

*Correction of the Exam Paper : Civilisation Africaine – Session de
Rattrapage / 2018 – 2019*

1) Four main factors affecting civilization are:

- External factors (Invasion)
- Stronger civilization
- Modernity
- Obsolescence

2) The Nile

3) Sundiata Keita was the first emperor of Mali Empire

4) Two examples of rewards for officials in Mali Empire are:

- Land grants
- Order of trousers

5) Mansa Sakura was a free slave who seized the opportunity to usurp the throne in 1928 after Sundiata Keita and as the Keita dynasty was degenerating.

6) **Mansa Musa**, the emperor of the Mali Empire, demonstrated the immense wealth of his empire during his pilgrimage to Mecca in 1324. His extravagant display was made possible by the abundant gold reserves and prosperous trade networks under the control of the Mali Empire. This wealth allowed him to fund a lavish procession, distributing generous amounts of gold along the way, and thereby showcasing the empire's opulence to the wider Islamic world.

7) Emperor Sonni Ali of the Songhai Empire moved the capital to Gao to secure control over key trading routes along the Niger River and to establish a more strategically advantageous position. This relocation aimed to strengthen the empire's economic and military influence, enabling greater access to resources and facilitating the expansion and consolidation of the Songhai Empire during his rule.

8) Minister of Finance and Taxation, Minister of Justice, Minister of defense, The Chief Immigration Officer.

- 9) The trans-Saharan trade served as a vital link between North Africa and Western Sudan, enabling the exchange of goods, ideas, and cultural practices. This trade network facilitated the transportation of commodities such as gold, salt, textiles, and slaves between the two regions, leading to economic growth and cultural interaction. The establishment of trading cities and oases along the desert routes further facilitated commercial activities and the exchange of knowledge and beliefs, fostering a dynamic and interconnected relationship between North Africa and Western Sudan.
- 10) Two significant causes that led to the decline of the trans-Saharan trade were:
1. **Shifting trade routes:** The discovery of maritime trade routes by European explorers and the subsequent expansion of sea trade, particularly after the 15th century, provided alternative and more efficient means of transportation for goods. This shift in trade routes reduced the dependence on the hazardous and challenging trans-Saharan routes, leading to a decline in the importance of the trans-Saharan trade network.
 2. **Political instability and conflicts:** The rise of political instability, internal conflicts, and invasions in the regions bordering the Sahara Desert, such as the decline of the Songhai and Mali Empires and the expansion of the Saharan desertification, disrupted the once-thriving trans-Saharan trade. Insecurity along the trade routes, coupled with the decline of the powerful empires that had previously facilitated the trade, contributed to the gradual decline and eventual abandonment of the trans-Saharan trade network.