

## **BIG MAP OF AFRICA QUESTIONS**

1. Explain the importance of the "Great Rift Valley"

- North-South barrier creates isolation/separation; not inhabitable;

2. List three bullets explaining the significance of the city of Djenne-Djeno

- '77 archaeological discovery; oldest known city Sub-Sahara; Former trading center

3. List three bullets explaining the causes of Bantu migrations

- Slash and burn farming forced to move; overpopulation; Slow advancement of Sahara (desertification); Looking for iron ore resources.

4. List three important facts about Aksum and name Aksum's most impressive leader.

- Important location for trade; Access to sea trade (Medit. & Indian Ocean); Widespread trading partners; Ezana was leader.

5. Explain how Aksum became a Christian kingdom.

- Young Christian man educated Ezana. Christianity spread through Roman Empire through North Africa.

6. Explain why each city is important: "Mogadishu, Malindi, Mombasa, Kilwa & Sofala."

- Mogadishu: made cloth
- Malinda & Mombasa: made iron tools
- Kilwa: Southern products funneled through it. Important for trading.
- Sofala: made cloth; trading center for gold that was mined inland
- Conclusion: Seaports grew wealthy by controlling all incoming and outgoing trade.

7. What does Swahili mean?

- Arabic blended with Bantu language. It's an Arabic term "people of the coast" (East African coast) that reflects people of mixed Arabic and African descent.

8. List three bullets explaining the significance of the city of Great Zimbabwe

- City built on gold; Important trade route linking gold to Sofala. Suited for farming and cattle raising; Became political, religious and economic center for Shona people.

9. List 3 characteristics of "Hunting-Gathering" societies.

- Speak own language; oldest form of social organization that began in Africa; often use own hunting technique.

10. List 3 characteristics of “Stateless Societies”.

- No centralized system of power; Power balanced among lineages of equal power; lineage groups took place of rulers

11. List 3 characteristics of the “Almoravid Empire”

- Spread Islam through conquest; Took over Morocco and Ghana; were Berber Muslims; Captured parts of Southern Spain (they were known as the Moors)

12. List 3 characteristics of the “Almohad Empire”

- Were Berber Muslims; Wanted to strictly obey teachings of Qu’ran and Islamic law. Were Muslim reformers;

13. Write the definition of the “Maghrib”

- Part of Northern Africa that today is the Mediterranean coast of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco.

14. List three important facts about Ghana.

- Ghana means “war chief”; Rulers grew rich by taxing goods traders carried through territory; Gold and salt were important trade items; King controlled trade; 11<sup>th</sup> century rulers converted to Islam.

15. List three important facts about Mali including Mali’s two great leaders.

- Wealth built on gold. Gold led to important trade routes. Mansa means emperor. Mali means where the king lives. Sundiata & Mansa Musa were two great leaders.

16. List three important facts about Songhai including Songhai’s two great leaders.

- Built up an army; Gained control of important trade routes; Lacked modern weapons; Sunni Ali (empire through military conquest) and Askia Muhammad (excellent administrator, tax system, centralized government). Both leaders were Muslim.