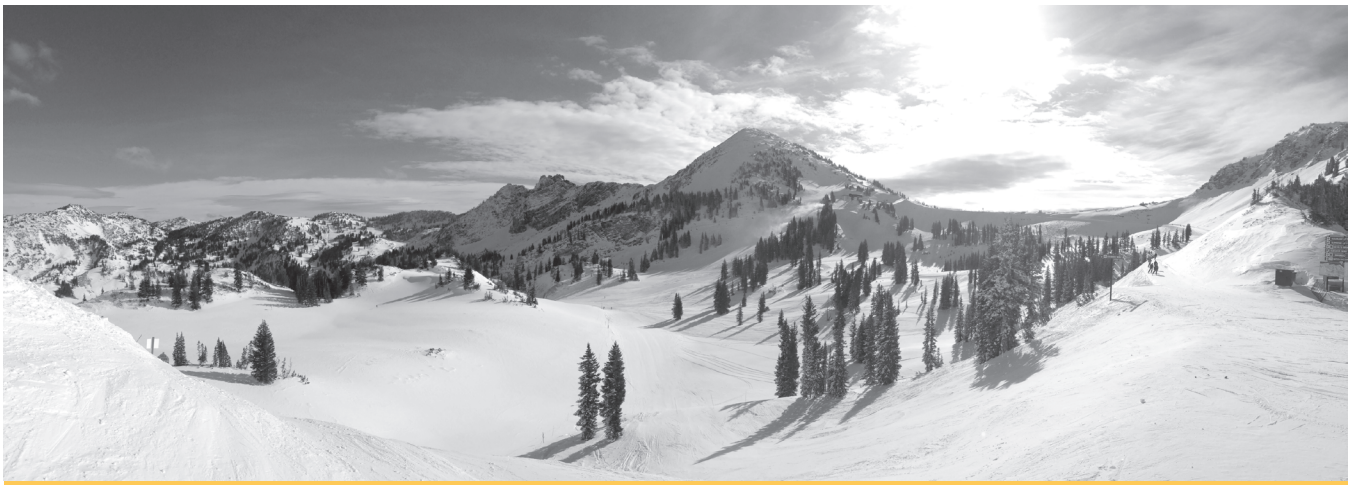
COLORADO TESTS
BY COLORADO TEACHERS

Colorado Measures of Academic Success



Grade 7

Social Studies



Paper Practice Resource for Students

Copyright © 2027 Colorado Department of Education. All rights reserved. The CDE logo is a trademark of the Colorado Department of Education.

Paper Practice Resource for Students

The Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) is Colorado's standards-based assessment program designed to measure the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS) in the content areas of science, social studies, English language arts, and mathematics. The sample items included in this resource provide students with an opportunity to become familiar with the format of test items that appear in the paper-based test books.

While the use of the sample items is not required, it is strongly encouraged to help ensure students are familiar with the types of items they may encounter while taking the paper-based test.

> The sample items in the CMAS Practice Resources are not intended to be representative of a complete test, nor are they intended to cover all assessed content or item types. To view assessment frameworks, high level blueprints, scoring rubrics, evidence statements and standards for the CMAS assessments, visit https://ed.cde.state.co.us/assessment/cmas-testdesign.

Item Types

Selected Response Items

Selected response items are multiple choice questions. To respond, the student indicates their response by filling in the circle(s) next to their answer choice.



GO ON▶

Converted Online Technology-Enhanced Item Types

Online technology-enhanced items converted to the paper testing format may ask students to:

- Circle the correct answer
- Complete a table with checkmarks, Xs, or letters from a list of answer choices
- Fill in the blank
- Draw lines from boxes to correct answers

PRACTICE ITEMS

1. Study the table.

Saudi-U.S. Trade Relations

Saudi Arabian exports to the United States	United States exports to Saudi Arabia
Oil, organic chemicals, fertilizers, iron and steel products	Vehicles, machinery, optics, and medical instruments

Which statement is **best** supported by the table?

Ⓐ Saudi Arabia is a leading importer of United States agricultural products.

Ⓑ The United States and Saudi Arabia have good diplomatic relations.

Ⓒ The resources of Saudi Arabia make it a valuable trading partner.

