Early Civilizations of Africa

➢ Time and Change

1. Turn to pages 56–57 in the Atlas. Use the timeline at the top of the page to sequence the following events in African history in chronological order. Write 1 next to the event that occurred first and 5 next to the event that occurred last.

a. Saladin captures Jerusalem. __________
b. The Bantu begin migrating from their homeland. __________
c. Mali Empire begins. __________
d. Songhai falls. __________
e. North Africa is invaded by Muslim Arabs. __________

➢ Gathering the Facts

2. Read the introduction. Write T next to each of the following statements if it is true or F if the statement is false.

a. The Bantu people were originally from West Africa. _______
b. The Bantu learned about ironworking from South Africans. _______
c. Axum was isolated from other cultures. _______
d. Axum kings converted to Christianity. _______

➢ People and Cultures

3. Look at chart B, “Bantu Innovations.” Then read the history question, “Where does it come from?” Use the information to complete the following sentences.

a. Both the ____________ and ____________ cultures are indigenous to Africa.

b. Horses and larger breeds of cattle died of ____________________________ in central and southern Africa.

c. A new crop introduced by the Bantu that could survive heat, floods, and drought is the _____________.

d. The practice of moving herds to fresh grazing lands is called _____________.

Use with The Nystrom Atlas of World History, 2nd ed.
People and Their Environment

4. Look at map A, "Bantu Migrations," to answer the following questions.
   a. Near what river was the Bantu homeland located? ________________
   b. When did the Bantu begin migrating? ________________
   c. Why did the Bantu migrate? ________________
   d. Between what two rainforests was the Bantu homeland located?
      ________________ and ________________
   e. Why didn't the Bantu settle in the nearby rainforests?
      ________________
   f. Around what three major lakes did the Bantu settle? ________________,
      ________________, and ________________
   g. What did the Bantu introduce to southern Africa?
      ________________ and ________________
   h. Why do you think there were fewer Bantu settlements in southwestern Africa?
      ________________
   i. What South African culture group adopted Bantu culture? ________________
   j. About how long did the Bantu migrations last? ________________

Places, Regions, and Landscapes

5. Look at picture C and read its caption. Then look at map D, "The Kingdom of Axum," and map E, "Kingdom of Kush," on page 19. Next to each statement below, write A if the statement describes Axum, K if it describes Kush, or B if it describes both.

   a. Was located along the Nile River
      ________________
   b. Was directly south of Egypt
      ________________
   c. Invaded Yemen after Christians were massacred
      ________________
   d. Traded with India
      ________________
   e. Created large stele as tombs for its kings
      ________________
   f. Was located along the Red Sea
      ________________
   g. Had its capital at Meroe
      ________________
Islamic Kingdoms of North Africa

Links Far and Near

1. Turn to pages 58–59 in the Atlas. Read the introduction. Write T next to each of the following statements if it is true or F if the statement is false.
   
a. After the Muslim invasion, Muslim North Africans gained independence from the Islamic empires further east. 
   
b. Muslim and Christian scholars wrote books on mathematics, science, and philosophy. 
   

People and Cultures

2. Look at picture A and read its caption. Then read the history question, “What do algebra and syrup have in common?” Use the information to complete the following sentences.
   
a. The warriors shown in picture A were from the ____________ Caliphate.
   
b. The Fatimids founded ____________.
   
c. Europeans incorporated ____________ words into their vocabulary.

Time and Change

3. Use map B, “North African Islamic Empires,” to sequence the following events in chronological order. Write 1 next to the event that occurred first and 5 next to the event that occurred last.
   
a. Almohads overthrow Almoravids.
   
b. Almoravid Empire is established.
   
c. Fatimids establish their caliphate.
   
d. Saladin abolishes the Fatimids.
   
e. Arab Muslims reach Spain.
➤ Places, Regions, and Landscapes

4. Use map C, "Ayyubid Empire," to classify the following countries. Next to each country, write the religion that was practiced there between 1169 and 1250. Write IS for Islam and C for Christianity.
   a. Abbasid Caliphate
   b. Ayyubid Empire
   c. Byzantine Empire
   d. Seljuk Empire
   e. Antioch

➤ History Through Maps

5. Use map D, "The Travels of Ibn Battuta," to complete the following paragraph.

   Ibn Battuta was born in ____________ . In 1325 he left his country to begin his holy pilgrimage, or ____________, to the city of ____________. Ibn Battuta visited two cities of the African Swahili States, ____________ and ____________. In 1342, the Sultan of ____________ appointed Ibn Battuta envoy to the emperor of ____________. From Delhi Ibn Battuta traveled south to the ____________ and married into the ruling family. He journeyed to China and visited the northern city of ____________. In 1348 he witnessed the ____________ in the Middle East. Between 1349 and 1354, Ibn Battuta visited the city of ____________ on the continent of Europe. By 1354 Ibn Battuta had visited _____ present-day countries and covered about ____________ miles. An account of his travels can be found in his book ____________ or ____________.

★ Location

6. Use map D, "The Travels of Ibn Battuta," to order the following cities visited by Ibn Battuta between 1325 and 1354. Write 1 next to the city farthest west and 5 next to the city farthest east.

