

17: Nomadic Empires and Eurasian Integration Reading Questions

Turkish Migrations and Imperial Expansion – p. 354

1. What ecological conditions led the Turkish peoples to be nomadic pastoralists?
2. Contrast the nomadic nobles with those of feudal Japan or Europe.
3. Many tribes occasionally allied together under the leadership of a single individual, called a _____.

Turkish Empires in Persia, Anatolia, and India – p. 357

4. Ziegler and Bentley compare the invasion of Saljuq Turks into the Abbasid Empire to what other group and empire?
5. What major cultural change did the Saljuqs bring to Anatolia (modern Turkey)?

The Mongol Empires – p. 358

6. How did Temüjin become Genghis (Chinggis) Khan, or the “universal ruler?”
7. Genghis Khan distrusted the Mongols’ tribal organization. How did he change the Mongolian social structure?
8. Among those conquered by the Mongols, what occupations did the Mongols treat best?
9. Why did the Persians in particular despise the Mongols?

The Mongol Empires after Chinggis Khan – p. 361

10. After the death of Genghis Khan, how did his heirs eventually divide the empire? (a general answer is fine – you don’t need to list each part)
11. What grandson of Genghis ruled over the Chinese segment of the Mongolian Empire?
12. Examine the map on p. 362. How might ruling over such a large area have helped spread technologies and cultures?
13. What Chinese dynasty did Kublai Khan establish?
14. Why was Khubilai unable to conquer southern China?
15. Why was Khubilai unable to conquer Japan?
16. The Golden Horde did not rule over Russia – what did they do instead?

The Mongols and Eurasian Integration – p. 365

17. What steps did the Mongols take to encourage integration throughout their conquered lands? (name at least three things)

Decline of the Mongols in Persia and China – p. 365

18. Name two factors that led to Mongol decline in Persia and/or China.

After the Mongols – p. 366

19. Tamerlane followed the example of _____ in his rise to power, then established his capital at _____.
20. How did Tamerlane rule the areas he conquered?

The Foundation of the Ottoman Empire – p. 367

21. Where do we get the name “Ottoman?”
22. The Ottoman Empire sacked Constantinople in the year _____ and renamed it _____.