

Name: _____

Date: _____

Unit 3 –Regional & Transregional Interactions 600 CE - 1450 CE
Ch13 Video Analysis– Crash Course World History

Mansa Musa & Islam in Africa

1. Much of African history is not written, but oral in tradition. What are the limitations of such histories?

2. What common misconception in Western society has been made about cultures that have oral tradition as the sole means of passing down their heritage?

3. How has this perception been refuted over the years? What example in history also serves as a contradiction?

4. Many written accounts of African history have been made by non-Africans. What are the limitations of such histories?

5. The accounts of Mansa Musa's pilgrimage (and the fact that he made one) suggests what about him and his rule of the kingdom of Mali?

6. What are the origins of Islam in West Africa?

7. How did the elites who adopted Islam get the masses to cooperate in these new (and seemingly foreign) practices?

8. What did Mansa Musa bring back and thus institute to keep this belief system in place?

9. Why does John Green recognize Ibn Battuta as having perhaps the “best life ever”?
10. What are some facets of Swahili civilization along the eastern coast of Africa?
11. Swahili as a language group had what African origins? And what technological achievements came with these origins?
12. For years historians believed that the Swahili coast trade cities could not have been founded by Africans, although what two examples refute this characterization?
13. Whose arrival accelerated the growth of these city-states, and to what did they connect Africa to?
14. What are some trade goods popularly exported on the Swahili coast?
15. What goods were imported, and how do these imports suggest a care to understanding the truth through multiple perspectives?