

GII-Byzantine Empire

- Began in 4th century when the capital of Rome moved to Constantinople
- the Byzantine Empire began after the fall of Rome
- Its location was key to trade between Europe and Asia

Justinian

- Built the Hagia Sophia
- Orthodox Christianity
- The Byzantine Empire spread religion, culture, language and the Cyrillic alphabet to Russia
- Preserved Greek and Roman culture

Justinian's Code

- Most known for was Justinian's Code: it was a law code based on Roman laws
- laws of social behavior and created stability
- Model for future European law codes
- compared to : the Twelve Tables of Rome, Hammurabi's Code & the Ten Commandments

Byzantine Influence on Russia

- The Byzantine Empire was responsible for spreading cultural diffusion to Russia
- They spread Orthodox Christianity, architecture, culture and the Cyrillic alphabet

The Fall of the Empire

- Conquered by the Ottoman Empire in 1453

Sample Questions

1. Constantinople's location on the Bosphorus Strait was one reason that the Byzantine Empire was able to

- (1) conquer the Russian city of Moscow
- (2) spread Judaism throughout western Europe
- (3) control key trade routes between Europe and Asia
- (4) unite the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches

2. After the western Roman Empire fell to Germanic invaders in the 5th century A.D., the eastern part of the empire eventually became known as the

- (1) Byzantine Empire
- (2) Carthaginian Empire
- (3) Islamic Empire
- (4) Persian Empire

3. Constantinople was a thriving city in the 1200s mainly because of its location on a major trade route between

- (1) China and southern Africa
- (2) the Atlantic Ocean and the Baltic Sea
- (3) the Inca Empire and the Aztec Empire
- (4) Asia and eastern Europe

4. During the 1400s, the cities of Venice, Constantinople, and Canton achieved prominence because their

- (1) locations were favorable for trade
- (2) pleasant climates led to an increase in population
- (3) democratic governments attracted trade
- (4) military power led to industrialization

5. The Justinian Code is considered a milestone because it

- (1) preserved many ancient Chinese legal decrees in writing
- (2) served as a model for European legal systems
- (3) became the first democratic constitution
- (4) united Muslim and Roman thought

6. One of the major achievements of Byzantine Emperor Justinian was that he

- (1) established a direct trade route with Ghana
- (2) defended the empire against the spread of Islam
- (3) brought Roman Catholicism to his empire
- (4) preserved and transmitted Greek and Roman culture

7. What is a major contribution of the Byzantine Empire to global history?

- (1) preservation of Greek and Roman culture
- (2) construction of the pyramids
- (3) expansion of equal rights
- (4) invention of writing

8. The Eastern Orthodox Church and the Cyrillic alphabet originated in the Byzantine Empire. What does the practice of this religion and the use of this alphabet in Russia indicate?

- (1) Russia was conquered by the Byzantine Empire.
- (2) Russia's leaders eliminated the influence of the Mongols.
- (3) Russia was influenced by cultural diffusion.
- (4) Russia's geographic isolation led to cultural diversity.

9. Which group introduced the Cyrillic alphabet, Orthodox Christianity, and domed architecture to Russian culture?

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| (1) Mongols | (3) Jews |
| (2) Vikings | (4) Byzantines |

10. In 1453, the Ottoman Empire rose to power by defeating the

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| (1) Holy Roman Empire | (3) Byzantine Empire |
| (2) European crusaders | (4) Mongol invaders |