Ⓓ Saudi Arabia is a leading exporter of agricultural goods.

2. Write the letter of the type of government in the correct box in the table. Each letter may only be used once.

Who Controls Government Authority

The citizens	An individual	A small, select group
_____	_____	_____

A. Dictatorship

B. Aristocracy

C. Democracy

3. Study the information.

> In Africa, camel caravans loaded with salt still travel the same paths salt caravans have traveled for thousands of years.
>
> A salt caravan starts with workers loading salt that is in brick form onto camels. The people who lead the caravans direct the camels to walk in a line across vast areas of desert. When the caravan reaches a destination city, the salt is taxed, then unloaded as needed, and delivered to other areas.

What does the information describe?

Ⓐ the packaging of salt

Ⓑ the refining of salt

Ⓒ a salt trade route

Ⓓ a salt mine

4. Read the passage and answer the question.

> The European Union (EU) was established to strengthen the economic and political ties among member countries. Some of the ways the EU accomplishes this is by promoting free trade between member countries, assisting member countries in economic crisis, and regulating the euro, Europe's common currency.
>
> In 1986, Portugal joined the European Union. Since the global economic crisis of 2008, Portugal's economy has been close to collapsing. By 2013, Portugal's economic situation appeared to be improving.

Based on this information, what is one way the European Union helped Portugal during its economic crisis?

Ⓐ The European Union provided financial assistance to Portugal.

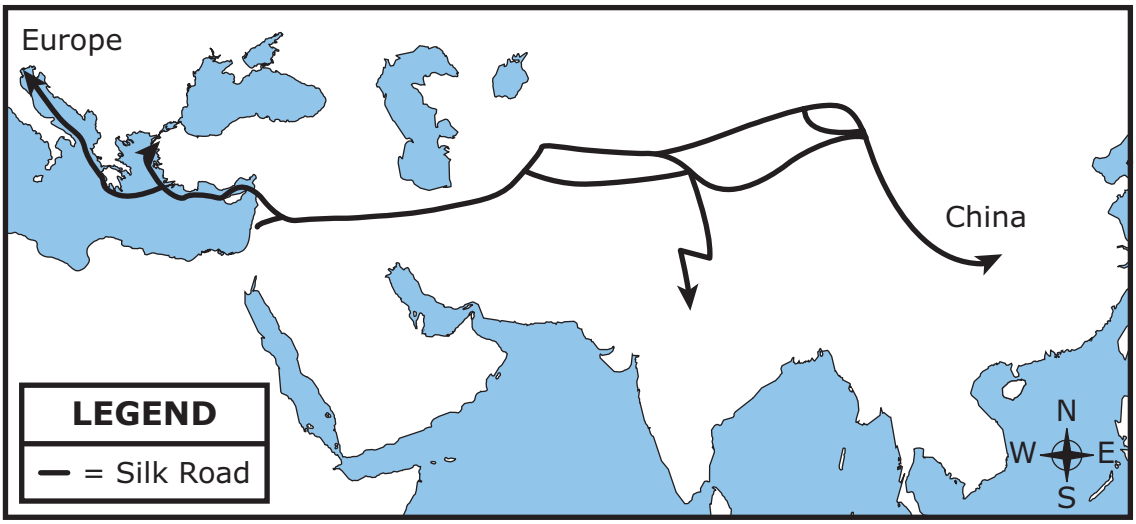
Ⓑ The European Union provided troops to protect Portugal's banks.

Ⓒ The European Union increased taxes on imports received by Portugal.

Ⓓ The European Union appointed new political leaders to govern Portugal.

5. Study the map.

The Silk Road, 800s–1400s



What was one early effect of these trade routes?

Ⓐ Navigation improved through use of the telescope.

Ⓑ Chinese technology was introduced to Europe.

Ⓒ Crop rotation increased food production.

Ⓓ China defeated the Mongol invasion.

6. Read the information.

> The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) promotes economic cooperation among African nations. The commission works to increase investment in all areas of economic development: agriculture, industry, and transportation networks. The commission also encourages participation in large regional markets.

Which of these activities would **most likely** be encouraged by the UNECA?

