



**Subject:** Grade 7 Social Sciences (History)

**Topic:** Social Sciences (History): Term 1 - Mini-exam

**Total:** 92 Marks

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1. C: a gold nugget

4 marks

**Explanation:**

Mali was very rich in **gold**. Mansa Musa is believed to be the **wealthiest ruler** of his day and perhaps the wealthiest ruler in human history.

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2. sugar • leather-bound books • brass and copper vessels

8 marks

**Explanation:**

These goods were traded in Timbuktu for gold, slaves, pepper and other spices.

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3. true

2 marks

**Explanation:**

Ghana has systematically become increasingly richer, largely due to the trans-Saharan trade route. The king (Ghana) required traders to give him a **percentage of the products that they traded**.

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4. books that have been written • photographs, maps and drawings • stories that people tell

8 marks

**Explanation:**

A source is something that gives us **information about the past**. There are **four sources** we can use to obtain more information about the past:

- **Material sources:** Objects people made in the past, for example a spear and a shield.
- **Written sources:** Books people have written over the years. We can usually access written sources in libraries or on the internet.
- **Visual sources:** Photographs, maps and drawings left behind by people.
- **Oral sources:** Stories told and passed on from generation to generation.

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5. control the trade routes

4 marks

**Explanation:**

They had to **police the many trade routes** and **keep the peace** by stopping rebellions in the smaller kingdoms bordering the central part of Mali.

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6. true

2 marks

**Explanation:**

Each camel was loaded with four or five 30kg slabs of salt.



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7. A: peaceful

4 marks

**Explanation:**

Leo Africanus noted: "The inhabitants (citizens) are gentle and cheerful (peaceful nature) ... "and spend a great part of the night in singing and dancing throughout the city streets."

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8. camel | camel.

3 marks

**Explanation:**

The king went EVERYWHERE on a camel.

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9. salt

4 marks

**Explanation:**

Between the 7th and 11th centuries, the **gold-salt trade** in the Sahara Desert stretched from the West African kingdoms (such as Ghana, Mali and Songhai) in sub-Saharan Africa, through the desert to Europe.

Gold was, and still is, mined in Mali. The king of Mali kept all the gold nuggets and allowed the gold dust to be traded.

Salt was mined near Taghaza in North Africa and imported to Timbuktu.

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10. mosques • trade centres

4 marks

**Explanation:**

It was the **trans-Saharan trade** route that brought about the **wealth** and **dominance** of the Islamic world in North Africa. As more and more Arab traders came to North Africa, they also established **Muslim trading centers** and **mosques** along the trans-Saharan trade routes.

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11. C: east

4 marks

**Explanation:**

Every mosque has a **mihrab**, a niche in the wall that **indicates the direction of Mecca**. This direction is **East** and is the direction towards which Muslims pray.

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12. false

2 marks

**Explanation:**

Muslim traders from **North Africa** transported goods from Europe and North America across the Sahara, by means of large camel caravans.

Since a large part of **North and West Africa** is located in the Sahara Desert, the people who lived here used **dromedary camels as a means of transportation**.

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13. 52 days

4 marks

**Explanation:**

The signpost is in French. Timbuktu is spelled Tombouctou in French. 'Jour' means days.

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14. A: make coins 4 marks

**Explanation:**

The traffic in gold was encouraged by the demand for and supply of coinage.

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15. true 2 marks

**Explanation:**

Mali became a great empire by **conquering neighbouring people** and **demanding payment** for protection.

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16. Fez | Fes 3 marks

**Explanation:**

He stayed with his family in Fez and studied at the university there. He travelled on the trade route in a camel caravan through the Sahara Desert.

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17. Trans-Saharan | Trans Saharan | Trans Sahara | Trans-Sahara 3 marks

**Explanation:**

To reach Mali, the traders had to cross the Sahara Desert. This was called the Trans-Saharan trade route.

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18. Mecca | Meca | Mecca. 3 marks

**Explanation:**

Since Mali was stable and prosperous, Musa decided it was time to make a trip to Mecca. He also wanted to inform the Islam world and other European countries about the success of Mali.

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19. true 2 marks

**Explanation:**

He travelled a lot in that area during the 1500s and saw what was happening.

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20. Berbers 4 marks

**Explanation:**

The **average size of a camel caravan was 1 000 camels**, but some contained up to 12 000 camels. Berbers who knew the desert guided the caravans.

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21. no one 4 marks

**Explanation:**

Mansa Musa's pilgrimage (hadj) to Mecca in 1324 took about **a year**. He traveled a total of 5 000 km per camel. While he was gone, **no one** tried to take over his kingdom.

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22. military

3 marks

**Explanation:**

**Arab traders** from Egypt **introduced Islam** to the **West** in Maghreb (now known as Tunisia), Algeria and Morocco. They **reached** these areas by **trade**, as a result of which the road was opened for a **military attack**.

**Military invasions** are when **armed forces** are sent to **conquer an area**.

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23. Timbuktu | Timbuktu.

3 marks

**Explanation:**

Mansa Musa ordered **a university to be built at Timbuktu**. He wanted scholars to come to Mali, which they did. Timbuktu became a centre for world education.

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24. salt

4 marks

**Explanation:**

Before trade in the Sahara Desert, it was the **Tuaregs** who lived there, mainly cattle farmers. Trade began between the Tuaregs and the neighboring Berbers.

The main commodity traded was **salt**.

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25. C: The king appointed Muslim interpreters and treasurers in Ghana.

4 marks

**Explanation:**

Islam reached **Ghana** after **trade routes moved to West Africa** during the 8th century. One of the reasons why Islam was accepted in West Africa was because of the Muslim interpreters and treasurers appointed by the king.

While this is one of the reasons why **West Africa has adopted Islam**, it is **not** one of the reasons **why many Africans have converted to Islam**.

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**Total: 92 Marks**