

Unit 4 Study Guide

Name: _____

Answer questions either on the sheet or in your notebook. After you finish, you can find all of the answers on the website.

GENERAL CONTENT:

- What is globalization?

Globalization is an increasing interconnectedness of the world. Or you can say it is an increase in the rate of diffusion across the world.

- What traits need to be true for something to be an example of globalization?
 1. Increasing rate of diffusion
 2. Interaction between at least 2 regions
 3. Regions must be distant from each other

MONGOLS:

- Who were the Mongols?

A group of nomadic peoples that banded together to conquer most of Asia in the 13th century

- How were the Mongols unified?

Genghis Khan conquered the various peoples of what is now called Mongolia and renamed them Mongols.

- How long did the Mongol Empire last?

The Mongol empire was very short. A fully unified Mongol Empire only lasted about 70 years.

- How large was the Mongol Empire? What part of the world did it conquer?

One of the largest empires in history. Conquered all of Asia except for India, Southeast Asia, and Japan.

- What are some of the factors that allowed the Mongols to capture large parts of the world?

Very capable army, were so feared that people surrendered rather than fight, much of Asia was struggling in the 13th century.

- What are some of the ways the Mongols conducted wars/battles?

Used almost all horsemen. Prioritized speed over strength. Used trickery to defeat enemies. Used psychological tactics to scare people into surrendering.

- How did the Mongols treat the places they captured? Why did they treat those places that way?

The Mongols sometimes put cities to the sword in order to make an example of those that resisted.

- How did the Mongols treat merchants?

The Mongols held merchants in high esteem. They tried their best to create a system that was beneficial to traders, travelers, and merchants.

- How did the Mongols support trade?

Kept roads maintained, offered low taxes, allowed travelers to stay in postal stations, severely punished thieves

- Why did diffusion increase under the Mongols? What are the 3 main things they did to support diffusion?

Kept the roads safe with extremely harsh laws, built a revolutionary postal system, and established a single tariff zone across Asia.

- What things were diffused under the Mongols?

Technologies such as paper, compass, and gunpowder from China; glassmaking and astronomy from the Caliphate; and trebuchets from Europe.

BLACK DEATH

- What is the Black Death?

An extremely deadly and contagious disease that killed up to 25% of the world population in the 14th century.

- What causes the Black Death? What are the varieties of Black Death?

The Black Death is caused by an infection of the *Yersinia Pestis* bacteria. Depending on where it infects, you might get the bubonic plague—an infection of the lymph nodes, Pneumonic Plague—an infection of the lungs, or Septicemic Plague—an infection of the blood.

- Which areas of the world did the Black Death strike?

China, Central Asia, and Europe. Possibly elsewhere.

- How did the Black Death affect the world? How did it affect Europe?

Killed a huge number of people, possibly up to 100 million (of a world population of 350-450 million). It caused massive depopulation. In Europe, it killed between 40-60% of the population, ended feudalism, and caused people to question the church.

- In what ways was the Black Death advantageous to Europe?

The high number of deaths made land cheaper and labor more valuable—which helps the poor and allows a more sophisticated economy to develop. It also crippled landlords, killing feudalism and allowing Kings and Queens to centralize their power—creating more powerful states. It also caused people to question the church, which helped lead to an era of science and discovery.

AGE OF EXPLORATION:

- Who took control of international trade after 1500? Who did they leave out? Why?

Europeans took control. They left out the Ottomans because the Ottomans were Muslim and trying to take over Europe—which made European Christians hate them.

- What was the major discovery of Christopher Columbus? How did they impact the world?

First sustained contact with the Americas from Europe the “discovery of America.” Caused a massive wave of diffusion known as the Columbian Exchange and facilitated an era of European control of the Americas.

- What was the major discovery of Vasco de Gama? What impact did it have on the world?

Discovered the route around Africa. Allowed Europeans to trade with the Indian Ocean and East Asia without having to go through the Middle East. Resulted in an enriching of Europe and the cutting off of the Middle East from trade.

- Why were Eurasian diseases so deadly to Native Americans? What percentage of the population died?

Native Americans had not evolved alongside those diseases and had no resistance to them because of it (what’s called a “Virgin Soil” epidemic). Also, a huge number of deadly diseases struck at the same time such as smallpox, black plague, influenza, measles, typhus, malaria. Killed between 90-95% of the population of the Americas from 1500-1900.

- How much of the Americas was colonized by Europeans by the end of the Age of Exploration?

Almost all

- What was the effect of Europeans colonizing the Americas?

Native Americans suffered massive numbers of deaths, faced forced assimilation, and were slowly concentrated onto reservation lands. Europeans and their descendants became the dominant culture of the Americas.

- Other than disease, why were European societies able to conquer the Americas?

They had superior weaponry—especially steel and gunpowder weapons. They also had horses, which are very difficult to fight in battle if you don't know how to do it.

- What is the Columbian Exchange?

Columbian exchange was the rapid diffusion of organisms, ideas, and cultures between Afro-Eurasia and the Americas that occurred after the European discovery of America.

- What was traded on the Columbian Exchange? Include some specifics.

Food plants such as tomatoes, potatoes, and chili peppers to Afro-Eurasia or wheat, bananas, and sugar to the Americas. A large number of domestic animals including the horse, cow, sheep, and pig came to the Americas. Disease also was brought to the Americas including smallpox, black plague, and the flu. European culture and people were also diffused to the Americas.

- Who did the Columbian Exchange help? Who did it hurt?

The Columbian exchange was beneficial to all of Eurasia but especially Europe. Afro-Eurasia got a lot of new food crops but Europe also got extremely wealthy because of the exchange. The Americas did receive beneficial crops and especially animals. However, this benefit was more than outweighed by the huge numbers of deaths from disease and colonization.

- What are 3 ways in which native American populations were decreased during or after the Age of Exploration?

Primarily from disease. However, many native Americans were also killed by violence either during wars or in acts of genocidal massacre. Additionally, many were encouraged to abandon their ethnicity in forced assimilation—thereby also reducing the population, though not through actual loss of life.