

World Civilizations: The Global Experience, AP Edition, 6e (Stearns)
Chapter 6 The First Global Civilization: The Rise and Spread of Islam

Multiple-Choice Questions

1) Which of the following groups was responsible for the slaughter of the male descendents of the Umayyad Dynasty?

- A) "people of the book."
- B) Christians
- C) 'Abbasids
- D) Berbers

Answer: C

Page Ref: 136

Topic: Introduction

Skill: Factual

2) Which of the following regions was NOT affected by Islam during its early history (prior to 750 C.E.)?

- A) Sub-Saharan Africa
- B) Europe
- C) Asia
- D) South America

Answer: D

Page Ref: 136

Topic: Introduction

Skill: Factual

3) The Arabic camel nomads were referred to as

- A) Hashim.
- B) bedouin.
- C) mawali.
- D) fellahin.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 137

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Factual

4) Which of the following cultures of the Arabian Peninsula was most significant in the development of Islam?

- A) Bedouin
- B) Urban
- C) Sedentary agricultural villages
- D) Hunting and gathering

Answer: A

Page Ref: 138

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Factual

5) Which of the following statements concerning bedouin society is NOT accurate?

- A) Bedouin herders lived in kin-related clan groups.
- B) Bedouins lived in highly mobile tent encampments.
- C) Clans were commonly congregated together in larger tribal groupings.
- D) Arabian society fostered strong dependence on loyalty and cooperation with kin.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 138-140

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Conceptual

6) Leaders of bedouin clans were called

- A) shaykhs.
- B) wazirs.
- C) dhows.
- D) imams.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 138

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Factual

7) Which of the following groups was NOT a component of bedouin society?

- A) Shaykhs
- B) Free warriors
- C) Artisans
- D) Slaves

Answer: C

Page Ref: 138, 139

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Factual

8) Which of the following statements concerning inter-clan relationships in bedouin society is most accurate?

- A) Clans within the same tribe almost never engaged in warfare, but violence between different tribes was common.
- B) Arabic society was too mobile to result in many contacts between clans, and therefore violence was minimal.
- C) Inter-clan violence over control of water and pasturage was common.
- D) Inter-clan violence was regulated by a universally recognized code of law imposed by the Quraysh in Mecca.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 138, 139

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Conceptual

9) What was the result of bedouin inter-clan rivalries?

- A) They kept the population down in a region that could support few people.
- B) They tended to weaken the bedouin in comparison to neighboring peoples and empires.
- C) They allowed for intermarriage between clan groups, thus preventing social isolation.
- D) They strengthened the bedouin and enabled them to challenge their neighbors.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 140

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Conceptual

10) What clan was responsible for the foundation of Mecca?

- A) Umayyad
- B) Abbasid
- C) Aghlabid
- D) Almoravid

Answer: A

Page Ref: 140

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Factual

11) What was the Ka'ba?

- A) The tribe that dominated Mecca
- B) The name given to Muhammad's flight from Mecca
- C) The port of Mecca
- D) The religious shrine that was the focus of an annual truce

Answer: D

Page Ref: 140, 141

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Factual

12) What was the major difference between Medina and Mecca?

- A) Political dominance in Medina was contested between a number of Jewish and bedouin tribes.
- B) Mecca was established in an oasis, and Medina was in a mountainous region.
- C) Medina was engaged in long-distance caravan trade, while Mecca was not.
- D) Medina was located on the western side of the Arabian Peninsula, while Mecca was located on the Persian Gulf.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 141

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Conceptual

13) Which of the following statements most accurately describes the status of women in bedouin society prior to Islam?

- A) Women were regarded as little more than property with neither rights nor status.
- B) Descent in bedouin tribes was strictly patrilineal.
- C) Women were the equals of males in the rugged society of the desert bedouin.
- D) They enjoyed greater freedom and higher status than Byzantine and Sasanian women.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 141

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Conceptual

14) What was the nature of the material culture of bedouin society?

- A) Although their nomadic lifestyle did not permit the development of monumental architectural forms, the bedouins were skilled painters and sculptors.
- B) Mecca was a major center for the development of art and architecture, but the desert bedouin produced little of cultural value.
- C) Except in the sedentary agricultural communities of the South, there was little art or architecture and the chief focus of cultural creativity was oral poetry.
- D) The bedouins preserved the learning of classical cultures through writings that included prose-like epics.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 141

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Conceptual

15) What was the nature of pre-Islamic bedouin religion?

