**Honors World History Unit 3 (Great Empires)**

**Study Guide for Test**

**Themes:**

\*Trade \*Competition \*Religious Conversion/Diffusion & Conflict \*”Lifespan” of Empires

**Byzantines**

What was the body of civil law created for the Byzantine Empire?

What characteristics of the Western Roman Empire were carried over into the Byzantine Empire?

Why was Constantinople an important city in the Byzantine Empire?

Who adopted Christianity as the official religion of the Byzantine Empire?

Why did Christianity split into 2 branches? What are the 2 branches?

What are some differences between the 2 branches of Christianity?

What are Justinian’s accomplishments?

What are Empress Theodora’s accomplishments?

Why did the Byzantine Empire fall?

**Russians (Kiev Rus’)**  
How is Russia connected to/influenced by the Vikings?

How is Russia connected to/influenced by the Mongols?

How is Russia connected to/influenced by the Byzantine Empire?

How is Russia connected to/influenced by the Roman Empire?

**Arabs**  
The word “Islam” means\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Who is the founder of Islam?

Why did Islam split into 2 branches? What are the 2 branches?

What are some differences between the 2 branches of Islam?

What are 3 inventions/creations of the Arab empires in Math, Science, and Art?

What geographic advantages did the Arabs have at trading with Europe, Africa, and Asia?

**Mongols**

Why were the Mongols so successful?

What was the most important/enduring contributions of the Mongol empire?

What happened to the Mongol empire after the death of Genghis Khan?

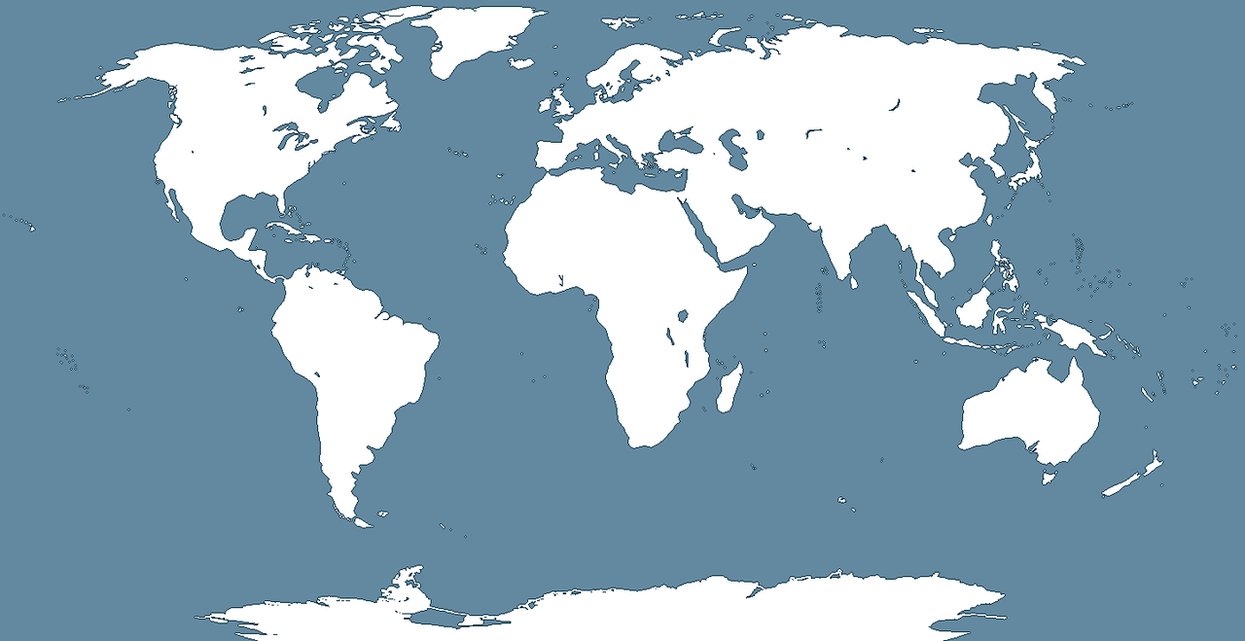
**Ghana, Mali, and Songhai**

What 3-4 natural resources are most important here? What were EACH used for?

Who was Sundiata? Why is he important?

Who was Mansa Musa? Why is he important?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2 facts about | Ghana | Mali | Songhai |
| **Rise/Start of Empire** | a.  b. | a.  b. | a.  b. |
| **2 things that made them great** | a.  b. | a.  b. | a.  b. |
| **Why & when did they fall?** | a.  b. | a.  b. | a.  b. |



**Identify the location & IMPORTANCE of the following:**

1. Timbuktu
2. Mecca
3. Constantinople
4. Kiev
5. Arabian Peninsula
6. Scandinavian Peninsula
7. Sahara Desert
8. Niger River
9. Mongol Empire