

AMSCO AP World History Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. Which of the following best describes the Roman response to the trend shown on the chart?**
 - A. The establishment of direct rule over conquered territories**
 - B. The binding of peasants to the land as part of the development of feudal society**
 - C. The promotion of ancient Roman traditions in newly acquired lands**
 - D. The emphasis on military service as a means of social mobility**
- 2. How did Confucianism contribute to social order in China?**
 - A. By enforcing strict laws against theft**
 - B. By emphasizing filial piety and respect for authority**
 - C. By promoting revolutionary ideas**
 - D. By disregarding social hierarchies**
- 3. What did the Pax Mongolica primarily enhance in terms of trade?**
 - A. Profit margins for Asian merchants**
 - B. Security of trade routes**
 - C. Training of new merchants**
 - D. Establishment of maritime trade**
- 4. What was a significant result of migrations depicted in the provided map?**
 - A. Increased cultural exchange**
 - B. Decline in trade routes**
 - C. Stagnation in technological advancement**
 - D. Complete isolation of regions**
- 5. The codification of law credited to Justinian was most significantly influenced by which of the following?**
 - A. Roman architectural philosophies**
 - B. The legal practices of the Hellenistic period**
 - C. The traditions of Roman law (Corpus Iuris Civilis)**
 - D. The religious texts of the time**

- 6. What was a common feature in the urban areas of East Africa during this era?**
- A. Decentralized governance**
 - B. Flourishing trade networks**
 - C. Rural-based economies**
 - D. Absence of cultural diversity**
- 7. What argument counters the Russian duke's description of the Mongols?**
- A. The Mongols established peaceful governance**
 - B. The Mongols developed trade networks**
 - C. The Mongols expanded political institutions**
 - D. The Mongols preferred diplomacy over warfare**
- 8. What was a significant factor that influenced the development of early cities?**
- A. Availability of natural resources**
 - B. Military conquests and wars**
 - C. Religious doctrines and practices**
 - D. Social equality and cooperation**
- 9. What does the evidence indicate about the diversity of Xerxes' army?**
- A. It was made up solely of Persian soldiers.**
 - B. It consisted mainly of mercenaries from Greece.**
 - C. It included various ethnic groups from the empire.**
 - D. It only represented the elite class of Persia.**
- 10. What conclusion can be drawn about Europe and China based on their artistic representations during this period?**
- A. Both embraced secular themes in their paintings**
 - B. Both legitimized their rule through religious or ethical beliefs**
 - C. Both cultures sought to isolate themselves from one another**
 - D. Both emphasized military strength in their arts**

Answers

SAMPLE

1. B
2. B
3. B
4. A
5. C
6. B
7. C
8. A
9. C
10. B

SAMPLE

Explanations

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1. Which of the following best describes the Roman response to the trend shown on the chart?
- A. The establishment of direct rule over conquered territories
 - B. The binding of peasants to the land as part of the development of feudal society**
 - C. The promotion of ancient Roman traditions in newly acquired lands
 - D. The emphasis on military service as a means of social mobility

The correct answer highlights the significant change in social structure during the Roman Empire as it expanded. The binding of peasants to the land refers to the practice of serfdom that developed later, particularly during the Middle Ages, but it reflects a broader trend towards feudal-like systems emerging after the Roman Empire's fall. As the empire became more extensive and faced various pressures, including economic issues and invasions, land ownership dynamics shifted. The peasants began to lose their mobility and were often tied to the land, which can be seen as a precursor to the feudal system that would characterize medieval Europe. This response to the evolving social and economic landscape indicates that as Rome expanded and integrated various conquered peoples, the reliance on an agricultural workforce became crucial. This shift ultimately influenced the socio-economic framework of the regions formerly under Roman control, morphing into a more rigid class structure where peasants were less free to move or change their status. In contrast to the other options, the emphasis on direct rule was not specifically described in the context of the trend shown on the chart, while ancient Roman traditions were promoted but did not alter the fundamental social structure in a way comparable to the binding of peasants. Military service played a role in Roman society, but it was

2. How did Confucianism contribute to social order in China?
- A. By enforcing strict laws against theft
 - B. By emphasizing filial piety and respect for authority**
 - C. By promoting revolutionary ideas
 - D. By disregarding social hierarchies

