

## Bell Work

### Sundiata Comes to Power Fill in the blanks.

- Empire of **1** formed in 1240—southern area of Ghana's empire
- **2**—great chief of Malinke people; first Mali leader
  - his powerful army captured Ghana capital; he extended empire
  - reestablished gold-salt trade; **3** trade routes
- **4**—city on Niger River, center of trade, culture, Islamic scholarship
- Sundiata supported development of **5**
- Like Ghana kings, Sundiata balanced Islam with traditional religion
- Sundiata was popular; still considered a hero by Africans today

### Mansa Musa Expands the Empire

- **Mansa Musa** takes power in 1307—devout **6** Mali's most famous king
  - allowed subjects to practice other religions
- Musa's elaborate pilgrimage to **7** in 1324 was legendary
  - caravan attracted many merchants to Mali; gold trade boomed
  - gold trade with Europe helped support European Renaissance
- Musa returned to Mali with an architect, Arab scholar
- Timbuktu became international hub of scholarship, art, architecture
  - Musa's architect designed Sankore **8** built in Timbuktu
  - city attracted poets, artists from Africa, Asia
- Musa continued to expand empire until his death, in **9**

## Agenda

- Complete vocabulary quiz.
- Finish Mansa Musa Instagram
- Take notes on Songhai

## Vocabulary Quiz

- When you finish, complete your Mansa Musa instagram.

## Songhai

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

## Songhai



- The largest of the 3 major West African kingdoms
- Took control of Timbuktu
- Expanded trade to Europe and Asia
  - Time of great cultural diffusion
- Askia Muhammad sets up high functioning bureaucracy
  - 5 provinces each with
    - A governor
    - Tax collector
    - Judges (Like Mansa Musa, had laws based on Qur'an)
    - Trade inspectors

## Timbuktu

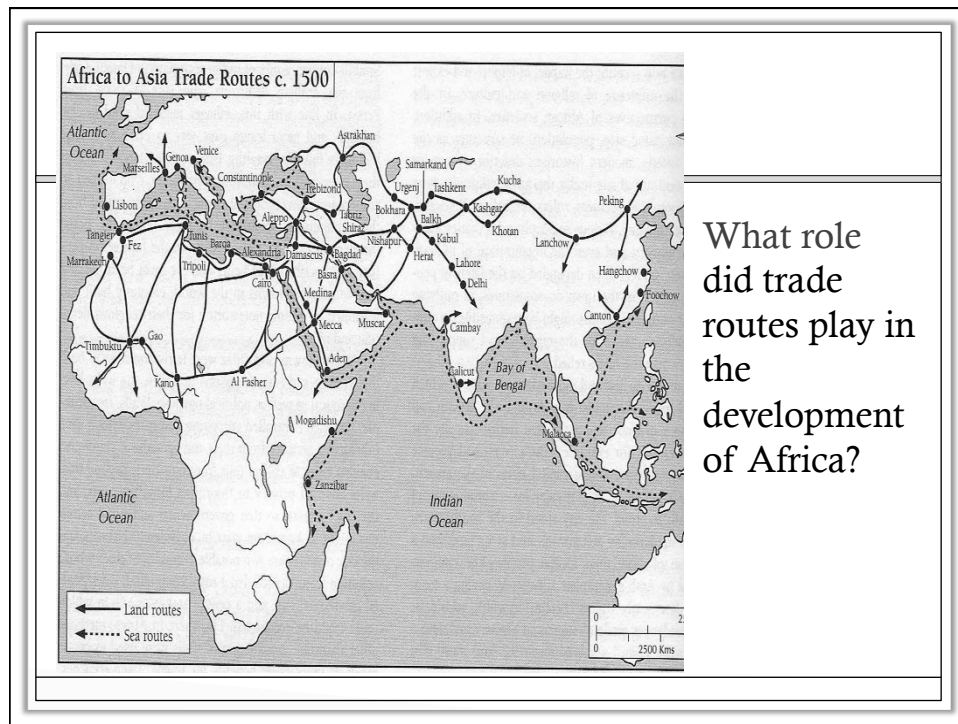


- **Write a paragraph summarizing the significance of Timbuktu.**
- *For centuries Timbuktu flourished because it sat between the great superhighways of the era — the Sahara, with its caravan routes carrying salt, cloth, spices and other riches from the north, and the Niger River, which carried gold and slaves from the rest of West Africa.*
- *Timbuktu was home to the University of Sankore, which at its height had 25,000 scholars. An army of scribes, gifted in calligraphy, earned their living copying the manuscripts brought by travelers. Prominent families added those copies to their own libraries.*
- *“Astronomy, botany, pharmacology, geometry, geography, chemistry, biology,” said Ali Imam Ben Essayouti, the descendant of a family of imams that keeps a vast library in one of the city’s mosques. “There is Islamic law, family law, women’s rights, human rights, laws regarding livestock, children’s rights. All subjects under the sun, they are represented here [in our library].”*

### Review Questions

Use text evidence to answer the questions.

- Why was Timbuktu considered a major culture and learning center?
- Why was its location to important?



- **How did the spread of Islam affect education, custom, customs, and architecture in West Africa?**
- The religion of Islam spread to West Africa through trade. The influence of Islamic culture was seen at every level of West African society. The following sources provide information about how the influence of Islam was experienced and seen throughout this area.

## Songhai

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## Similarities to Mali and Ghana

- ✦ Songhai was made rich through trade.
  - ✦ They owned important salt mines.
  - ✦ They were located on important trans-Saharan trade routes.
  - ✦ They worked with Berber caravan leaders.
- ✦ Songhai's leaders were Muslims.
- ✦ Songhai depended on the Niger River for water, trade and travel.

## Conflict with Mali

- Mali and Songhai occupied roughly the same area.
- Mansa Musa (the great leader of Mali) sent his army to conquer Songhai. Mali absorbed Songhai into their empire for a short time.
- As Mali began to fail, Songhai was able to regain independence.

## Sunni Ali

- ✦ Sunni Ali became leader of Songhai in 1464.
- ✦ He strengthened Songhai and added territory (including much of Mali).
- ✦ He conquered the wealthy trade cities of Djenne and Timbuktu.
  - ✦ He had been asked by Malis leaders for help against Tuareg invaders.
  - ✦ He drove off the invaders and kept the cities for himself.
- ✦ To promote peace, he participated in both Muslim and traditional African religions.



## Fall of Songhai

- ✦ After Askia the great, other Askias ruled for a short time.
- ✦ Morocco invaded to take control of Songhai's salt mines.
  - ✦ Morocco needed money after years of fighting with the Portuguese and Spanish.
  - ✦ Morocco marched on Songhai in 1591. Some of Morocco's soldiers were actually Portuguese and Spanish war prisoners.
  - ✦ Morocco had superior firepower. They carried the arquebus (early form of the gun) and even some cannons.
  - ✦ They attacked the trading cities of Timbuktu and Gao.
- ✦ The destruction of trade finally wiped out Songhai.

## Exit Ticket

- Write a description that characterizes the city of Timbuktu.