Ⓐ selling military equipment to countries in Africa

Ⓑ constructing international highways in Africa

Ⓒ importing goods from Europe to Africa

Ⓓ taxing small businesses in Africa

Directions: Use the information below to answer the question on the next page.

7. Study the information.



© age fotostock Spain, S.L. / Alamy

Roman aqueduct in Segovia, Spain

The Roman Empire constructed aqueducts to supply water to Rome and to cities in its territories. An aqueduct is a bridge or trough for water; the Romans constructed them from brick, stone, or concrete. Some aqueducts were underground, and others were on arched bridges built at a slight angle so that water could flow over uneven ground.

Write the letter of each effect of the Roman aqueducts in the correct box in the table. Each letter may only be used once.

Uses for Freshwater	Effects of Aqueducts
• to irrigate crops during dry seasons • to remove rock and dirt during mining	_____
• to provide fresh water for use in the home • to remove wastewater	_____
• to supply fountains throughout the city • to supply public baths where Romans had social gatherings	_____

A. to provide citizens with enjoyment

B. to reduce the likelihood of diseases

C. to support work

8. In which activity does the U.S. government require **most** adult citizens to participate?

Ⓐ attending legislative hearings

Ⓑ serving in the military

Ⓒ voting in elections

Ⓓ serving on juries

9. Study the tables.

Top World Oil Producers, 2011
(thousand barrels per day)

Rank	Country	Production
1	Saudi Arabia	11,153
2	Russia	10,229
3	United States	10,136
4	China	4,289

Source: Environmental Protection Agency

Top World Oil Consumers, 2011
(thousand barrels per day)

Rank	Country	Consumption
1	United States	18,949
2	China	9,810
3	Japan	4,464
4	India	3,360

Source: Environmental Protection Agency

Which conclusion can be made based on the data in the tables?

Ⓐ The United States consumption of oil is higher than its production of oil.

Ⓑ Chinese production of oil is higher than its consumption of oil.

Ⓒ Saudi Arabian consumption of oil is the highest in the world.

Ⓓ The Indian consumption of oil is the lowest in the world.

10. Read the text.

Ibn Battuta (AD 1304–1369) was a medieval explorer from Morocco who is known for writing about his travels.

> I went to the city of **Aden**[1], which is **situated**[2] on the sea-shore. This is a large city, but without either seed, water, or tree. They have, however, reservoirs, in which they collect the rain-water for drinking. Some rich merchants reside here: and vessels from India occasionally arrive here. The inhabitants are modest and religious.
>
> "The Travels of Ibn Batutta" translated by Reverend Samuel Lee — Public Domain
>
> [1] **Aden**—a city on the Arabian Peninsula
>
> [2] **situated**—located

Based on the text, which observations of Aden did Ibn Battuta make? Select **three** answers.

- Ⓐ natural resources
- Ⓑ government type
- Ⓒ culture
- Ⓓ history
- Ⓔ trade

11. Circle one correct response in each box to complete the sentences.

The rights of citizens are severely limited by a _____

constitutional monarchy
totalitarian state
republic

whereas in a _____, citizens have more rights.

democracy
absolute monarchy
dictatorship

12. Read this passage.

Physical Environment of Japan

> Japan is a small island country with an area of 377,915 square kilometers. In comparison, the United States has a total land area of 9,826,675 square kilometers. The land of Japan is largely mountainous. Due to this rugged terrain, very little of the land can be used for farming. Japan has one of the largest fishing fleets in the world. As a result, fishing is an important part of the economy. Japan has almost no natural resources, such as oil or natural gas, and there are few mineral deposits.

Based on this passage, how does the physical environment of Japan influence the economy?

Ⓐ Factories process many types of agricultural products.

Ⓑ Businesses must expand into rural areas.

Ⓒ Mining provides many jobs to citizens.