   _____ Mecca   _____ Fez   _____ Zaitun   _____ Cairo   _____ Calicut
Empires of West Africa

Gathering the Facts

1. Turn to pages 60–61 in the Atlas. Read the introduction. Use the information to complete the following sentences.
   a. Western African empires developed in the _________ region, south of the _________.
   b. These new kingdoms gained wealth through controlling _________.
   c. The first empire to control the areas that produced gold and the southern Saharan trade routes was _________. After Ghana lost its power, the empires of _________ and _________ thrived in the same area.

Places, Regions, and Landscapes

2. Look at picture A and read its caption. Then look at map B, “Empire of Ghana.” Use the information to answer the following questions.
   a. What trade center is shown in picture A? _________
   b. To which North African cities was Jenne linked by trade routes?
      _________, _________, _________, and _________
   c. Picture A is a present-day photo. What does the picture indicate about the city today? _________

History Through Maps

3. Use map B, “Empire of Ghana;” map C, “Empire of Mali;” and map E, “Empire of Songhai,” to classify the statements below. Next to each statement, write a G if it describes Ghana, a M if it describes Mali, or a S if it describes Songhai. Some statements apply to more than one empire.
   a. First of the West African empires _________
   b. Grew wealthy from controlling Saharan trade _________
   c. Conquered by Morocco _________
   d. Existed in 1500 _________
   e. Its capital was Koumbi Saleh. _________
   f. Overtook the Mali Empire _________
**People and Their Environments**

4. Read the history question “Why salt?” Write T next to each of the following statements if it is true or F if the statement is false.
   
   a. Humans and animals need salt, especially in hot climates. ______
   
   b. West Africans mined or evaporated their salt. ______
   
   c. West Africans traded their salt for gold and ivory. ______

**Time and Change**

5. Look at picture D and read its caption. Then use map C, “Empire of Mali,” to sequence the events below. Write 1 next to the event that occurred first and 5 next to the event that occurred last.
   
   a. Mansa Musa ruled Mali. ______
   
   b. The Mali Empire spread Islam throughout West Africa. ______
   
   c. Songhai gains strength in the eastern Mali Empire. ______
   
   d. Sundiata Keita founded the Mali Empire. ______
   
   e. Mali Empire ends. ______

**Location**

6. Look at map E, “Empire of Songhai.” For each of the following places, use the compass rose to identify its direction from Gao, the capital of the Songhai Empire.
   
   a. Sahara
   
   b. Mossi States
   
   c. Tangier
   
   d. Mouth of the Niger River
   
   e. Koumbi Saleh
   
   f. Tripoli
   
   g. Timbuktu
   
   h. Air
   
   i. Mediterranean Sea
   
   j. Gulf of Guinea
African States and Trade

➤ Gathering the Facts

1. Turn to pages 62–63 in the Atlas. Read the introduction. Write T next to each of the following statements if it is true or F if the statement is false.
   
a. Salt and ivory were the most valuable African goods traded within Africa. ______

b. Gold and ivory were the most valuable African goods traded outside of Africa. ______

c. Swahili is an indigenous and Islamic culture. ______

d. Bantu villages united to form an empire. ______

★ Thinking About History

2. Look at picture A and read its caption. Also look at map B, “Bantu and East African States.” Use the information to answer the following questions.
   
a. The ruins of what city are shown in picture A? ______________________

b. In what part of Africa was it located? ______________________

c. Who built this city? ______________________

d. How would you describe the landscape in picture A? ______________________

 e. What do you think the stone wall was used for? ______________________

 f. Look at map B. What made this city wealthy? ______________________

➤ Places, Regions, and Landscapes

3. Use map C, “Top Ten Cities, 1200” to identify continents. Next to each city below, write NA if the city is in North America, SA for South America, AF for Africa, EU for Europe, AS for Asia, or AU for Australia.

   a. Hangzhou ______

   b. Fez ______

   c. Cairo ______

   d. Palermo ______

   e. Marrakech ______
Location

4. Use map B, "Bantu and East African States," to match each state listed below with its description.

State
a. Luba • • Bordered by the Atlantic Ocean and the Congo River
b. Oromo • • Its neighbor was Lunda.
c. Mwenemutapa • • Blue Nile formed part of its northern boundary
d. Kongo • • Located south of the Zambezi River
e. Awsa • • Lake Chad was inside its territory
f. Funj • • White Nile and Blue Nile joined inside this territory
g. Kanem-Bornu • • Located on the Red Sea

Links Far and Near

5. Look at map D, "African Trade." Fill in the blanks below with the city or cities between the starting and ending points of the trade routes provided. Then, write the sources of trade found along each route.

a. From Timbuktu to Rome: ____________, ____________
   Sources of trade: ____________
b. From Gao to Baghdad: ____________, ____________
   Sources of trade: ____________
c. From Lagos to Timbuktu: ____________
   Sources of trade: ____________
d. From Elmina to Cadiz: ____________, ____________, ____________
   Sources of trade: ____________, ____________, ____________
e. From Sofala to Kilwa: ____________
   Sources of trade: ____________
f. From Bissau to Gao: ____________
   Sources of trade: ____________