- A) Most of the bedouin were Jews.
- B) It was a blend of animism and polytheism.
- C) The bedouin were monotheists who worshipped Allah.
- D) The bedouins had no religious beliefs.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 141

Topic: Desert and Town: The pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Conceptual

- 16) Which of the following represents a mounting pressure for change in pre-Islamic society?
- A) Greater Byzantine and Sasanian control over Arabic tribes of the peninsula and Arabic migration to Mesopotamia
 - B) The increasing influence of Hindu animism from the expansion of the Gupta Empire
 - C) The increasing influence of polytheism throughout all cultures around the Mediterranean
 - D) The increasing scarcity of natural resources to support the life and culture of the bedouins

Answer: A

Page Ref: 142

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Conceptual

- 17) What was the clan into which Muhammad was born?

- A) Umayyad
- B) Abbasid
- C) Almoravid
- D) Banu Hashim

Answer: D

Page Ref: 142

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Factual

- 18) When did Muhammad receive the first revelations that were eventually written down in the Quran?

- A) 550 C.E.
- B) 610 C.E.
- C) 622 C.E.
- D) 632 C.E.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 143

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Factual

19) What was the initial response of the Umayyads to Muhammad's new faith?

- A) They regarded him as a threat to their wealth and power as he questioned the traditional gods of the Ka'ba.
- B) The Umayyads immediately accepted Muhammad as their religious and political leader and the chief power in Mecca.
- C) The Umayyads simply ignored Muhammad as an insignificant member of a weak clan.
- D) They sought him as an ally against the Sassinians and the Byzantines.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 143

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Conceptual

20) Which of the following statements concerning Muhammad's flight to Medina is NOT correct?

- A) He fled because of the threat of assassination in Mecca.
- B) He fled because he was invited to mediate a dispute between the tribes of Medina.
- C) Muhammad fled from Mecca with nearly one quarter of the city's population.
- D) Muhammad fled to Medina in the year 622.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 143

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Factual

21) The Umayyads felt threatened by all of the following developments EXCEPT

- A) Muhammad's destruction of the Ka'ba.
- B) the development of Muhammad's religion.
- C) the growing power of Medina.
- D) raids on their caravans.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 144

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Factual

22) What was the date of Muhammad's flight to Medina from Mecca?

- A) 570 C.E.
- B) 610 C.E.
- C) 622 C.E.
- D) 635 C.E.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 143

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Factual

23) What was the Umayyad response to Muhammad's migration to Medina and subsequent success there?

- A) The Umayyad rulers of Mecca ignored Muhammad as long as he was content to remain in Medina.
- B) War broke out between Mecca and Medina resulting in the eventual victory of Muhammad and the Medina clans.
- C) War broke out between Mecca and Medina resulting in the eventual victory of the Umayyads.
- D) The Umayyads eagerly converted to Islam and welcomed Muhammad back to Mecca.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 144

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Factual

24) What was the principle advantage of the Islamic concept of the umma?

- A) It provided a clear principle of political succession that would provide the basis for an Islamic state.
- B) It provided for an annual treaty that would restore the trade routes of Arabia.
- C) It provided dietary restrictions that allowed for more equitable distribution of food in Arabia.
- D) It transcended old tribal boundaries and made possible political unity among Arab clans.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 144

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Conceptual

25) Which of the following statements concerning the ethical system of early Islam is NOT correct?

- A) Islam stressed the dignity of all believers and their equality in the eyes of Allah.
- B) Islam stressed the responsibility of the wealthy and strong to care for the poor and weak.
- C) A tax for charity was obligatory in the new faith.
- D) The teachings of the Prophet and the Quran were not formally incorporated into a body of law.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 144

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Conceptual

26) What was Muhammad's teaching with respect to the revelations of other monotheistic religions?

- A) Muhammad accepted the earlier Christian revelations, but rejected completely any influence from Judaism.
- B) Muhammad accepted the earlier Judaic revelations, but rejected completely any influence from Christianity.
- C) Muhammad accepted the validity of earlier Christian and Judaic revelations and taught that his own revelations were a final refinement and reformulation of earlier ones.
- D) Muhammad stressed that only his own revelations had merit and that others were works of the devil.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 145

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Conceptual

27) Which of the following is NOT among the "five pillars" of Islam?

- A) A confession of faith
- B) *Hajj*
- C) Charity
- D) Pilgrimage to Medina

Answer: D

Page Ref: 145

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Factual

28) What happened after Muhammad's death in 632?

