



Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: For the following documents obtain outside information using the strategies & techniques practiced in class.

Document 1

...In the period from 1180–1220, Mongolia experienced a drop in the mean annual temperature, which meant that the growing season for grass was cut short. Less grass meant a real danger to the Mongols' animals, and, since the animals were truly the basis of the Mongols' pastoral-nomadic life, this ecological threat may have prompted them to move out of Mongolia.

A second reason often mentioned is the attempt by Mongolia's neighbors in north and northwest China to reduce the amount of trade with the Mongols. Since the Mongols depended on trade for goods that they desperately needed—such as grain, craft, and manufactured articles—cessation [halting] of trade, or at least the diminution [reduction] of trade, could have been catastrophic for them. The attempts by the Jin dynasty, which controlled North China, and the Xia dynasty, which controlled Northwest China, to reduce the level of trade that the Mongols could expect, created a crisis for the Mongols. Unable to obtain goods that they so desperately needed, the Mongols' response was to initiate raids, attacks, and finally invasions against these two dynasties....

Source: "The Mongols in World History," Asian Topics in World History online, Columbia University (adapted)

Outside Info:

Document 2

...Organization was the key to the success of the great Mongol armies. The cavalry, first devised by Genghis Khan, consisted of 10 squadrons. Ten squadrons formed a *quran* of 1,000 men. Daily drills taught the warriors to move as units and respond quickly. In combat, bowmen formed a front line to unleash a hail of arrows at the enemy. The archers would then fall to the rear to allow well-armed units to charge and overrun the enemy.

As Kublai Khan turned his sights on the heavily fortified Chinese empire, he drew on another of Genghis' strategies: siege warfare using catapults. The Mongols applied these techniques with greater force and in greater numbers than ever before in history. This approach would prove useful in overpowering the great Chinese cities in the years ahead....

Source: Duane Damon, "From Genghis to Kublai," *Calliope*, A Cobblestone Publication

Outside Information:

Document 3

A common misconception is that the semiliterate Mongols came out of the steppes of Mongolia, quickly conquered far more advanced civilizations, and left the government in each area in the hands of the conquered. While Chinese bureaucrats still did their jobs and the local Persian rulers stayed in power as long as they did not cause the Mongols any trouble, the situation was much more complex....

The Mongols used qualified people wherever they were needed. It was not unusual to have Arabs serving in Russia or Persians in China. Still, the Mongols preferred not to tinker too much with systems that worked well. When Yelu Qucai (1189–1243), the great minister and governor of northern China, demonstrated how much wealth the region could produce for Ögödei Khan, the Mongols kept his system in place....

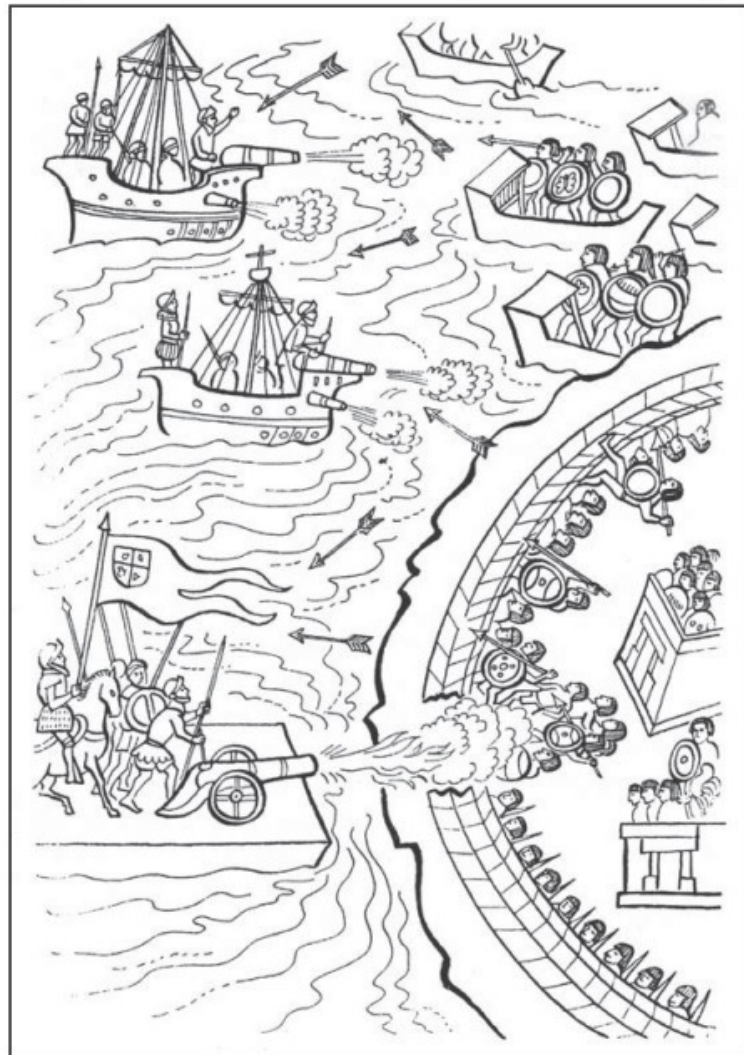
In smaller provincial territories, many local rulers maintained their position, serving as the local *daruqachi* or *shahna* [governor]. As long as they paid tribute, provided troops when called upon, came before the khan to pledge their loyalty, and kept good order in their territories, they remained in their positions. For the Mongols, it made good sense, as the local rulers knew the customs of their people....

