



MANKIND: THE STORY OF ALL OF US

EPISODE 6: SURVIVORS

THIS WORKSHEET SET INCLUDES, IN ORDER, A 61-QUESTION FILL-IN-THE-BLANK, TRUE OR FALSE, AND SHORT ANSWER WORKSHEET. THE SET ALSO INCLUDES, IN ORDER, AN ANSWER KEY.

EPISODE SUMMARY FROM THE HISTORY CHANNEL: Gold and salt in Africa lead to a vibrant trade between continents. Europe is reborn. Money flows into Venice creating new opportunities for entrepreneurs willing to take risks. In China, a new weapon – the gun allows a peasant uprising to unify the country. Chinese innovations inspire Europe, leading to the – printing press. Millions of books are printed, one of which will inspire a journey to the New World. Armed with new ideas and technologies, Europeans set their sights on conquering new lands.

Keys Include Printing Press, Salt, Gunpowder, Gold

Terms to define: analogy, aristocrat, capitalism, commodity, elixir, industrial, nomad, prototype, renaissance



Name _____ Date _____ # _____

Mankind: The Story of All of Us
Episode 6: Survivors

from *The History Channel Series Mankind: The Story of All of Us*



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SALT

0:00

1. 1352. The Sahara. The largest _____ on the planet. A searing wilderness the size of the _____. The toughest challenge an _____ can face.
2. Ibn Battuta vowed never to travel the same what twice? _____
3. The _____ rages through Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. It's killed up to a _____ of the world's population. In Damascus, Syria, Ibn Battuta records 2,400 deaths in a single _____.
4. The Sahara is a _____ against the pandemic. With temperatures up to 135 degrees, the plague can't survive the _____ of the desert.
5. True or False. The Tuareg, nomads from North Africa, trade one of the most valuable commodities on the planet, salt.
6. Before refrigeration, _____ was the key to preserving food. It absorbs water and stops bacteria from growing; salted food can last for a _____ without spoiling.
7. Millions of years ago what was the Sahara? _____
8. What was left behind as the water evaporated? _____
9. True or False. One of the great cities of the Mali Empire that the Taurag trade with is Rome.
10. What is the greatest fear of every traveler? _____
11. After two months in the _____, Ibn Battuta's camel train reaches its destination, the cities of _____.
12. In Mali, salt is so in demand, it's traded for _____. Today, most gold in the world has to be mined deep _____. In Mali, it flows out of the bedrock of the _____ Niger. At this time, as much as two-thirds of the world's known gold reserves are in west _____. The key that turns Mali's rulers into some of the richest men in the _____ and their cities into centers of _____.
13. True or False. In Timbuktu up to half of the population are students.
14. True or False. Zimbabwe is the legendary site of King Solomon's mines.
15. Ibn Battuta will return to Morocco and _____ the oldest surviving account of Timbuktu and the wealth of _____.
16. African gold will be key to the greatest explosion of _____ the western world has ever known. It will make some men _____ and others, reckless.

VENICE

12:10

17. Venice. 117 _____ islands joined together become a thriving center of commerce. _____ from the Middle East. _____ from India. And the key to its wealth, _____ from Africa.
18. 70 year earlier, how much of Venice's population had been wiped out by the plague?

19. In Venice, African gold is _____ into ducats, an international currency. Merchants bank their ducats with men like Pietro Venier. Modern _____ begins in Italy.
20. True or False. Thieves in Venice are shown mercy.
21. It's men like Pietro Venire who will _____ the Renaissance. The greatest flourishing of _____ and culture the mankind has ever known. After the devastation of the plague, a _____.

GUNPOWDER & THE RISE OF THE MING DYNASTY

17:30

22. 5,000 miles away, China is on the brink of its own _____. The key, a deadly new _____.
23. For a century and a half, the _____ have ruled China. But the plague has killed millions, loosening their grip on _____.
24. 1356, outside Nanjing. A gang of three plots _____. Their leader: Zhu Yuanzhang.
25. What do Yuanzhang's men call themselves? _____
26. By his side, his young _____, Ma. Daughter of a warlord, partner in the _____.
27. Third member of the _____: Jiao Yu. Master craftsman. _____ expert.
28. What was Jiao's response to the deadly accuracy of the Mongol's bow and arrow?

