**Chapter 13 Reading Guide**

1. List the 5 European countries that built large maritime empires between 1450-1750.
2. List the 4 land-based empires in Eurasia that are listed in the introduction.

**I. European Empires in the Americas**

1. Explain why European empires were distinctive.

**A. The European Advantage**

1. What geographic factors (at least 2) helped Europeans carve out large empires in the Americas?
2. List at least 3 motivations Europeans had for taking colonies in the Americas.
3. What are some advantages Europeans had in taking colonies in the Americas (with the Aztecs and Incas in particular)?
4. Use Map 13.1 to list the locations of the colonies of the following countries:
   1. Netherlands (Dutch):
   2. Great Britain (English):
   3. France:
   4. Portugal:
   5. Spain:

**B. The Great Dying**

1. List some of the diseases brought over to the Americas by Europeans.
2. Why did the Americans lack immunity to these diseases?
3. Approximately what percentage of the Native American population died after being exposed to these diseases?

**C. The Columbian Exchange**

1. What two groups of people became the labor force in the Americas after the Native American population was destroyed by disease?
2. List the crops and animals that travelled from Europe and went to the Americas
   1. Crops:
   2. Animals:
3. List the food crops that travelled from the Americas to Europe:
4. List the food crops that travelled from the Americas to China:
5. List the food crops that travelled from the Americas to Africa:
6. How were the populations of Europe, China, and Africa affected by these new food crops from the Americas?
7. List some other crops being exchanged around the world during this time (not necessarily food crops, they can be smoked or drunk)
8. What resource was used to create the first global currency? (Hint: it was mined out of Mexico and Peru)
9. Explain the relationship between Europe, the Americas, and Africa.
10. Define “**Columbian Exchange**”
11. How did Western Europe’s position in world trade and dominance change during this time period?

**II. Comparing Colonial Societies in the Americas**

1. Explain the concept of **mercantilism**:
2. Define “**bullion**”
3. Explain how women were used to solidify the relationship between the Europeans and the Native Americans.

**A. In the Land of the Aztecs and the Incas**

1. What was the economic foundation for Spanish colonial societies in the Americas?
2. Describe the **encomienda** system
3. Describe the **Hacienda** system that later replaced encomienda
4. Describe the following groups
   1. **Creoles**:
   2. **Peninsulares**:
   3. Describe the relationship between creoles and peninsulares
5. In what ways were women’s roles restricted and elevated in Spanish colonial society?
   1. Restricted:
   2. Elevated:
6. Define “**mestizo**”
   1. What was the relationship between mestizos and Spaniards (creoles and peninsulares)?
7. What group was at the bottom of Spanish colonial society?
8. Describe examples of Native Americans adopting Spanish culture and rejecting Spanish culture
   1. Examples of adopting Spanish culture:
   2. Examples of rejecting Spanish culture:

**B. Colonies of Sugar**

1. What was the dominant export of colonies in Brazil and the Caribbean?
2. Why was sugar produced on large-scale plantations?
3. Who made up the labor force for these sugar plantations?
4. Why did plantation owners often have to import fresh slaves instead of having the slaves they already purchased procreate to increase their labor force?
5. Define “**Mulatto**”
6. What are some of the differences between slavery in British North America and slavery in the Caribbean and Brazil?

**C. Settler Colonies in North America**

1. How did British colonists’ motivations for going to the New World differ from those of Spanish or Portuguese colonists? (Hint: think Puritans and Quakers)
2. Describe women’s roles in British colonial society:
3. How did the number of European colonists in British New England compare to the number of European colonists in Spanish and Portuguese colonies?
4. Describe differences between British new England colonies and Spanish Mesoamerican colonies in all of the following categories:
   1. Religion:
   2. Literacy:
   3. Politics:
5. What is the irony of the history of the Americas?

**III. The Steppes and Siberia: The Making of a Russian Empire**

1. List some of the motives Russians had for conquering their pastoral neighbors and spreading east across Siberia?

**A. Experiencing the Russian Empire**

1. What two things did the Russians demand from their conquered peoples?
2. How did the Russian government encourage conquered peoples to convert to Christianity?
3. Explain what happened to most of the Siberian natives overtime as their territory was absorbed into the Russian empire.

**B. Russians and Empire**

1. In what ways did Peter the Great “westernize” Russia?
2. Why does Russia struggle with an identity problem?
3. Why did Russia need a militarized government with a powerful monarchy?
4. How was Russian empire building different from the empire building of Britain and Spain?

**IV. Asian Empires**

1. How were Asian empires during this era different from the empires being built in the Americas and Russia?

**A. Making China an Empire**

1. What dynasty replaced the Ming dynasty in China? Where were it’s rulers from?
2. In what ways did Qing government officials maintain their distinctiveness from Chinese cultural traditions and in what ways did they give in and adopt Chinese traditions?
   1. Examples of distinctiveness:
   2. Examples of adopting Chinese traditions:
3. What was the motivation for Chinese expansion during this era?
4. How did the Chinese govern their newly acquired territories?
5. How did the Chinese treat conquered people groups?
6. How did the borders of the Manchu state (Qing dynasty’s empire) compare to the borders of modern day China?
7. How did Chinese and Russian conquests in Eurasia change the way that region interacted with the world in trade?

**B. Muslims and Hindus in the Mughal Empire**

1. What was the religion of the rulers of the Mughal dynasty? What was the religion of the majority of people living in India at the time?
2. Describe examples of how Akbar tried to incorporate Hindu, Persian, and Turkic traditions into the Mughal culture?
3. How did Aurangzeb’s policy towards Hindu’s differ from Akbar’s?
   1. What were some of the consequences of Aurangzeb’s harsh treatment of Hindus within the Mughal Empire?

**C. Muslims and Christians in the Ottoman Empire**

1. Compare Map 13.4 with a map of the Byzantine Empire. What areas did both empires control at one point in history?
2. How did women’s roles change and stay the same as the Turks converted to Islam?
   1. Change:
   2. Stay the same:
3. Why were the Ottomans in conflict with the Persian based Safavid Empire?
4. What event marked the official collapse of the Byzantine Empire and when did it occur?
5. Why did many Christians living in the region welcome Ottoman conquest?
6. Describe the **devshirme** system:

**V. Reflections: The Centrality of Context in World History**

1. List some of the distinctive features of European empires as explained in the reflections section