

# AP World History

## Sample Multiple Choice Questions - Exercise Thirteen (Chapter Twelve)

Use the following passage below to answer questions 1-3:

"In 1491 the Inka [Inca] ruled the greatest empire on earth. Bigger than Ming Dynasty China, bigger than Ivan the Great's expanding Russia, bigger than Songhay in the Sahel or powerful Great Zimbabwe in the East Africa tablelands, bigger than the cresting Ottoman Empire, bigger than the Triple Alliance (as the Aztec empire is more precisely known), bigger by far than any European state, the Inka dominion extended over a staggering thirty-two degrees of latitude – as if a single power held sway from St. Petersburg to Cairo. The empire encompassed every imaginable type of terrain, from the rainforest of upper Amazonia to the deserts of the Peruvian coast and the twenty-thousand-foot peaks of the Andes in between. 'If imperial potential is judged in terms of environmental adaptability,' wrote the Oxford historian Felipe Fernandez-Armesto, 'the Inka were the most impressive empire builders of their day.'"

-- Charles Mann, *1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus*, 2005

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Why were the Inca able to achieve the accomplishment described in the passage?

- A) they divided their empire into four provinces, so it would be easier to govern
- B) they demanded heavy tribute from conquered groups living on the edges of their empire
- C) they routinely sent armies through the empire to collect tribute
- D) they allowed conquered people to retain their own customs, language, and religion

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. The *Carpa Nan* demonstrates the main point expressed by the writer in the excerpt because:

- A) it made living in the rainforest possible
- B) it provided a common system of written communication
- C) it provided irrigation for terraced farmlands
- D) it connected the parts of the empire

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. When the author of the passage described the Incan civilization as the "greatest empire on earth," he means that they:

- A) constructed great buildings and other structures
- B) conquered other empires, including the Aztecs
- C) adapted successfully to diverse environments
- D) were the wealthiest civilization in the world in 1491

Use the following table to answer questions 4 and 5:

	<b>Ottoman Empire 1299-1923</b>	<b>Angkor Kingdom 889 - 1431</b>
Trade with Outside Groups	Extensive	Extensive
Irrigation	Not used in all areas	Excellent system
Religious Tradition	Most people were Muslims	Included many Hindus and Buddhists
Ethnic Diversity	High	High
Human Sacrifice	Not practiced	Not practiced
Government	Ruled by a sultan	A strong ruler at times
Calendar	Very accurate	Very accurate

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Which statement most accurately compares the Aztecs and the Ottomans?

- A) both were empires consisting of a variety of ethnic groups united under a centralized government
- B) both practiced monotheistic religions but were surrounded by people who did not
- C) both rejected human sacrifice, even though their culture descended from ones that had used it
- D) both traded extensively with outside groups, but the Aztec trade was primarily by sea rather than over land

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. One clear difference between the Aztecs and the Angkor Kingdom was that the Aztecs:

- A) used irrigation less widely
- B) had less religious diversity
- C) had a less powerful leader
- D) used a more accurate calendar

*Use the following images to answer questions 6 – 8:*



Source: Cahokia Mounds Site Historic Site, painting by William R. Iseminger

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Which conclusion about life in Cahokia is best supported by the painting?

- A) no one lived inside the mound complex
- B) few people in Cahokia engaged in agriculture
- C) the mound complex was the political and religious center of society
- D) Cahokia declined due to lack of fresh water

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. Which structure would have most closely served the same purpose as the large structure rising far above ground in the middle of the painting?

- A) Tikal in Guatemala
- B) the pyramid of Giza in Egypt
- C) Machu Picchu in Peru
- D) the wall around Great Zimbabwe in Africa

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. Which best describes a key difference between Mississippian culture and the Aztec culture?

- A) only the Aztecs grew corn, beans, and squash
- B) only the Aztecs lived in large towns
- C) only the Mississippian culture settled near rivers or lakes
- D) only the Mississippian culture built enormous animal-shaped earthen mounds