Confucianism contributed to social order in China primarily through its emphasis on filial piety and respect for authority. The teachings of Confucius stressed the importance of family loyalty, reverence for one's parents, and the need for individuals to fulfill their roles within a hierarchical society. This focus on filial piety fostered strong familial bonds and reinforced the social structure, as individuals were encouraged to honor their elders and maintain harmony within the family unit. Additionally, respect for authority extended beyond the family to include reverence for rulers and those in positions of power. Confucian ideals created a framework in which social harmony was paramount, positing that individuals should adhere to their roles in society, whether as parents, children, or government officials. This belief system instilled a sense of duty and moral obligation that helped to maintain order and stability within Chinese society. While other options touch on aspects of governance or social dynamics, they do not capture the essence of how Confucianism fundamentally shaped the social order in China. The focus on strict laws might imply a more punitive approach to governance, while revolutionary ideas contradict the Confucian emphasis on stability and harmony. Disregarding social hierarchies runs counter to the central tenet of Confucian thought

3. What did the Pax Mongolica primarily enhance in terms of trade?

- A. Profit margins for Asian merchants**
- B. Security of trade routes**
- C. Training of new merchants**
- D. Establishment of maritime trade**

The Pax Mongolica significantly enhanced the security of trade routes across the vast territories controlled by the Mongol Empire. Under this period of relative peace and stability, which spanned the 13th and 14th centuries, the Mongols facilitated trade by protecting merchants and their goods from bandits and providing a unified legal framework across their empire. This secured environment encouraged the movement of people and goods along the Silk Road and other trade networks, which in turn led to increased commercial activity and cultural exchange between the East and West. While profit margins for Asian merchants did improve due to increased trade volume, it was primarily the enhanced security that made trade a more viable and profitable endeavor. The training of new merchants and the establishment of maritime trade are less relevant, as the Pax Mongolica is particularly known for its emphasis on overland trade routes rather than maritime commerce during that era.

4. What was a significant result of migrations depicted in the provided map?

- A. Increased cultural exchange**
- B. Decline in trade routes**
- C. Stagnation in technological advancement**
- D. Complete isolation of regions**

The significant result of migrations depicted in the map is the increased cultural exchange that arose from the movement of peoples across different regions. When groups migrate, they bring with them their languages, traditions, beliefs, and practices. This interaction often leads to a blending of cultures, as new ideas and customs are shared and integrated with those of local populations. In historical contexts, such as the migrations during the Roman Empire's decline, the Great Migration, or the spread of peoples during the Age of Exploration, we see that movement of populations often resulted in vibrant cultural dynamics. Communities would exchange agricultural practices, religious beliefs, artistic influences, and even new technologies. The other choices, such as a decline in trade routes or stagnation in technological advancement, do not align with the common outcomes observed during significant migrations, as these movements typically led to increased trade and innovation due to the fusion of different knowledge and practices. Similarly, the notion of complete isolation of regions contradicts the very nature of migration, which is about movement and interaction rather than separation.

5. The codification of law credited to Justinian was most significantly influenced by which of the following?

- A. Roman architectural philosophies**
- B. The legal practices of the Hellenistic period**
- C. The traditions of Roman law (Corpus Iuris Civilis)**
- D. The religious texts of the time**

The codification of law under Emperor Justinian, known as the Corpus Iuris Civilis or the Body of Civil Law, is directly rooted in the traditions of Roman law. Justinian sought to organize and consolidate existing legal materials to create a comprehensive legal code that would serve the Byzantine Empire. This monumental work collected, clarified, and reformed centuries of Roman law, drawing from earlier legal sources, imperial constitutions, and legal treatises. The Corpus Iuris Civilis not only sought to unify and simplify the complex legal landscape of the time but also aimed to preserve Roman legal principles for future generations. It holds great significance as it laid the groundwork for many modern legal systems in Europe, influencing civil law traditions that continue to be in place today. The emphasis on Roman law underlines how Justinian viewed legal structure as foundational to governance and society, ensuring that the principles of law were accessible and clear to the citizens of the empire. Other options, while related to broader historical and cultural contexts, do not convey the direct and profound effect that Roman legal traditions had on Justinian's legal codification.

6. What was a common feature in the urban areas of East Africa during this era?

- A. Decentralized governance**
- B. Flourishing trade networks**
- C. Rural-based economies**
- D. Absence of cultural diversity**

The flourishing trade networks in urban areas of East Africa during this era played a significant role in shaping the region's social, economic, and cultural landscapes. These urban centers became important hubs for commerce, where merchants exchanged goods such as gold, ivory, and spices with traders from various parts of the world, including the Middle East, Asia, and later Europe. The strategic location of cities along trade routes, especially those near the Indian Ocean, facilitated connections to distant markets and contributed to the growth of wealth and power within these cities. The impact of these trade networks extended beyond mere economic transactions; they also led to the exchange of cultural and religious ideas, resulting in a rich tapestry of cultural diversity within East African urban areas. This interconnectedness allowed for a dynamic environment where different ethnic groups and cultures interacted, influencing art, language, and social structures. Other options present characteristics that do not accurately reflect the urban features of East Africa during this era. For instance, decentralized governance was often a characteristic of certain regions but not necessarily indicative of the structured urban centers formed around trade. Rural-based economies are less relevant in this context, as urban areas were becoming increasingly significant centers of trade and commerce rather than being dominated by rural activities. Lastly, the claim of an absence of