- A) Many of the bedouin tribes renounced Islam.
- B) Islam ceased to exist until it was reestablished under the Umayyad dynasty at Damascus.
- C) A military commander, Khalid ibn al-Walid, was chosen as leader of Islam.
- D) Islam remained unified under the leadership of Ali.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 146

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Factual

29) The wars to defeat rival prophets and restore the unity of Islam were called

- A) Ridda.
- B) dhow.
- C) the first fitnah.
- D) Rihla.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 146

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Factual

30) The office of the political and religious successor of Muhammad was called

- A) wazir.
- B) Ayan.
- C) Karbala.
- D) Caliph.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 146

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Factual

31) Which of the following was NOT a reason for the early expansion of Islam beyond Arabia?

- A) The desire for booty
- B) The sense of common cause and united strength
- C) The desire to convert new populations to Islam
- D) The weakness of their adversaries.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 146, 147

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Conceptual

- 32) Why did the Arab warriors not want to convert large numbers of people to Islam?
- A) Muhammad specifically stated that Islam could only be spread among the Arabs.
 - B) They would have had to share their booty and would have lost tax revenues.
 - C) They lacked the political organization to govern them and feared insurrection by non-Arabs.
 - D) Conversion would have slowed down the process of conquest.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 147

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Conceptual

- 33) Which of the following areas of the Byzantine Empire was NOT conquered by the Muslims by 650 C.E.?

- A) Palestine
- B) Egypt
- C) Syria
- D) Asia Minor

Answer: D

Page Ref: 148

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Factual

- 34) Why was the caliph Uthman disliked by so many Arabs?
- A) He had halted the process of expansion and thus stopped the flow of booty to the tribesmen.
 - B) He was of the Umayyad.
 - C) He was a firm supporter of Muhammad's son-in-law and nephew, Ali.
 - D) He murdered Ali.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 149

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Factual

35) What was the result of the first civil war between Ali and the Umayyads?

- A) Ali was able to defeat the Umayyad clan and reduce them to political insignificance.
- B) Ali was killed in the conflict, but his son Hasan was named caliph and won a great victory over the Abbasids.
- C) Despite early successes, Ali's faction disintegrated, leading to an Umayyad victory and Ali's assassination.
- D) Ali suffered a disastrous military defeat at the Battle of Siffin, and the Umayyads emerged victorious.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 149

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Factual

36) The political and theological faction within Islam that recognized only Ali and the descendants of the family of Muhammad as rightful rulers was called

- A) Shi'a.
- B) Sunnis.
- C) Kharij.
- D) Fiqhs.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 149

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Factual

37) Under the Umayyads, the political center of Islam shifted to

- A) Baghdad.
- B) Constantinople.
- C) Damascus.
- D) Cairo.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 149, 150

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Factual

38) What was the nature of citizenship within the Umayyad Empire?

- A) All converts to Islam, regardless of their ethnic origins, were full citizens and members of the elite.
- B) Only Muslim Arabs were first-class citizens of this great empire.
- C) The Umayyads recognized all residents of their empire, whether Muslims or "people of the book" as full citizens.
- D) Malawi were accorded full rights of citizenship.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 150

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Factual

39) The term for non-Arab Muslim converts is

- A) jizya.
- B) mawali.
- C) dhimmis.
- D) umma.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 150

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Factual

40) What was the Umayyad attitude to other religions?

- A) The Umayyads suppressed all religions within their territories other than Islam.
- B) The Umayyads converted to Christianity, but continued to permit the open worship of Islam.
- C) The Umayyads displayed tolerance towards the religions of dhimmi peoples.
- D) Zoroastrians and Hindus were never accepted.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 150

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Conceptual

41) What was the most significant of the transformations brought about by the Abbasids' rise to power?

- A) The final defeat of the Byzantine Empire with the capture of Constantinople
- B) The mawali were admitted as full members of the Islamic community
- C) The destruction of absolutism within Islamic government
- D) Victory in the Crusades and the conquest of Spain

Answer: B

Page Ref: 153-155

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Conceptual

42) The Abbasids moved the political center of their empire to

- A) Baghdad.
- B) Constantinople.
- C) Damascus.
- D) Jerusalem.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 154

Topic: From Arab to Islamic Empire

Skill: Factual

43) What was the nature of the Abbasid government?

- A) The Abbasids abandoned the formality and absolutism of the Umayyads and established an open and representative government.
- B) The Abbasids outdid the Umayyads in establishing an absolutist government symbolized by the growing powers of the wazirs and the sinister presence of the executioner.
- C) The Abbasid government represented a return to the principles of government in the first days of the Orthodox caliphate.
- D) The Abbasid government was extremely efficient due to the influence of Byzantine advisors.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 154, 155

Topic: From Arab to Islamic Empire

Skill: Conceptual

44) What was the nature of the economy of the Abbasid period?

