Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Post-Classical Africa Activity (1200-1450 C.E.)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Station 1: Marco Polo & Ibn Battuta | “Marco Polo and Ibn Battuta: The Merchant and the Pilgrim.” 1. How many years passed before Marco Polo returned from China? How many years before Ibn Battuta returned home?
2. How were Battuta & Polo “aided” on their journeys to the Far East?
3. Discuss the ways Marco Polo was an “outsider” whereas Ibn Battuta was considered an “insider” during their travels.

Polo—“outsider”Ibn Battuta—“insider”1. Describe the differences in the accounts of Marco Polo’s “Travels” and Ibn Battuta’s “Rihla.”
2. Study the maps of the Journeys of Marco Polo and Ibn Battuta. Place an “X” in the box below, showing which traveler visited which geographic locations:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | Marco Polo  | Ibn Battuta  | Both Travelers |
| Mediterranean Sea |  |  |  |
| Baghdad |  |  |  |
| Nile Valley |  |  |  |
| Mecca |  |  |  |
| Constantinople |  |  |  |
| Delhi  |  |  |  |
| Sahara Desert |  |  |  |
| Silk Road |  |  |  |
| China |  |  |  |
| Strait of Malacca |  |  |  |

 |
| Station 2: Document Analysis | Mansa Musa Documents**Doc A:**1. What percentage of travelers on the hajj were Mansa Musa’s personal servants?
2. Which of the numbers in this chart might be exaggerations? Explain your thinking.

**Doc B:**1. What is your estimate on the time it would take Mansa Musa’s caravan to travel from Niani to Cairo? How did you reach your estimate?
2. Which two commodities seem most important to the trans-Saharan trade?

**Doc C:**1. How is Mansa Musa described in the caption to the right?
2. What might Europeans think about western Africa after viewing The Catalan Atlas?
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| Station 3: Map Activity | Use the maps and readings to do the following:1. On the blank map on the back, outline, label, & use different colors to shade the political boundaries and write the dates of existence for the following states:

Mali Empire Swahili City-States Great Zimbabwe Hausa Kingdoms Ethiopia (Solomonic Dynasty)1. In the textbook for each state, briefly explain each of these historical features:

 political forms economic features cultural developments and/or technological innovations |



Mali

Political:

Economic:

Cultural:

Technology:

Swahili City-States

Political:

Economic:

Cultural:

Technology:

Great Zimbabwe

Political:

Economic:

Cultural:

Technology:

Ethiopia

Political:

Economic:

Cultural:

Technology:

Hausa Kingdoms

Political:

Economic:

Cultural:

Technology: