Multiple-Choice Questions

1. One problem facing historians who study the Mongols is:
   (A) lack of primary sources.
   (B) inability to translate the Mongolian language and its literature.
   (C) all contemporary chroniclers used exaggeration and hyperbole to describe the Mongols.
   (D) the bias of historical accounts, written by those defeated by the Mongols.
   (E) the Mongols never wrote anything down, leaving no written records.

2. Although the Mongols were often brutal, they were:
   (A) no more violent than Europeans.
   (B) tolerant of religious differences and encouraged trade.
   (C) unwilling to destroy art works and buildings.
   (D) devoted to nonviolence.
   (E) apt to leave enemies alive and revolting cities unpunished.

3. Pastoral nomads from the central Asian steppe who had threatened sedentary cultures throughout world history included all of these EXCEPT:
   (A) Indo-Europeans.
   (B) Hsiung-nu (Huns).
   (C) Scythians.
   (D) Turks.
   (E) Bantu.

4. When the Mongols divided their empire, the only region that did not become a center for one of their khanates was
   (A) Iran and Mesopotamia.
   (B) central Asia.
   (C) Hungary.
   (D) East Asia.
   (E) the steppes of Russia, the Ukraine, and Siberia.

5. Russia's defeat by the Mongols
   (A) had little effect on Russian development.
   (B) led to 250 years of Mongol dominance.
   (C) was avoided by the willingness of Russian princes to pay tribute.
   (D) was meaningless because the Mongols abandoned the area for their homeland.
   (E) left Poland and Sweden as the dominant powers in eastern Europe.

6. Mongol policies in Russia
   (A) led to the rise of serfdom.
   (B) left Moscow and Kiev weak and unimportant.
   (C) led to the rise of Novgorod as the chief Russian town.
   (D) weakened Orthodox Christianity in Russia and allowed Islam to spread.
   (E) permitted a free exchange of ideas in eastern Europe through increased trade.

7. The Mongol assault on the Middle East
   (A) led to the conversion of the Mongols to Nestorian Christianity.
   (B) strengthened Muslim armies to effectively resist the Mongols.
   (C) led to the capture and devastation of Baghdad.
   (D) was supported by Muslims living in the area.
   (E) extended the life of the Abbasid Caliphate.

8. The greatest long-term impact of the Mongol unification of much of central Eurasia was the
   (A) introduction of new technologies.
   (B) facilitation of trade.
   (C) conversion of Mongols to Christianity.
   (D) destruction of old states and the rise of new ones.
   (E) spread of the Black Death from China to Europe and the Muslim world.

9. Kublai Khan's major concern in governing China was
   (A) creating integrated Chinese and military units.
   (B) to avoid the Mongols being assimilated by Chinese culture and practices.
   (C) the conversion of the Chinese to Islam.
   (D) educating Mongol leaders and elites in Chinese Confucian culture.
   (E) reestablishing the Confucian civil service exams and scholar-bureaucrats.

10. The transformation that most immediately weakened the power and influence of pastoral nomads over sedentary civilization was due to
    (A) the introduction of better-organized sedentary states.
    (B) increased centralization of sedentary governments.
    (C) the devastation of nomadic populations by the Black Death.
    (D) new technologies, especially weapons, used by sedentary civilizations.
    (E) settling of farmers on the traditional lands of the nomads.

Free-Response Question

In the course of their expansion, did the Mongols abandon their nomadic lifestyle?

Answers
1. D
2. B
3. E
4. C
5. B
6. A
Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Although later civilizations in Mesoamerica borrowed and built on the previous accomplishments of the Olmecs and Maya, later civilizations
   (A) were not as war-like as their predecessors had been.
   (B) rarely surpassed their intellectual predecessors.
   (C) failed to improve on the political institutions and types of Olmec and Maya states.
   (D) abandoned polytheism in favor of monotheism.
   (E) abandoned trade.

2. The Aztecs rose to power through all of the following means EXCEPT:
   (A) control of water and irrigation.
   (B) political alliances with neighboring cities.
   (C) marriage alliances.
   (D) warfare.
   (E) trade.

3. For the Mesoamericans of the Aztec period, religion
   (A) was increasingly monotheistic.
   (B) developed into idealistic philosophies and intellectual discussions.
   (C) taught that humans should live ethical, moral lives.
   (D) declined and atheism began to spread widely.
   (E) was oppressive and made little distinction between the sacred and secular.

4. In order to supply food to Tenochtitlan, the Aztecs
   (A) obtained food through tribute from conquered city-states.
   (B) relied largely on trade for foodstuffs.
   (C) used slave labor.
   (D) built floating agricultural islands on the lake.
   (E) filled Lake Texcoco to obtain agricultural lands.

5. Around 1500 C.E., membership in Aztec society was hierarchically defined by all of these methods EXCEPT:
   (A) social classes.
   (B) gender.
   (C) clans or tribes.
   (D) ethnicity.
   (E) occupational groups.

6. Because of their level of technological development, Aztec work and production
   (A) relied heavily on tools and machines.
   (B) relied heavily on the physical labor of humans.
   (C) utilized domesticated beasts of burden extensively.
   (D) richly rewarded intellectual invention and innovation.
   (E) were performed by slaves and conquered or tributary states.

7. Demographic evidence of the Aztec Empire around 1500 C.E. indicates
   (A) a falling population base when the Europeans arrived.
   (B) increasing birthrates.
   (C) women outnumbered men due to the losses during the frequent wars.
   (D) most Aztecs lived in cities.
   (E) an extremely high population density.

8. One reason offered for the expansion of the Inca state was
   (A) a need for humans to sacrifice to the state gods.
   (B) overpopulation and the need for new crop land.
   (C) each new Inca ruler had to secure new land and wealth for himself.
   (D) changing environment and climate that drove the Incas from their homeland.
   (E) superior technologies made it easy for the Incas to conquer other peoples.

9. Religious practices of the Incas included all of these attributes EXCEPT:
   (A) animism.
   (B) ancestor worship.
   (C) monotheism.
   (D) sun worship.
   (E) theocratic government.

10. All land in the Inca state
    (A) belonged to the priests.
    (B) was owned by merchants and traders.
    (C) belonged to the oldest woman of the family.
    (D) was owned by those who worked the land.
    (E) was owned by the state but assigned and redistributed to others.

Free-Response Question
To what extent were the Incas and Aztecs similar?

Answers
1. B 7. E
2. E 8. C
3. E 9. C
4. D 10. E
5. D
6. B

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