7. What argument counters the Russian duke's description of the Mongols?

- A. The Mongols established peaceful governance**
- B. The Mongols developed trade networks**
- C. The Mongols expanded political institutions**
- D. The Mongols preferred diplomacy over warfare**

The argument that counters the Russian duke's description of the Mongols focuses on the notion that the Mongols expanded political institutions. This perspective highlights how the Mongol Empire established a vast and structured system of governance across their territories, allowing for the integration of different cultures and societies. When the Mongols conquered new regions, they often incorporated local administrative practices and created a centralized system that effectively managed diverse populations. This expansion of political institutions is significant because it demonstrates that the Mongols were not merely conquerors but also state builders. They implemented a well-organized bureaucracy, facilitated communication across their empire with the Yam system (a relay network of mounted couriers), and promoted laws that applied uniformly across their domains. This approach enabled the empire to maintain control and order over vast areas, which challenged any simplistic view of the Mongols as barbaric invaders. In contrast, while peaceful governance, trade networks, and diplomacy played roles in the Mongol strategy, the argument regarding the expansion of political institutions directly addresses the description provided by the Russian duke by showing a more sophisticated and structured aspect of Mongol rule.

8. What was a significant factor that influenced the development of early cities?

- A. Availability of natural resources**
- B. Military conquests and wars**
- C. Religious doctrines and practices**
- D. Social equality and cooperation**

The availability of natural resources was a significant factor that influenced the development of early cities because these resources provided the essential materials and advantages necessary for establishing and sustaining urban centers. Early cities often formed in locations where fertile land, fresh water, and raw materials were abundant, enabling agricultural productivity and trade. Access to resources like rivers facilitated irrigation, which improved crop yields, while minerals and timber supported construction and technology. Natural resources not only contributed to food security, which supported larger populations, but also encouraged economic specialization and trade, thus fostering the growth of complex societies. As cities developed, the need to manage these resources and the challenges of urbanization led to advances in governance, infrastructure, and social organization, further propelling their growth and sophistication.

9. What does the evidence indicate about the diversity of Xerxes' army?

- A. It was made up solely of Persian soldiers.**
- B. It consisted mainly of mercenaries from Greece.**
- C. It included various ethnic groups from the empire.**
- D. It only represented the elite class of Persia.**

The evidence indicating that Xerxes' army included various ethnic groups from the empire is supported by historical records, particularly from texts such as those by Herodotus. The Persian Empire, at its height, encompassed a vast and diverse range of cultures and ethnicities, stretching from parts of modern-day Turkey to Egypt and into the Indian subcontinent. Xerxes, as the king of the Persian Empire, commanded an army that reflected this diversity. In historical accounts, there are mentions of soldiers from various regions of the empire, such as Medians, Elamites, Babylonians, and even Egyptians, among others, contributing to the army's composition. This inclusion not only showcased the strength of the empire but also highlighted the Persian practice of leveraging local forces in their military campaigns. Such a varied army was beneficial for logistical reasons and was a strategic advantage for maintaining control over such a large and diverse territory. The other options do not accurately reflect the historical understanding of Xerxes' military forces. The army was not solely comprised of Persian soldiers, nor was it primarily made up of mercenaries from Greece or limited to the elite class of Persia. These incorrect options overlook the multi-ethnic reality of the Persian military structure and the imperial strategy of utilizing

10. What conclusion can be drawn about Europe and China based on their artistic representations during this period?

- A. Both embraced secular themes in their paintings**
- B. Both legitimized their rule through religious or ethical beliefs**
- C. Both cultures sought to isolate themselves from one another**
- D. Both emphasized military strength in their arts**

The conclusion that both Europe and China legitimized their rule through religious or ethical beliefs during this period is supported by the artistic representations that emerged in each culture. In Europe, especially during the Renaissance and Baroque periods, art often depicted religious themes, showcasing biblical figures and events that reinforced the authority of the Church and the divine right of kings. Such artworks served to reinforce social hierarchies and the moral underpinnings of governance, thus linking power to religion. In China, especially under emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties, artistic traditions included representations of Confucian values, ancestor worship, and themes that emphasized the harmony between the ruler and the universe. This connection of art to governance ensured that cultural productions were not merely aesthetic but also reinforced the moral and ethical foundations of political legitimacy. Art served as a vehicle for both cultures to express and maintain social order, identity, and the acceptance of their ruling structures through religious or philosophical frameworks. Therefore, the artistic output of both regions reflected a deep intertwining of art, ethics, and rule.