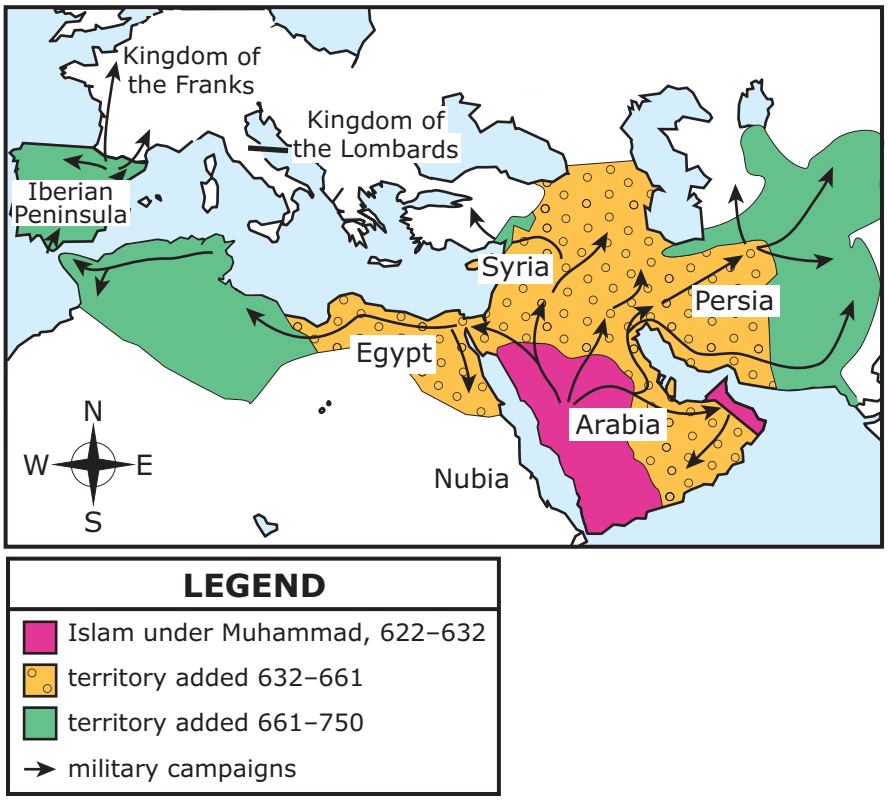
Ⓓ Companies must import fuel.

TURN THE PAGE AND CONTINUE WORKING

Directions: Use the information below to answer the question on the next page.

13. Study the map.

Spread of Islam, AD 622–750



Circle one correct response in each box to complete the sentences.

According to the map, Arabian military campaigns spread Islam to _____. Islam spread to Egypt before

the Kingdom of the Franks
Persia
Nubia

reaching _____.

