

NAME _____ DATE _____

Chapter 1 GUIDE TO READING

SECTION 1 Africa, p.7

What are the geographical characteristics of Africa?

Why is Africa considered the “birthplace of humanity?”

Where and how did humans originate?

Why are ancient African civilizations important?

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SECTION 2 West Africa, p. 14

Why is West Africa significant for African-American history?

How and why was Timbuktu a major center of trade and cultural exchange?

What impact did Islam have on West Africa?

What did the people of Central Africa have in common with those of the Guinea Coast?

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SECTION 3 West African Society and Culture, p. 24

How did West African culture influence the way African Americans lived?

What role did gender play in the organization of West African village life?

What were the principal features of the indigenous religion of West Africa?