

GII: African Trading Kingdoms

- Ghana, Mali and Songhai
- Most important was Mali
- Mansa Musa: king of Mali, golden age
- Took pilgrimage to Mecca and spread Islam
- Ghana, Mali & Songhai traded gold & salt over the Tran-Saharan trade route into Middle East
- Chief trading city: Timbuktu

Sample Questions

1. The West African kingdoms of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai experienced economic prosperity because they all

- (1) controlled vast reserves of oil and gold
- (2) traded with many other nations
- (3) maintained highly structured feudal systems
- (4) solved tribal conflicts within their empires

2. The journals of early travelers such as Ibn Battuta of Morocco, Zheng He of China, and Mansa Musa of Mali are examples of

- (1) primary sources describing observations of the travelers
- (2) works of fiction intended to describe the adventures of the travelers
- (3) secondary sources that record the travelers' interpretations of history
- (4) outdated resources for historical research

3. A similarity between the ancient western African kingdoms of Mali, Ghana, and Songhai is that these kingdoms

- (1) limited the power of their rulers
- (2) practiced Christianity
- (3) established economies based on trade
- (4) isolated themselves from contact with other cultures

4. Which term best completes the partial outline below?

I. Rise of Civilizations of Ghana and Mali

A. _____

B. Spread of Islam

C. Development of centers of learning

- (1) Use of gunpowder
- (2) Trade of gold and salt
- (3) Development of Hammurabi's Code
- (4) Distribution of the printing press

5. What was a significant effect of Mansa Musa's pilgrimage to Mecca?

- (1) The African written language spread to southwest Asia.
- (2) Military leaders eventually controlled Mali.
- (3) Islamic learning and culture expanded in Mali.
- (4) The trading of gold for salt ended.

6. The rise of the West African kingdoms of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai can be attributed to

- (1) their emphasis on nationalism
- (2) the spread of Christianity
- (3) the rise of European imperialism
- (4) their locations near the trans-Sahara trade routes