the Kingdom of the Lombards
the Iberian Peninsula
Syria

14. Which event would **most likely** cause a decrease in consumer demand for large automobiles?

Ⓐ an increase in consumer income

Ⓑ an increase in the price of fuel

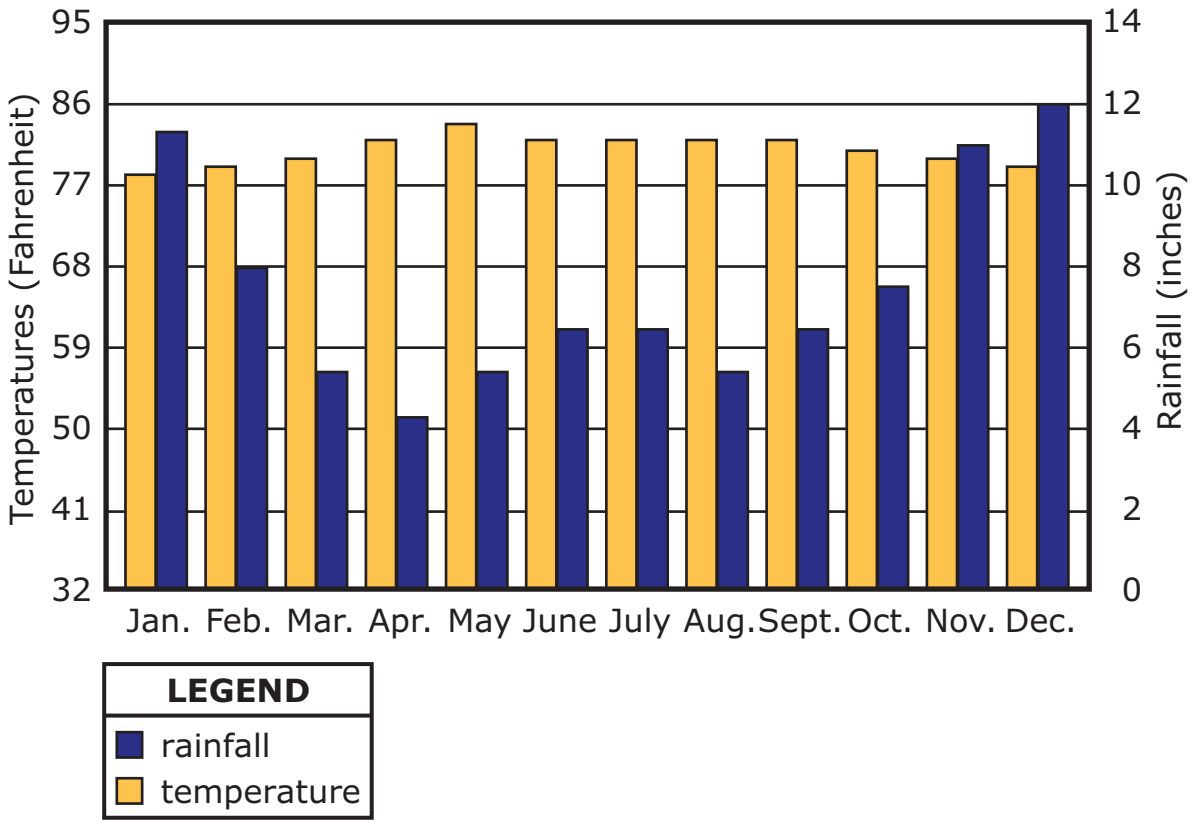
Ⓒ a decrease in steel production

Ⓓ a decrease in the price of tires

Directions: Use the information below to answer the question on the next page.

15. Study the graph.

Climate Graph for Tacloban, Philippines



Write the letters of the **two** months with the **most** rainfall in the box. Each letter may be used once.

