Silk Road Data Sheet

**Begins:** Xian, China

**Ends:** Constantinople, Byzantine Empire

**Length:** 8,000+ miles

**Lasted:** 1,500 years (third century B.C. to fifteenth century A.D.)

**Linked:** China, India, the Arab world, Europe

**Items West: (To Europe):** silk, porcelain, lacquerware, spices, gems, furs, incense, ivory, printing process, papermaking, ceramic glazing, astronomy, carpets, pyrotechnology (gunpower), disease (Behcet’s Syndrome, Bubonic Plague)

**Items East: (To China):** Islam, Buddhism, Christianity, metal technologies (steel), horses (Arabian, Akhal Tekes), alfalfa, pomegranates, grape vines, winemaking, wool, tapestry, leather, raisins, dates, jade, glass, spices, ivory

**Items Both Ways:** music, culture, technology, food items, luxury items

**Implications:**
- European voyages of exploration were aimed at controlling the spice trade.
- Creation of paper money in Europe causes economic changes (banking, loans, merchant class).
- Paper and printing press create cheaper books thus taking the control of knowledge away from the Catholic Church.
- Pyrotechnology (gunpower), new metal technology (steel), and better horses revolutionize warfare.
- The end of feudalism changes social structure and governments.
- New art forms develop due to glazing and lacquering techniques.
- The movement of nomads disrupts and/or destroys Asian kingdoms. (Nomads conquer Bactria, an old Greek kingdom. Mongols create an empire.)
- Asia becomes a mosaic of religions and develops religious toleration.
- By the end of the Silk Road trading years, certain Asian powers become isolationist. (China forbids foreign travel. Japan expels foreigners.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Cards</th>
<th>Items wanted by West</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>silk</td>
<td>porcelain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spices</td>
<td>gems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incense</td>
<td>ivory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paper making</td>
<td>ceramic glazing</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Items wanted by the East

Islam
Buddhism
Christianity

metal technologies (steel)
horses (Arabian, akhal tekes)
alalfa
pomegranates
grapes
wine making
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items wanted by both East and West</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>luxury items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Silk Road Assessment A

1. According to the map, the western most point of the Silk Road was in:
   a. Byzantium       b. Xi’an
   c. Tyre            d. Kashgar

2. According to the map, the eastern most point of the Silk Road was in:
   a. Byzantium       c. Xi’an
   b. Tyre            d. Herat

3. The people who used the Silk Road
   a. faced many dangers. c. traveled in caravans
   b. did not travel the whole length. d. all of these

4. Which type of landscape did the Silk Road not cross through?
   a. desert          b. mountains
   c. jungle          d. water

5. Which was not an item traded on the Silk Road?
   a. slaves          b. silk
   c. spices          d. food

6. Europeans received which of the following trade items from the Silk Road?
   a. carpets        b. spices
   c. silk           d. all of these

7. Asians received which of the following trade items from the Silk Road?
   a. glass          b. horses
   c. dates          d. all of these

8. A positive effect of the Silk Road for Europeans was
   a. disease.       b. new technology.
   c. new religions. d. none of these

9. A positive effect of the Silk Road for Asians was
   a. disease.       b. new technology.
   c. slavery.      d. none of these

10. Which of the following was a direct result of the Silk Road?
    a. European society was changed.
    b. Asian nations began to distrust foreigners.
    c. Europeans began voyages of exploration.
    d. All of these
Silk Road Assessment B

1. The Silk Road began in:
   a. United States           b. China

2. The Silk Road ended in:
   a. United States           b. Turkey

3. The people who used the Silk Road
   a. traveled in caravans and faced many dangers.
      b. traveled the whole length.

4. Which type of landscape did the Silk Road not cross through?
   a. desert                   b. jungle

5. Which was not an item traded on the Silk Road?
   a. slaves                   b. spices

6. Europeans received which of the following trade items from the Silk Road?
   a. cows                     b. spices

7. Asians received which of the following trade items from the Silk Road?
   a. horses                   b. apples

8. A positive effect of the Silk Road for Europeans was
   a. disease.                 b. new technology.

9. A positive effect of the Silk Road for Asians was
   a. disease.                 b. new technology.

10. Which of the following was a result of the Silk Road trade?
    a. Asian nations began to isolate themselves from the West.
    b. European nations began to isolate themselves from the East.
You are writing about the Silk Road for a textbook company. Write at least three paragraphs describing the Silk Road using your map and notes. Be sure to include who (the people who used the Silk Road), when (when did the Silk Road operate), where (where did the Silk Road go), what (items traded), why (why did people use the Silk Road), and so what (what is the importance of the trade along the Silk Road).

Did YOU write 3 Paragraphs that explain these facts in your description of the Silk Road?:

♦ who (5 points)_____
♦ when (5 point)_____
♦ where (5 points)_____
♦ what (5 points)_____
♦ why (5 points)_____
♦ so what – implications (10 points)_____

Name ____________________
Silk Road Assessment Answer Key A

1. A
2. C
3. D
4. C
5. A
6. D
7. D
8. B
9. B
10. D

Silk Road Assessment Answer Key B

1. B
2. B
3. A
4. B
5. A
6. B
7. A
8. B
9. B
10. A
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Sentence using the word.</th>
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<tbody>
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