

Routes Across Worlds

Trace how land and sea networks connected Afro-Eurasia.

9.4a "Afro-Eurasian transregional trade networks grew across land and bodies of water."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the four trade network names. Circle examples of regions they connected. Mark each network L for mainly land travel or W for mainly water travel.

Connected by Trade

- ① Across the classical and postclassical eras, trade networks linked Africa, Europe, and Asia, together called Afro-Eurasia. The Silk Roads crossed Central Asia, connecting China with Southwest Asia and routes toward the Mediterranean. Traders exchanged silk and many other goods in oasis towns and market cities. These were changing networks of routes, not one road traveled by every merchant. Goods often changed hands many times before reaching distant buyers.
- ② The Indian Ocean complex joined ports in East Africa, Arabia, India, and Southeast Asia. Sailors timed voyages to seasonal monsoon winds. Ships carried spices, cotton cloth, and other goods. Merchants could transfer cargo at Red Sea ports to land routes toward Mediterranean ports. The Mediterranean Sea complex linked southern Europe, North Africa, and Southwest Asia by water. Its ports connected sea routes with inland roads and markets.
- ③ Trans-Saharan routes crossed the desert between West Africa and North Africa. Camel caravans carried gold north and salt south, along with other goods. North African markets connected these land routes with Mediterranean trade. All four networks included many routes and transfer points that changed over time. A possible journey for cotton cloth began by ship from India to a Red Sea port, continued overland to a Mediterranean port, and resumed by ship. Such connections widened exchange across Afro-Eurasia.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which four places or regions did the Indian Ocean complex join?

2 What detail shows that the Silk Roads were not one single road traveled from China to Rome?

3 How did Indian Ocean ports connect sea trade to trade farther inland?

4 What goods moved on the Trans-Saharan routes, and in which direction did each travel?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

In 3-4 sentences, trace a possible cotton-cloth journey using both the Indian Ocean and Mediterranean networks. Name at least two regions and explain a change between sea and land travel.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the four trade network names. Circle examples of regions they connected. Mark each network L for mainly land travel or W for mainly water travel. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which four places or regions did the Indian Ocean complex join?	East Africa, Arabia, India, and Southeast Asia.
2	What detail shows that the Silk Roads were not one single road traveled from China to Rome?	The passage describes changing networks and goods changing hands many times at towns and markets.
3	How did Indian Ocean ports connect sea trade to trade farther inland?	Merchants could transfer cargo at Red Sea ports to land routes toward Mediterranean ports.
4	What goods moved on the Trans-Saharan routes, and in which direction did each travel?	Gold traveled north, and salt traveled south.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Cotton cloth travels by ship from India to a Red Sea port. Merchants transfer it to a land route toward a Mediterranean port. It then travels by ship on the Mediterranean Sea toward North Africa or southern Europe.

For marking, Silk Roads and Trans-Saharan routes are mainly land; Indian Ocean and Mediterranean networks are mainly water. Accept passage-supported regions and routes. The journey is a possible route, not a record of one shipment.