Months with Most Rainfall

_____ _____

A. January

B. May

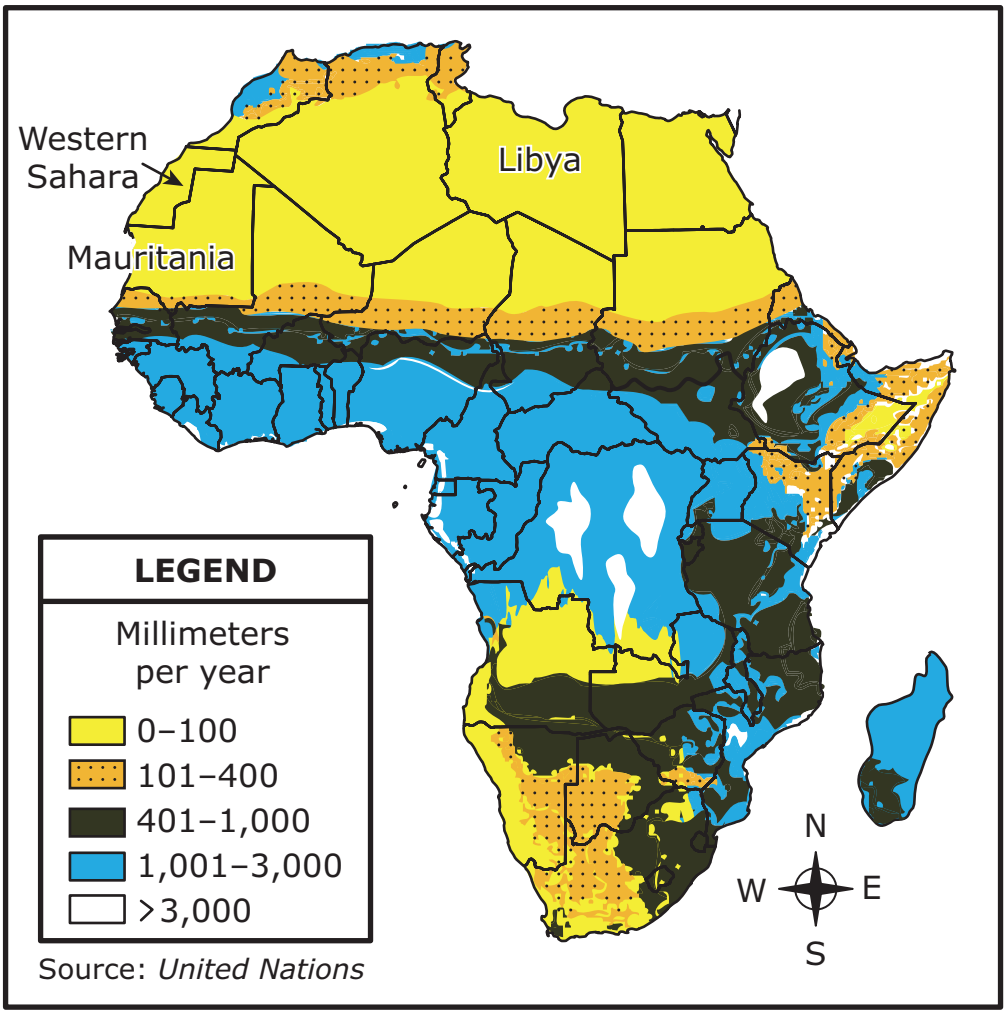
C. July

D. August

E. December

16. Study the map.

Average Annual Precipitation in Africa



Source: *United Nations*

Based on the information in the map, which condition is **most likely** to affect the nations of Mauritania, Libya, and Western Sahara?

Ⓐ snow storms

Ⓑ thick fog

Ⓒ flooding

Ⓓ drought

17. Read the text.

> In the Byzantine Empire, there was no distinct line between the religious and the nonreligious. The people were to recognize the authority of both the church and the empire. This was illustrated every time the head of the Eastern Orthodox Church crowned the emperor.

Based on the text, which question would be **most** useful when researching the political system of the Byzantine Empire?

Ⓐ How were religion and government connected in the Byzantine Empire?

Ⓑ How did various religious beliefs empower the Byzantine government?

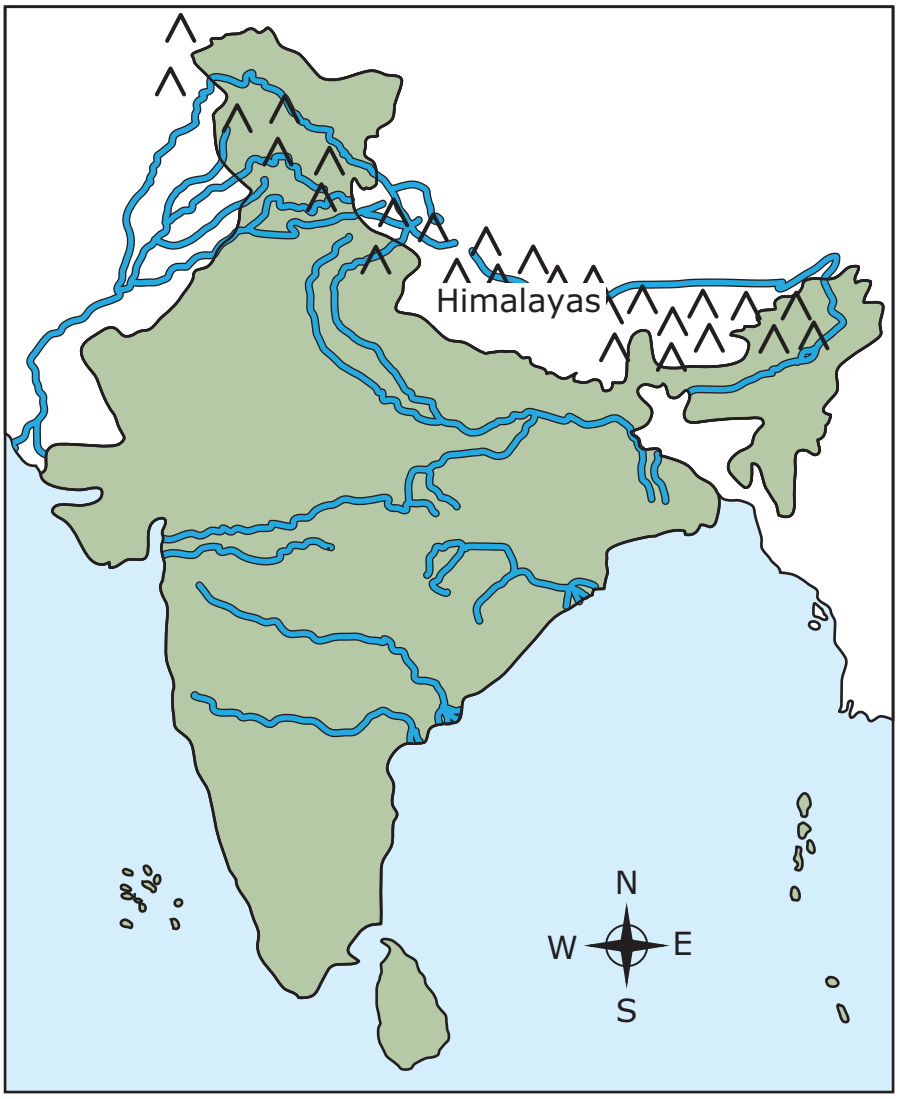
Ⓒ How did foreign religious leaders influence the Byzantine government?

