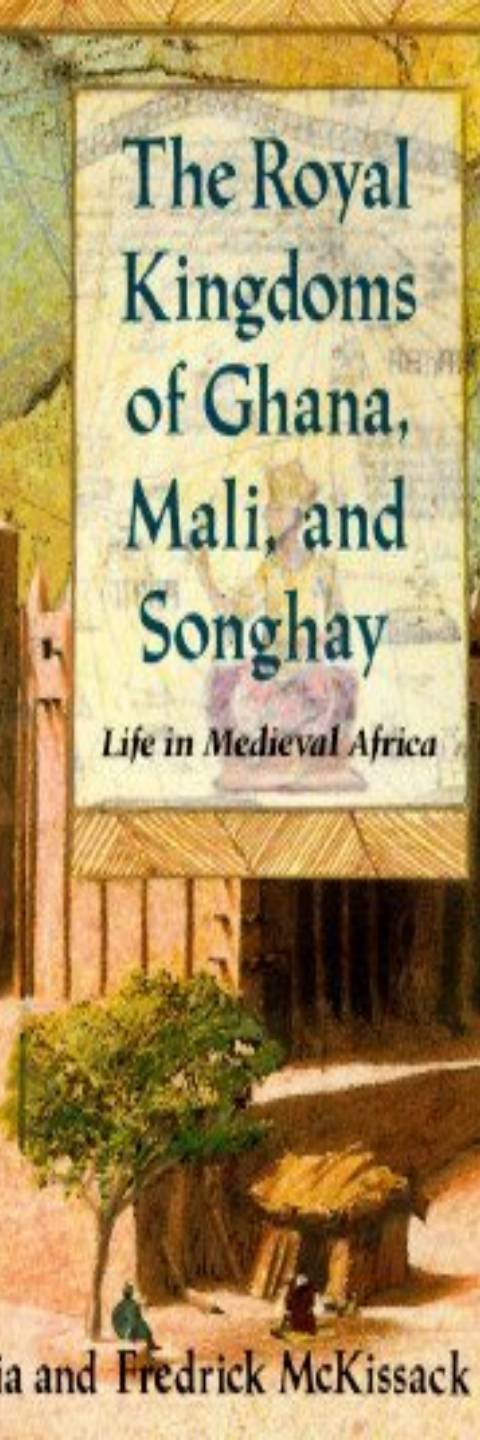


✦ What is the difference between Ghana, Mali, and Songhai?

(Think about size and location)

✦ Why do you think that the empires changed over the centuries?

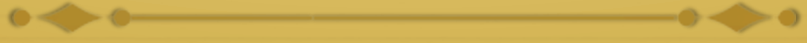


The Royal
Kingdoms
of Ghana,
Mali, and
Songhay

Life in Medieval Africa

The Empires of West

I can analyze the growth of African trading centers into hubs of culture and learning.



Graphic Organizer

- ✦ **Fold construction paper into a trifold.**



- ✦ **Label each column on of the empire.**

Ghana

Mali

Songhai

- ✦ **Take notes inside the foldable graphic organizer**

GHANA	MALI	SONGHAI
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Ghana

How did The Kings of Ghana become so wealthy?

- ✦ The first of the West African trading kingdoms
- ✦ West Africa grew more food than needed to survive.
 - ✦ Land was a resource. It could produce different crops such as dates, kola, nuts, and grains.
 - ✦ Salt and minerals such as iron and gold were also plentiful.
 - ✦ Through weapon making technology (iron smelting), Ghanaian warriors expanded boundaries
 - ✦ Gained control over trade routes



