

Module 8 Guided Reading Notes

1. Why was Mecca an important city in western Arabia?
2. Why is Arabia's location a good one for trade?
3. Why was the location of Mecca ideal for the spread of ideas?
4. Why were Muhammad's religious beliefs a source of conflict in Mecca?
5. Identify and explain The Five Pillars of Islam.
6. What are the sources of authority for Muslims?
7. How did the beliefs and practices of Islam create unity and strength among Muslims in the 600's?
8. Why were Muslims successful conquerors?
9. What are the three groups within Islam and how do they differ?
10. Identify and explain differences between Sunni and Shi'a Muslims.

11. Why would a single language and a single currency be such an advantage to a trader?
12. What attracted non-Muslims to Islam and Islamic culture?
13. What does opposition to the luxurious life of the Umayyad's suggest about what is important to most Muslims?
14. What was the role of women in Muslim society?
15. According to Muhammad, what are the nine valuable results of knowledge?
16. How did fulfilling religious duties lead Muslims to astronomy and a better understanding of the physical world?
17. What were some of the Muslim contributions in medicine, mathematics, and astronomy?
18. What do you consider to be the five most significant developments in scholarship and the arts during the reign of the Abbasids?
19. What united the scholars of different cultures who worked in the House of Wisdom?
20. What role did cities play in the advancement of Muslim culture?

21. By what means did the early Ottomans expand their empire?
22. Why was taking Constantinople so important to Mehmed II?
23. What were the advantages of the *devshirme* system to the sultan?
24. Which of the effects of cultural blending do you think is the most significant? Explain.
25. In what ways were Shah Abbas and Suleyman the Lawgiver similar?
26. How did the location of the Safavid Empire contribute to the cultural blending in the empire?
27. Describe the religious environment into which Muhammad was born.
28. Why did many people in Mecca reject Muhammad's ideas at first?
29. How did early Muslims view and treat Jews and Christians?
30. Why were the "rightly guided" caliphs so successful in spreading Islam?

31. Why did trade flourish under the Abbasids?

32. How was Muslim society structured?

33. What were some of the practical reasons Muslims had for supporting the advancement of science?

34. In which fields of learning did Muslims excel?

35. How did the art and architecture of the Muslims reflect cultural blending?

36. Why were the Ottomans such successful conquerors?

37. How did Mehmed the Conqueror show his tolerance of other cultures?

38. Why was Selim's capture of Mecca, Medina, and Cairo so significant?

39. What were some of the causes of cultural blending in the Safavid Empire?

40. In what ways did the Safavids weave foreign ideas into their culture?

41. How did the development of Islam influence the blending of cultures in the region where Europe, Africa, and Asia come together?

42. In what ways did the religious duties of Islam affect the everyday lives of Muslims?

43. How did the Abbasids keep the affairs of their empire under control?