Ⓓ How were religion and government honored in the Byzantine Empire?

Directions: Use the information below to answer the question on the next page.

18. Read the map.

India



LEGEND
^ = mountain
~ = river

Write the letter on each line in the table for each phrase. Each letter may only be used once.

Geographic Feature	Advantages for the Civilizations of Ancient India
Mountain ranges to the north	_____
Large river systems flowing from the mountains to the ocean	_____ _____
Heavy summer storms blowing in from the ocean	_____

A. rainfall to grow crops

B. convenient routes for trade and travel

C. protection from foreign attacks

D. valleys with fertile soil for farming

19. Which statement describes citizen participation in the direct democracy of ancient Athens?

Ⓐ The citizens elected a group of representatives to create laws.

Ⓑ All citizens elected a single leader to make laws.

Ⓒ The wealthiest citizens voted on proposed laws.

Ⓓ All citizens voted on proposed laws.

20. Study the photo.



© Heritage Image Partnership Ltd / Alamy

The remains of Mohenjo-daro, a city built in Pakistan in about 2500 BC

Based on the photo, how did the environment of Pakistan **most likely** contribute to the way of life of people in Mohenjo-daro?

Ⓐ It allowed their society to construct buildings that led to the development of a permanent settlement.

Ⓑ It allowed for the practice of agriculture by providing land for the construction of irrigation canals.

Ⓒ It allowed for the construction of buildings that could resist earthquakes and erosion.

Ⓓ It allowed their society to trade by providing materials for the construction of roads.

21. Read the information.

During the 1500s, Portugal established a trade agreement with the West African Kingdom of Kongo. This letter from King Alfonso I of Kongo to King João III of Portugal addresses trade relations between the two kingdoms.

> Sir, Your Highness should know how our Kingdom is being lost in so many ways . . . since this is caused by the excessive freedom given . . . merchants who are allowed to come to this Kingdom to set up shops with goods . . . prohibited by us, and which they spread throughout our Kingdoms . . . so it is doing a great harm. . . .
>
> — King Alfonso I, 1526

Which question should be asked in order to determine the accuracy of this account?

Ⓐ How did this letter get from Portugal to the Kingdom of Kongo?

Ⓑ What impact did this letter have on trade relations?

Ⓒ How consistent is this letter with other sources?

Ⓓ When was this letter translated into English?

22. Which group was allowed to be citizens in the ancient city-states Athens and Sparta?

Ⓐ foreign merchants

Ⓑ land-owning men

Ⓒ artisans

Ⓓ serfs

23. Read the information.

Benefits of the ocean:

- Water absorbs carbon dioxide and heat from the atmosphere
- People can scuba dive and enjoy other tourist activities
- Minerals can be extracted from the sea floor
- Goods can be transported long distances
- Plankton add oxygen to the air

Based on the information, what are **three economic** uses of the oceans?

Ⓐ temperature regulation

Ⓑ mining opportunities

Ⓒ cargo shipping

Ⓓ air purification

Ⓔ recreation

This is the end of the Practice Items.

1170171 1 2 3 4 5 A B C D E Printed in the USA ISD43768