

Name _____ Section _____ Date _____

LT: I can predict the positive and negative aspects of interconnecting cultures

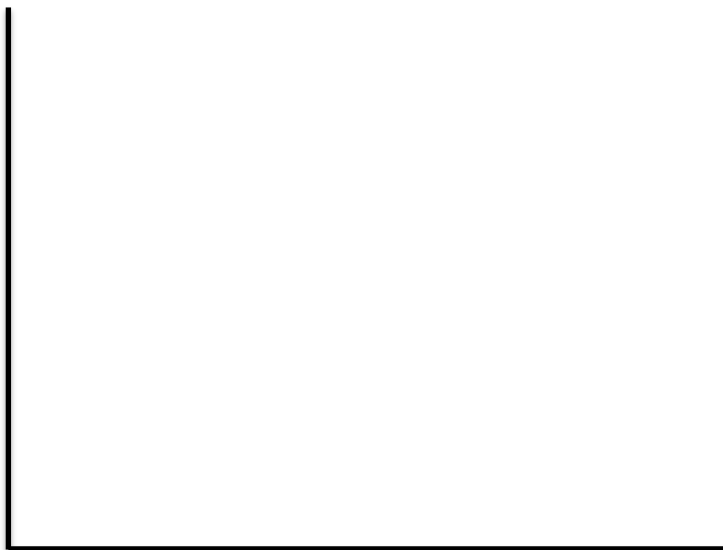
Do Now: Complete part 1.

Intro to Unit 8:
Expansion & Interconnection in the Post-Classical Era

Part 1: Analyzing Population Data

Plot the below data onto the graph on the right.

Year	Population (in millions)
1 AD	170
500 AD	177
750 AD	196
1000 AD	254
1250 AD	372
1500 AD	426



1. What happens to the world population over time? Is it growing or shrinking? Is the change happening quickly or slowly?
2. List 1 reason that could explain this change in population. List 1 benefit and 1 disadvantage to a growing population.

Part 2: Analyzing Post-Classical

1. Use the projected map. What happens to the number of empires/different civilizations? Where are they located?
2. List 1 skill, and 1 tool/item that could explain later why/how traveling became easier.
3. Why would people (either regular people or leaders) be motivated to travel to new areas?

Part 3: Marco Polo Excerpts

Marco Polo was an Italian trader who traveled around Asia for 24 years and saw things he had never seen before. He wrote a book, *The Adventures of Marco Polo*, It became very popular. Choose 2 of the 3 passages and guess what he is describing.

Passage #1

“It is a fact that all over the country there is a kind of black stone existing in beds in the mountains, which they dig out and burn like firewood. If you supply the fire with them at night, and see that they are well kindled, you will find them still alight in the morning; and they make such capital fuel that no other is used throughout the country. It is true that they have plenty of wood also, but they do not burn it, because those stones burn better and cost less.”

Marco Polo is describing _____

Passage #2

“There are wild elephants in the country, and numerous unicorns, which are very nearly as big. They have hair like that of a buffalo, feet like those of an elephant, and a horn in the middle of the forehead, which is black and very thick. They do no mischief, however, with the horn, but with the tongue alone; for this is covered all over with long and strong prickles and when savage with anyone they crush him under their knees and then rasp him with their tongue. The head resembles that of a wild boar, and they carry it ever bent towards the ground. They delight much to abide in mire and mud.”

Marco Polo is describing _____

Passage #3

“All these pieces of paper are issued with as much authority as if they were of pure gold or silver; and on every piece officials have to write their names, and to put their seals. And when all is prepared duly, the chief officer smears the Seal (stamp) and presses it on the paper, so that the form of the Seal remains printed upon it in red; [it] is then authentic.... and he makes them to pass universally over all his kingdoms and provinces and territories. Wheresoever a person may go throughout the kingdom he shall find these pieces of paper, and shall be able to transact all sales and purchases of goods by means of them....”

Marco Polo is describing _____

Part 4: Cultural Diffusion

1. What is cultural diffusion?
2. How is the Marco Polo excerpt an example of cultural diffusion?
3. How can cultural diffusion be a positive thing? Use a current or historical example to prove your point.
4. How can cultural diffusion be a negative thing? Use a current or historical example to prove your point.