

Objectives: 1. Describe how Empires in Africa (Ghana, Mali, and Songhai) grew as commercial and cultural centers along trade routes. 2. Describe the trans-Saharan slave trade and explain the effects on both West and Central Africa and the receiving societies.

Directions: Use your notes to answer the following questions to prepare for the unit assessment.

1. Explain how geography affected the West African empires in a positive and negative way.
2. List the four major exports from West Africa and what they are used for.
3. Describe the trans-Saharan slave trade.
4. Explain the effects of the trans-Saharan slave trade on both West Africa and the receiving societies, like Europe and Asia.
5. How were West African kingdoms ruled, and how were they able to maintain their power?
6. Explain a unique social characteristic that existed in West Africa.
7. List the three kingdoms of West Africa in chronological order.

