Chapter 11, “Civilizations of Africa”

STUDY GUIDE

Directions: Using your Chapter 11, Sections 1-3 guided notes or pages 310-330 in the textbook, answer the following questions to help you prepare for your Chapter 11 test.

Define the following terms:

• Migration

• Bantu

• Savanna

• Sahara

• Oral history

• Clan

• Mansa Musa

• Mali

• Ghana

• Songhai
1. In early times, most Bantu-speaking people were what?

2. Many Bantu clans traced their ancestry through their ____________________.

3. How long did the Bantu migrations last?
4. As the Bantu migrated, they carried with them a knowledge of __________________________.

5. How many descendants do the Bantu still have today?

6. What was one effect of the Bantu population movements?

7. Why did the Bantu first move?

8. What animals lived in Africa’s savannas?

9. What has led scientists to new areas of exploration of sub-Saharan Africa?

10. Africa is home to the world’s largest desert known as the ____________________.

11. Where was the wealthy trading state of Aksum located?

12. Along with trade goods, what did foreign merchants bring to Aksum?
13. In what way is present-day Ethiopia different from neighboring lands?

14. How did Kilwa and Aksum grow powerful?

15. Which culture and language belonged to the people of Kilwa?

16. One of the main trade goods Aksum controlled was _______________.

17. What was a unique feature of the churches built under King Lalibela?

18. By 1400, there were about _________ city-states along Africa’s Indian Ocean coast.

19. Today, Swahili is an official language in what two countries?

20. During the A.D. 300s, what became the official religion of Aksum?
21. Most of the gold that was brought to the Swahili city-states came from around what country or empire?

22. Cut off from the rest of the world, the Ethiopians developed their own form of __________________________.

23. Who were the people who finally drove the rulers of Aksum from the coast of Africa?

24. What were the ports that developed along the Indian Ocean after Muslims gained control of trade called?

25. Who ruled Aksum? Where was Aksum located?

26. What happened to Ethiopian Christianity as a result of its isolation from other Christian peoples?

27. What is unusual about the churches constructed during the rule of King Lalibela?

28. Mali took control of the salt and gold trade under the leadership of _________________. 
29. What did the leaders of Benin (obas) sell to African traders?

30. Where were Ile-Ife and Benin located?

31. What was the first West African trading kingdom (based on the wealth of salt and gold trade)?

32. Contact between Africans and Arabs along the East African coast led to a new culture called what?

33. Ghana's capital city was divided into a center of trade and a(n) __________________________.

34. How long did the African kingdom of Great Zimbabwe thrive?

35. What is the largest desert in African and in the world?

36. In Africa, tropical rain forests lie along the __________________________.

37. The kingdom of Mali rose to power after this West African kingdom weakened.
38. Which Christian king of East Africa had his people carve churches out of red rock?

39. Salt was important to West Africans because it was used to do what?

40. The West African trade empires made their money mainly by trading salt and

______________.

41. What helped Ghana become an important empire?

42. What is one change Mansa Musa brought to Mali?

43. Which of the following was an important West African center of trade: Sundiata, Mansa Musa, Kumbi Saleh, or Benin?

44. Who was a powerful king of Mali in the 1300s?

45. What did Muslim scholars in the empire of Mali teach students?

46. What did Sundiata accomplish?