WORLD HISTORY · ALASKA

World History
Practice Test

Unit 2: Medieval and Early Modern World

25 Questions

Original practice test based on the Alaska curriculum. Work through each question, then check your answers at the end.

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button to let Brett know so he can fix it.

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Source I - A Market Town in the Middle Ages

Use this reading for questions 1 to 4.

Mira is fourteen and works as an apprentice to a cloth merchant in a walled town. Her master belongs to the merchants guild, which sets fair prices, checks the quality of cloth, and trains young workers. On market day farmers bring grain, cheese, and wool through the town gate, and traders from distant towns pay a toll to set up their stalls.

The town has grown because the road to the river crossing passes its walls, and because the local lord keeps the road safe in return for tolls and taxes. Bells from the church mark the hours of work and prayer, and the church also runs a small school and cares for poor travelers. Mira hopes that one day, after years of training, she will be allowed to open a shop of her own.

Question 1

Based on Source I, what did the merchants guild do?

A) It set prices, checked quality, and trained workers

B) It collected taxes for the king alone

C) It built castles for knights

D) It banned all trade with other towns

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Question 2

Based on Source I, why did the town grow?

A) It stood on a busy road to a river crossing and the road was kept safe

B) It had no walls and no taxes

C) It banned farmers from its market

D) It was far from every road and river

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Question 3

Based on Source I, what roles did the church play in the town?

A) It trained cloth merchants

B) It collected tolls at the town gate

C) It marked the hours, ran a school, and cared for poor travelers

D) It guarded the river crossing

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Question 4

Based on Source I, what does Mira hope to gain from her apprenticeship?

A) A farm outside the walls

B) A castle from the lord

C) A job guarding the town gate

D) The right to open a shop of her own after years of training

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Question 5

Why did Constantinople matter to trade in the medieval world?

A) It sat where routes between Europe and Asia met, linking east and west

B) It was cut off from all sea routes

C) It banned merchants from entering

D) It produced all of Europe grain

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Question 6

What did the Code of Justinian do for the Byzantine Empire?

A) It ended all trade with Asia

B) It collected Roman laws into an organized code that later influenced European law

C) It gave every city its own king

D) It banned the use of coins

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Question 7

What are the Five Pillars of Islam?

A) Five cities every Muslim must visit

B) Five kinds of trade goods

C) Basic acts of worship including prayer, giving to the poor, and fasting in Ramadan

D) Five laws about farming

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Question 8

How did Islam spread in its early centuries?

A) Only through books with no travel

B) By banning Arabic as a language

C) Only within one city

D) Through conquest, trade, and missionary activity across Asia, Africa, and Europe

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Question 9

Why was Charlemagne crowned emperor in the year 800?

A) To show that a Frankish Christian ruler now led much of western Europe

B) To end the Frankish kingdom

C) To give power to the Vikings

D) To close all monasteries

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Question 10

What was the basic bargain of feudalism?

A) Kings gave land to everyone equally

B) Lords gave land and protection, and vassals gave loyalty and military service

C) Serfs ruled the manor

D) Merchants controlled all castles

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Question 11

Why was a medieval manor largely self sufficient?

A) It had no farms or workshops

B) It imported everything from Asia

C) It produced most of its own food, cloth, and tools on the estate

D) It relied only on town markets

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Question 12

How did medieval monasteries help preserve learning?

A) Monks closed all schools

B) Monks burned all old books

C) Monks banned reading

D) Monks copied books by hand and kept libraries

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Question 13

What was one long term effect of the Crusades on Europe?

A) Greater contact with goods, ideas, and trade from the eastern Mediterranean

B) The end of all trade in Europe

C) The fall of every European kingdom

D) A ban on pilgrimage

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Question 14

What did the Pax Mongolica make possible across Asia?

A) A ban on all caravans

B) Safer travel and trade along the Silk Road under Mongol rule

C) The end of the Silk Road

D) War between every trading city

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Question 15

How did the Black Death change labor in Europe?

A) Towns stopped hiring anyone

B) Workers became less valuable

C) With fewer workers alive, surviving laborers could demand higher wages

D) Serfdom grew stronger everywhere at once

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Question 16

What did Magna Carta in 1215 establish in England?

A) That all land belonged to the church

B) That the king could tax without any check

C) That Parliament was abolished

D) That even the king was subject to law and could not rule without limits

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Question 17

What is humanism in Renaissance thought?

A) A focus on human achievement, classical learning, and individual potential

B) A rejection of all art

C) A belief that only kings could learn

D) A plan to close universities

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Question 18

Why did the printing press matter so much?

A) It made books rarer

B) It let books be made quickly and cheaply, spreading new ideas widely

C) It ended reading in Europe

D) It was used only for royal laws

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Question 19

What pushed Europeans to seek new sea routes to Asia in the 1400s?

A) A lack of ships

B) A wish to stop all trade

C) A wish for direct access to spices and other Asian goods without costly middlemen

D) A ban on sailing

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Question 20

Why is Mansa Musa of Mali remembered?

A) He built the first ships in Africa

B) He conquered Europe

C) He ended trade across the Sahara

D) His pilgrimage to Mecca showed the wealth of Mali from gold trade

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Question 21

What were chinampas in the Aztec capital Tenochtitlan?

A) Floating garden plots built on lake beds to grow food

B) Stone roads to the sea

C) Gold mines in the mountains

D) Temples for traders only

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Question 22

How did the Inca keep records without a written alphabet?

A) With printed books

B) With quipu, knotted cords used to record numbers and information

C) With messages carved only on gold

D) They kept no records at all

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Question 23

What was the purpose of the voyages of Zheng He under the Ming?

A) To find a route to the Americas

B) To conquer Europe

C) To show Chinese power and build trade and diplomatic ties across Asia and Africa

D) To end all sea trade

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Question 24

How did stronger kings build nation states in late medieval Europe?

A) By closing all towns

B) By giving all power to local lords

C) By abolishing all taxes

D) By centralizing taxes, armies, and courts under royal control

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Question 25

In what year was Magna Carta signed?

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ANSWER KEY

1. A
2. A
3. C
4. D
5. A
6. B
7. C
8. D
9. A
10. B
11. C
12. D
13. A
14. B
15. C
16. D
17. A
18. B
19. C
20. D
21. A
22. B
23. C
24. D
25. 1215

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