29. True or False. Gunpowder was invented by monks looking for an elixir to eternal life and mostly used in fireworks before it was used as an explosive.
30. Jiao designs a weapon he calls human _____. A small stone propelled by an explosive _____. A lethal combination. The future of _____ rewritten.
31. 150 years after Genghis Khan _____ their homeland, Zhu Yuanzhang leads the Red Turbans at the _____ of Nanjing. A _____ army to drive the Mongols out of China.
32. What is the key to the Red Turban's strategy? _____
33. Jiao's _____ levels the battlefield and allows a band of _____ to take on the deadliest army in the _____.
34. Over the next _____ years, the Chinese drive out the Mongols. Nanjing becomes _____ of a free China. Zhu, a peasant orphaned by the plague, becomes _____ of a new Chinese dynasty. His wife, Ma, the _____, the most powerful woman on the planet.

35. What does Zhu call his dynasty? _____
36. The Ming dynasty last for _____ years. Its rulers live in the _____, a vast palatial compound. No one can enter or leave without the emperor's _____. It takes up to a million workers _____ years to build.
37. What great engineering project in China did the Ming complete? _____

GUTTENBERG'S PRINTING PRESS

27:00

38. 1450. Mainz, _____. Johannes Guttenberg. Goldsmith. Entrepreneur. Inventor of the _____.
39. True or False. In 15th century Europe books are readily available for everyone.
40. How long did it take to produce one handwritten copy of the Bible? _____
41. Who invented wood block printing? _____
42. A goldsmith by trade, he carves _____ in metal that can be moved around and rearranged. An infinite _____ of words and sentences. To print the text, a modified _____ press.
43. The _____ age begins here. Every page printed in the past _____ years owes a debt to Guttenberg's invention.
44. What is the first thing Guttenberg prints copies of? _____
45. True or False. Printing books on the printing press is 2,000 times slower than before.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

31:30

46. Who was the Italian sailor shipwrecked and left for dead by pirates in 1476?

47. What book by Marco Polo inspires Columbus? _____
48. Columbus' brother is a _____, together they plot a revolutionary idea: to head _____ by traveling _____. Not over land like Marco Polo, but by _____.
49. True or False. Mapmakers of the time are aware of the Americas.
50. True or False. Columbus thinks that it is quite easy to sail from Europe to China because the world is smaller than people (mapmakers) realize.
51. For almost a decade, _____ tries to finance his crazy scheme. He's turned _____ by the rulers of Portugal, Venice, and Genoa. But the balance of _____ in Europe is changing with the help of the _____.

SPAIN'S RISE TO POWER

36:50

52. 1486, Southern Spain. _____ years after the Red Turbans, another _____ army fights for independence, using the latest in _____ technology: the harquebus.
53. For more than _____ years, Spain has been run by the Moors, _____ from North Africa. They create their own cities with their own architecture, centers of _____, preserving the knowledge of the _____ world.
54. Spanish armies try to reclaim the country for _____. They force the Moors to retreat back to North _____. All that remains is the kingdom of Granada on the southern tip of _____.
55. True or False. If the Spanish are to reclaim their country they must capture the Moorish stronghold, the fortress Illora.
56. True or False. The noise of the harquebus is so loud that it deafens soldiers.
57. What happens to the Spanish guns as they get closer to fort Illora?

58. The _____ at Illora: a turning point in the reconquest of Spain. Over the next six years, city after city _____ to the Spanish.
59. January 2, _____. A day that changes the destiny of mankind. Spanish monarchs Ferdinand and Isabella ride victorious into _____. Cordoba helps negotiate the _____ of the Moors.
60. Spain is the new _____ in Europe. Ferdinand and Isabella will _____ Columbus' dream. He'll sail under a Spanish _____.
61. What are the three keys to the future of mankind brought from contact between east and west? _____, _____, _____