

*AP World: Modern*

Unit 2 Study Guide

LEQ Prompt:

In your response, you will be assessed on the following.

- Respond to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis or claim that establishes a line of reasoning.
- Describe a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.
- Support an argument in response to the prompt using specific and relevant examples of evidence.

During the period 1200–1450, the Silk Road trade networks and the trans-Saharan trade networks facilitated a flourishing trade in luxury goods across Afro-Eurasia.

Develop an argument that evaluates the extent to which the introduction of new transportation technologies or commercial practices affected the Silk Road trade networks compared to the trans-Saharan trade networks in this period.

SAQ:

Answer all parts of the question that follows.

- a. Identify ONE way in which the spread of Buddhism in the period before 1450 C.E. illustrates a continuity in patterns of cultural diffusion.
- b. Explain ONE way in which the spread of Buddhism changed other Asian religious traditions in the period before 1450 C.E.
- c. Explain ONE way in which Buddhism changed as it spread across Asia.

Use the passage below to answer all parts of the question that follows.

“It does not seem to me that the Jewish people can be the cause of this general epidemic throughout the whole world, as many suggest. My reasoning is as follows.

First, it is well-known that in most places where the Jewish people dwelled, they died in droves from the exact same disease as the Christians. If they really caused the epidemic, they would not have killed themselves and others of their faith.

Second, many people say that the Jews poisoned the wells, causing the disease. This also seems doubtful, because after the wells full of polluted water had been purified, the people still died in great numbers. Further, in cities that use water only from great rivers like the Danube, the inhabitants have also died in large numbers.

Moreover, even after all the Jews in many places had been killed and were completely driven out for nearly two years prior, the disease now strikes these same places just as powerfully as before.”

Conrad of Megenberg, German philosopher and theologian educated at the University of Paris, *Concerning the Mortality in Germany*, book written in Latin, 1350

- a) Describe the historical situation in which Conrad of Megenberg wrote his book.
- b) Describe ONE argument that Conrad of Megenberg makes regarding the Jewish people and the spread of disease.
- c) Describe ONE way in which the disease referred to in the passage influenced the development of urban areas in the period 1350–1450.