

Agenda:

1. Silk Road Notes
2. CrashCourse: the Silk Road
3. Silk Road Webquest

HW: Innovations of the Silk Road – Due 10/31

The Silk Road

LT: I can create a definition for what the Silk Road was and analyze key concepts about the Silk Road.

Unit 3 Vocabulary Reminder

- Unit 3 vocabulary:
 - List should be in vocab section of binder
 - Handwritten copy in journal stamped on Thursday.

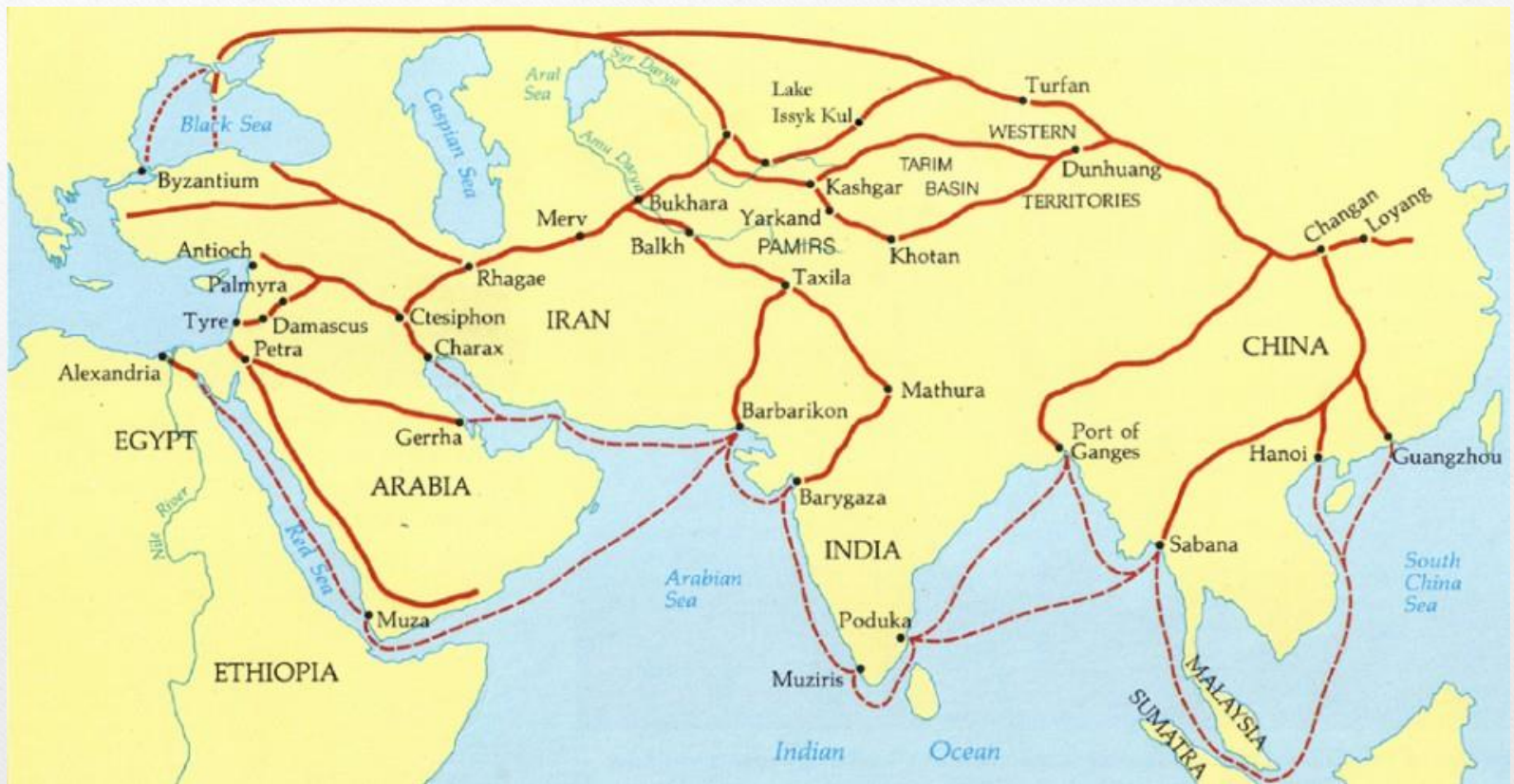
Quiz!

Friday, Nov. 1 there will be a Silk Road Quiz. 😊

1. Intro to Silk Road Notes
2. CrashCourse: Silk Road
3. Products of the Silk Road
4. Ideas and Innovations of the Silk Road
5. “Salt” video

What is the Silk Road?

- Name given to the vast network trade routes between the Mediterranean Sea and East Asia.
- Land and water routes
- covered more than 4,600 miles
- In use from about the 2nd century BCE to the 15th and 16th centuries CE





Why the ‘Silk Road’?

- Scholars say the Romans first encountered silk on a campaign against the Parthians in 53 BC.
- Couldn't have been produced by the Parthians
- Learned that it came from the east.
- Silk became very popular in Rome for its soft texture and beauty.
- Romans explored the route east and to try to obtain silk for a low price.
- The trade route to the East primarily used by the Romans to obtain silk, although they also prized other goods.

Commodities

- What is a commodity?
- Dictionary definition:
 - an article of trade or commerce, especially a product as distinguished from a service.
- Write this new definition in your own words



Commodities



- Silk was not the only product traded along the land and water routes.
- To name just a few:
 - From the East: furs, ceramics, jade, bronze, lacquer and iron.
 - From the West: gold and other precious metals, ivory, gems, and glass.
- Also new ideas, religions, medical knowledge, scientific and technological innovations.



Commodities



- Merchants did not lead their caravans across the whole route
- They would transport their goods between two commercial centers
- Would then sell them to other merchants



Driven by 3 Factors



- Silk Road trade routes were driven by three main factors:
 - 1. Desire for profit
 - 2. Fascination with the exotic
 - 3. Way to enhance the political power of a society.



Desire for Profit

- In what ways do you think people could profit from trade along the Silk Road?
- Selling unique goods to people not familiar with them could provide more income than selling the goods locally
 - Sell for a higher price and demand was higher
- Middlemen along the route would profit by the transport of goods.
 - Sell for a higher price than they bought it for.

Fascination with the Exotic

- How do you think the Silk Road provided contact with the exotic?
- The Silk Road provided a route for items to travel long distances to places where the items were not available.
 - Example: Silk was exotic to Europeans and Middle Easterners. Amber and opium were exotic to the Chinese

Enhance the political power of a society

- How might a society enhance their political power by use of the Silk Road?
- Provided an easy route for soldiers to invade other territories without having to make their own paths

CrashCourse: The Silk Road

- Watch the CrashCourse!
- Take notes on the worksheet as you watch!

Silk Road Webquest

1. Silk Road Webquest

Webquest: Geography of the Silk Road

- Use a computer to complete the following worksheet.
- You may do this individually or with a partner.
- The room should be relatively quiet. 😊
- If you finish in class, work on your:
 - Innovations of the Silk Road HW
 - Study for the Geography Test! – 1 week away!