Ghana

✦ Gold Salt Trade

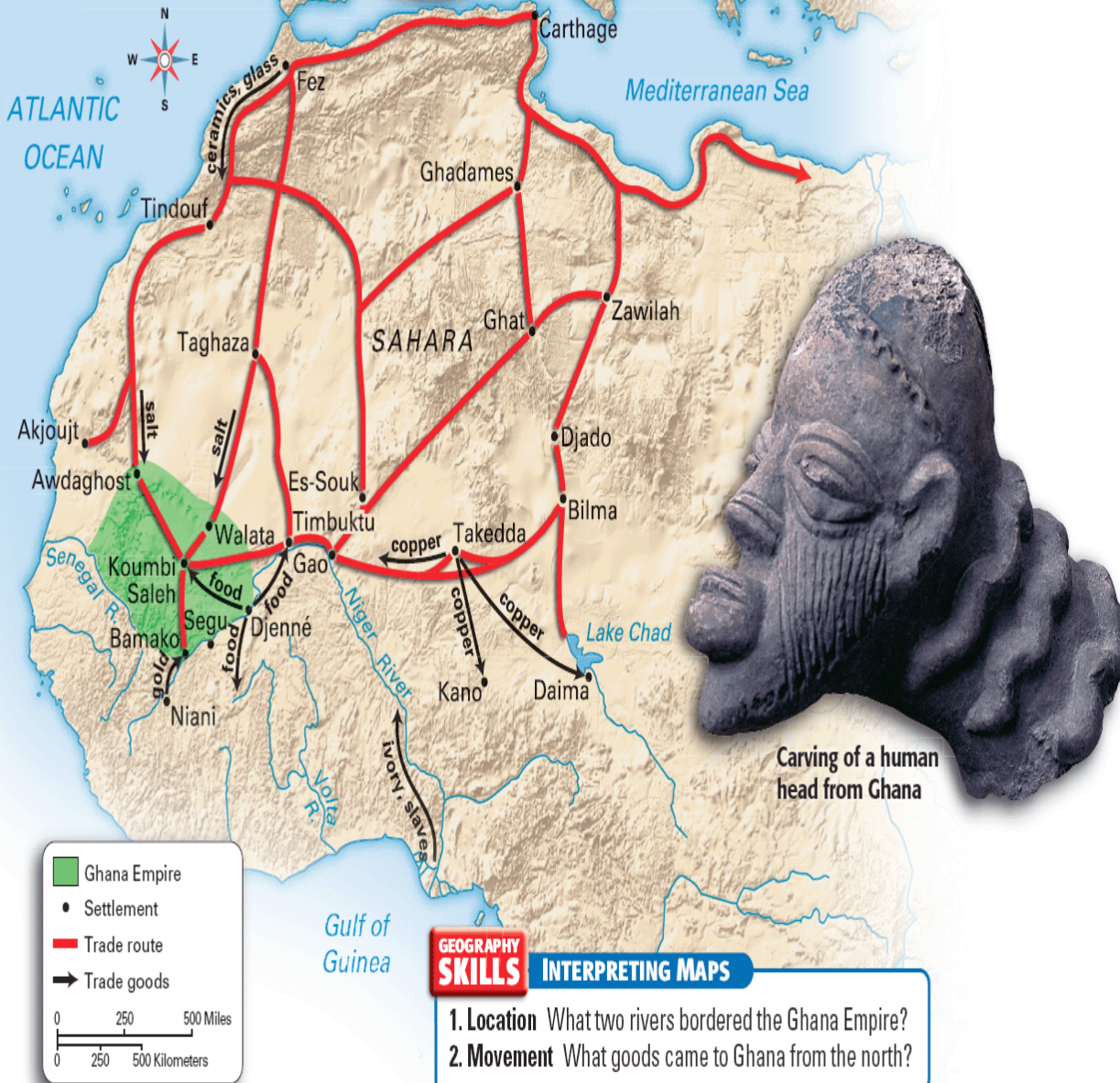
✦ Location! Location! Location! —◆—

- ✦ Ghana was located in the midway between Saharan salt mines and tropical gold mines
- ✦ created a trading empire by taxing salt and gold and by controlling the price of gold
- ✦ Caravans of Muslim merchants brought goods which Ghanaian people exchanged for gold
- ✦ Trade conducted via the silent trade
- ✦ Muslims brought their religion to the people of Ghana

Explain why many people in ancient West Africa valued salt more than gold.

<http://www.history.com/shows/mankind-the-story-of-all-of-us/videos/salt>

Ghana Empire, c. 1050



Carving of a human head from Ghana

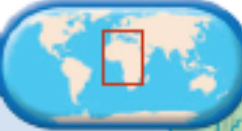
Look on page 387.

Answer the questions found underneath the map.

How did Ghana's location on the map help with trade, culture, and commerce?

GEOGRAPHY SKILLS INTERPRETING MAPS

1. **Location** What two rivers bordered the Ghana Empire?
2. **Movement** What goods came to Ghana from the north?



West African Empires, 1000–1500

INTERACTIVE

Empire of Ghana, A.D. 1000



Empire of Mali, A.D. 1400



Empire of Songhai, A.D. 1500



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

- Region** Compare the regions occupied by the Ghana, Mali, and Songhai empires in terms of size and location.
- Human-Environment Interaction** How did the environment both contribute resources to and cause problems for traders?

Think, Pair Share



- ✦ How did trade help Ghana develop?
- ✦ How did the great African empires rise to power?

Ghana's Decline

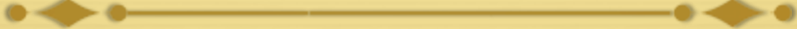
Attempts at Expansion

- Mid-1000s, Ghana's empire rich and powerful
- King tried to expand to north into lands controlled by Almoravids, a Muslim Berber kingdom
- Attempt led to long war
- In 1076, Almoravids captured Koumbi-Saleh, Ghana's capital

Results of Conflict

- Ghana's empire was weakened
- King unable to deal with rebellion in part of empire
- Soon Ghana fell into decline; new empire took its place

Exit Ticket



✦ Put into your own words why Ghana declined in the 1000s.