is in Jerusalem

\*Aleppo is a city in Syria, Southwest Asia

**Source:** Ibn Al-Wardi, *Report of the Pestilence*, 1348. Aleppo, Syria

13. All of the following statements are factually accurate. Which is best supported by Ibn Al-Wardi’s argument in the passage?

- The Black Plague was spread by vectors of disease such as rats and fleas
- The Black Plague affected the rich and the poor equally
- In some regions the Black Plague led to massacres of Jews who were blamed for the disease
- The Black Plague spread along the Silk Road through cross-cultural contact

14. Ibn Al-Wardi indicates that he believes the Plague was due to which of the following?

- The Mongol invasions of the 13th century
- God’s punishment for sin
- The failure of those who had not converted to Islam
- Scholars who are acting against Sharia law

**PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS**

15. Which of the following was a social consequence of the Black Plague c. 1200 to c. 1450?
- a. The end of patriarchy in Dar al-Islam
  - b. The development of Feudal relationships as people sought protection from the Plague
  - c. Peasant rebellions as labor shortages led to demands for higher wages and an end to serfdom in Western Europe
  - d. The collapse of the Caste System in India as high caste Brahmins lost prestige when their prayers did not end the plague.