Source: Timothy May, "Taking Control," *Calliope*, A Cobblestone Publication

Outside Information:

Document 5

Spanish Crumble the Wall at Xolloco
[near the southern causeway of Tenochtitlán]



Source: Miguel Leon-Portilla, ed., *The Broken Spears: The Aztec Account of the Conquest of Mexico*, Beacon Press (adapted)

Outside Information:

Document 6

...Spanish administrators established two main centers of authority in the Americas—Mexico (which they called New Spain) and Peru (known as New Castile)—each governed by a viceroy who was responsible to the king in Spain. In Mexico they built a new capital, Mexico City, on top of Tenochtitlán. In Peru they originally hoped to rule from the Inca capital of Cuzco, but they considered the high altitude unpleasant and also found the Andean city too inaccessible for their purposes. In 1535 they founded [the city of] Lima and transferred the government to the coast where it was accessible to Spanish shipping....

Source: Bentley and Ziegler, *Traditions & Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past*, 3rd edition, McGraw-Hill (adapted)

Outside Information:

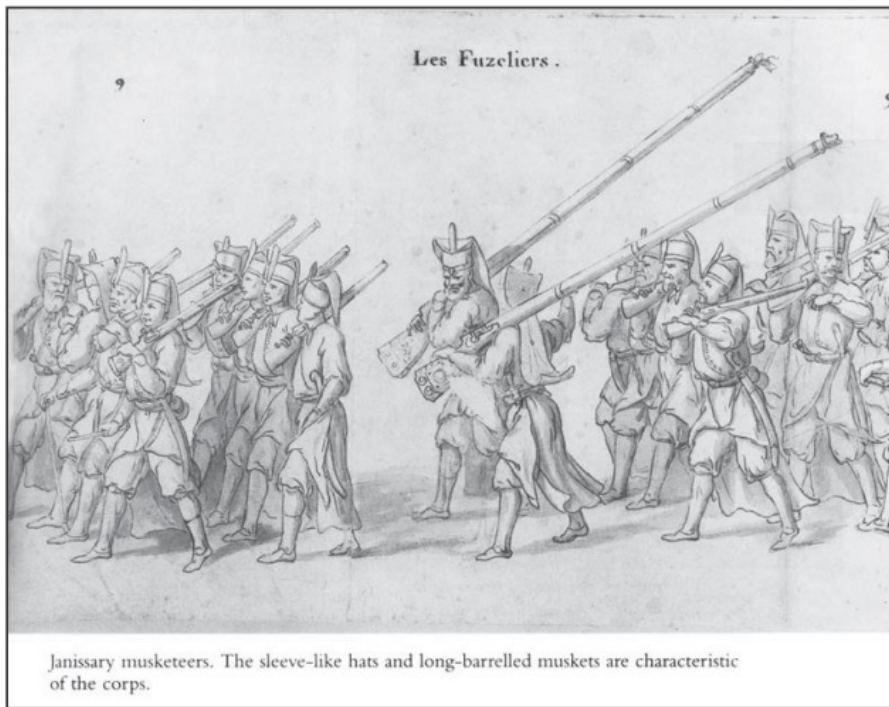
Document 7

...Their [Ottoman] aim was not merely political and military. For centuries Constantinople was the largest metropolis in the known world, the impregnable [unconquerable] core of a great [Byzantine] empire, served by a deep-water port that gave access to the sea. Known as New Rome and the Queen City, it had been built to impress, its magnificent public monuments, decorated with statuary set in an elegant classical urban landscape. Its apparent invincibility and famous reputation made it a great prize. The city was also reputed to be hugely wealthy. While the [Ottoman] Turks had no interest in its famous collection of Christian relics, the fact that many were made of solid gold and silver, decorated with huge gems and ancient cameos, was of importance. Their existence added weight to the rumour that Constantinople contained vast stores of gold, a claim which cannot have been true by 1453. By the early fifteenth century the city had lost all its provinces to Turkish occupation and was totally isolated. The surviving Greek territories of Trebizond and the Morea were similarly surrounded and made no effort to assist the ancient capital....

Source: Judith Herrin, "The Fall of Constantinople," *History Today*, June 2003

Outside Information:

Document 8a



Janissary musketeers. The sleeve-like hats and long-barrelled muskets are characteristic of the corps.

Source: Bernard Lewis, *The Middle East: A Brief History of the Last 2,000 Years*, Touchstone

Outside Information:

Document 8b



Outside Information:

Document 9

...The impact of [Ottoman] Turkish rule upon all sectors of Balkan society was profound. Most of its aristocracy were killed though a minority was absorbed into the ruling class when, in keeping with Ottoman practice, the sultan took over their lands. In contrast, the peasantry, who worked the land, paid most of the taxes and were liable for military service, were treated much better than before. They were protected by the new landlords and had their feudal services abolished. Apart from the frontier regions, most of the Balkans were spared that cultural and religious destruction usually associated with armies of occupation. Christians, though encouraged to convert to Islam, were allowed religious toleration and mixed marriages, and the comparative freedom and contentment enjoyed by its people is one of the most important explanations why the Balkans remained under Ottoman rule for over 400 years....

Source: Geoffrey Woodward, "The Ottomans in Europe," *History Review*, March 2001

Outside Information: