

Outline for African Civilizations

I. The Rise of African Civilizations

A. Geography of Africa consists of various habitats, climates, and landforms

1. _____ - dense growth of trees/plants makes farming difficult
 - a. lies along the _____; takes up about _____% of land area
 - b. warm climate with _____ rainfall
2. _____ - vast tropical grasslands (next to drier grasslands called _____)
 - a. plains cover _____ of African land area; warm temperatures and uneven _____
 - b. farmers grow millet and _____; herders raise _____ & other animals
3. _____ - dry, sandy areas that cover about _____% of African land area
 - a. includes _____ (world's largest) and _____ deserts
4. _____ - warm temps, adequate rain, and farming support many people
 - a. located along the _____ coast and southern tip of continent
5. Other geographic features include plateaus, mountains, valleys, and bodies of water such as:
 - a. Great _____ Valley - where earliest human _____ were found
 - b. large rivers (Nile, _____, and _____) and Lake _____
6. Compared to United States: _____ times larger area & more than _____ times more people

B. Trading Empires in Africa

1. _____ people of North Africa crossed Sahara Desert to trade w/ West Africa
 - a. used caravans of _____ (their bodies stored fat and water)
 - b. traded cloth, weapons, paper, & books for _____, ivory, _____, & leather

C. African Kingdoms

- (West) 1. _____ (located in Sudan) was the 1st great trading empire of West Africa (ca 400AD)
 - a. crossroads of trade between Sahara _____ mines & West African _____ mines
 - i. collected _____ on trade of salt and gold
- (West) 2. _____ - new empire formed around 1200AD
 - a. _____ told stories of _____ ruling from 1230 - 1255
 - i. expands empire to include trading city of _____
- (West) 3. Songhai become powerful by taking control of Timbuktu and _____ mines
- (East) 4. trading ports on eastern coast incl. _____, Kilwa, Mombasa, and _____
 - a. traded silk, glass, carpets for minerals, _____, coconut oil and _____
- (East) 5. a new trading state of _____ forms in southeastern Africa

II. Africa's Government and Religions

A. Government in Ghana

1. kings were strong rulers who ran kingdom with help of _____ and _____
 - a. included "lesser kings" who governed _____
 - i. provinces broken up into _____ led by district _____
 - districts divided into villages based on _____
2. members of the community could address their concerns to the _____
3. power was transferred to the king's _____

B. Government of Mali - similar to Ghana's but "larger"

1. provinces were ruled by _____
2. most powerful king was _____ won loyalty by giving gold & property
3. only royal family could wear _____ clothes, everyone else wore "wrapped" clothing

C. Government in Songhai - _____ rose to power in 1493AD

D. Traditional African Religions - many believe in a single creator _____

1. some believe in additional " _____ gods"
2. common role of religion: provided _____, honored _____, & _____

E. Islam Arrives in Africa around _____AD by way of Muslim traders

1. _____ traveled around the Muslim world and learned about religious practices
2. Mansa Musa traveled to _____ (or Mecca) & built _____ to spread Islam in Mali
3. Islam in Songhai - Sunni Ali converted to Islam but, later, his son refused to do so
 - a. Muhammad Ture took over empire, changed his name to _____ Muhammad
 - i. made Songhai that largest empire in _____ Africa's history
4. Islam comes to East Africa resulting in _____, a blend of African and Muslim cultures
 - a. Swahili (language and culture) still important today

III. African Society and Culture

A. African Society

1. most early Africans lived mostly in _____ villages with small round mud houses
 - a. "urban" areas started out as villages with _____ walls
2. society valued family and lived with _____ families of many generations
3. Bantus were _____ people that shared similar language, culture, & technology
4. children learned basic skills from family and _____
 - a. learned about the past through _____ histories
 - i. include _____ lessons

5. African women generally had less _____ than men but:

a. could serve as _____ in some areas

b. some leaders include Queen _____ al-Kahina and Queen _____

B. The African Slave Trade - starts 1441 when _____ ship seizes 12 Africans as slaves

1. slavery had been existing for thousands of years

a. in many cultures and parts of the world

b. practiced by various cultures after conquering others

2. slave trade grew between _____ and _____

3. 1444, another ship from _____ brought another 235 African slaves back

a. Portuguese merchants were now selling _____

b. many used on _____ plantations on Atlantic Islands

4. late 1400's, Europeans started bringing African slaves to the _____

a. worked on sugar, _____, rice, and _____ plantations

C. Culture in Africa - excelled in _____ like painting, weaving, carving, dance, and metalwork

1. earliest form of art in Africa were _____

2. woodcarvers made _____ and statues for religious and teaching purposes

3. metalworkers made _____ and _____ statues of people and animals

4. _____ and dance used for religion and to make _____ easier

a. singing included "call and repeat" style

b. instruments included _____, whistles, horns, flutes, or _____

c. enslaved Africans used music to remind them of _____

i. used _____ or gospel songs

ii. led to other forms like _____, _____, rock-n-roll, and _____

d. dance used to communicate with _____ and express life of community

i. certain dances used to mark particular stages of life

5. _____ helped keep their _____ going

a. becomes important to _____