**East Asia SAQ Question 1**

“Lu Hui’s parents died when he was young, and he was brought up in his mother’s family. His uncle often encouraged him to take the imperial examination. Uprisings, however, prevented Lu from being able to take the examinations. Unable to make a living, Lu became a poor wandering student.

One day, Zheng Xu, who was a high-ranking government official, offered to make arrangements that would allow Lu to bypass the exams and advance himself with Zheng’s support. Zheng tried to tempt Lu to skirt the rules, saying “How long can a man live? If there is a shortcut to riches and fame, why insist on going through examinations?”

But Lu firmly refused the offer, saying “Our great nation has established the examination system for the outstanding and the talented. My uncle always encouraged me to take the examinations and I cannot bring myself to break our agreement. If I must die as a mere student, it is my fate. But I will not change my mind for the sake of wealth.”

When Zheng saw Lu’s determination, he respected him even more than before. Another ten years passed before Lu finally passed the examination, but he died as one of the highest officials in the whole empire.”

Wang Dingbao, Selected Stories from the Time of the Tang, written c. 940 C.E.

a)Identify and explain one way in which this source is an example of the “enduring state structure” that developed during the Song dynasty in East Asia.

b)Identify and explain one reason why the Song dynasty is considered a “golden age” in Chinese history.

c)Identify and explain one example of China’s economic revolution during the periods from 800-1200.