- A) It was a period of general prosperity typified by urban growth and the restoration of the Afro-Eurasian trade axis.
- B) There was a general crisis in the agricultural economy resulting from the constant warfare of the period.
- C) The economic downturn of the era was typified by the breakdown in the trade between the Middle East and China.
- D) Although commerce was generally resuscitated during the Abbasid period, artisan production dropped off significantly.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 155

Topic: From Arab to Islamic Empire

Skill: Conceptual

45) Who were the *ayan*?

- A) Abbasid bureaucrats
- B) African slaves
- C) Free artisans
- D) A rural landholding elite

Answer: D

Page Ref: 159

Topic: From Arab to Islamic Empire

Skill: Factual

46) What was the status of artisans in Abbasid cities?

- A) Handicraft industries were staffed by slave labor exclusively.
- B) The number of artisans decreased along with the economic crisis of the Abbasid period.
- C) Artisans were free men who owned their own tools and who formed guild-like organizations to negotiate wages.
- D) Artisans were able to utilize their guild-like organizations to seize political control of most Abbasid towns.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 158

Topic: From Arab to Islamic Empire

Skill: Conceptual

47) What was the nature of slavery within the Abbasid social system?

A) Slavery was limited to the non-Arab converts to Islam, and died out during the period of the Abbasid Empire.

B) Because most unskilled labor was left to the unfree, slaves could be found in both the towns and countryside of the Abbasid Empire.

C) Slavery was known in Abbasid cities, but was virtually unknown in the countryside where most labor was performed by a free peasantry.

D) Most slaves worked under favorable conditions but were never allowed to convert to Islam.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 158

Topic: From Arab to Islamic Empire

Skill: Conceptual

48) What was the primary cultural contribution of the Muslims during the Abbasid period?

A) The Muslims were able to recover and preserve the works of the ancient philosophers as well as transmit ideas and culture from one civilization to another.

B) The Muslims became extraordinarily adept at portraiture, focusing on depictions of Muhammad and the early caliphs.

C) Although the material culture of the Abbasid period remained poor, Muslims were able to make some advances in music.

D) Islamic learning was necessarily unique, as they had no access to the ancient traditions of philosophy and science.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 159

Topic: From Arab to Islamic Empire

Skill: Conceptual

Essay Questions

1) Describe the social organization of the Arabs prior to the introduction of Islam.

Answer: Based on kin-related clan groups typical of nomadic pastoralists; grouped into larger tribal units, but seldom lived together; wealth and status based on possession of animals, pasturage and water rights; slavery utilized; common incidence of feuds.

Page Ref: 137-141

Topic: Desert and Town: the pre-Islamic Arab World

Skill: Conceptual

2) Why was Islam able to appeal to people of so many different cultures?

Answer: Universal elements in Islam: unique form of monotheism appealed to other monotheistic traditions; egalitarianism; legal codes; strong sense of community in the *umma*; Muhammad's willingness to accept validity of earlier Judaic and Christian revelations; appeal of "five pillars" of faith.

Page Ref: 144, 145

Topic: The Life of Muhammad and the Genesis of Islam

Skill: Conceptual

3) What was the essential dispute within Islam over the succession to the Prophet?

Answer: Muhammad never specified a principle of succession; immediate successors elected from among first converts to Islam; debate following murder of Uthman and selection of Ali; Shi'as supported only familial descendants of the Prophet as rightful rulers; Umayyads established hereditary dynasty after defeat and death of Ali; Sunnis supported concept of dynastic succession.

Page Ref: 145-147, 149

Topic: The Arab Empire of the Umayyads

Skill: Conceptual

4) What was the difference between the Abbasid Empire and the Umayyad Empire?

Answer: Both were essentially absolutist in structure, but the Abbasids introduced greater formalism and a more rigorous bureaucratic structure featuring the wazirs; Abbasid dynasty originally based on claims of descent from family of the Prophet (Shi'a), but eventually moved to suppress Shi'ite movements; Abbasids incorporated mawali or non-Arab converts into full citizenship and participation; shift of center of empire to capital at Baghdad in Persia.

Page Ref: 149-159

Topic: From Arab to Islamic Empire

Skill: Conceptual

5) Compare and contrast the status of women in Islam during the pre-Islamic period and the Abbasid Empire.

Answer: Women in pre-Islamic culture enjoyed greater liberty than those of Byzantium or Persia; played important economic roles; in some clans descent was matrilineal; not secluded; in some clans both males and females allowed multiple marriages. Abbasid Empire: under influence of Persian culture, women veiled and secluded; increase in patriarchal authority; only males permitted multiple marriages; development of the harem.

Page Ref: 141, 158

Topic: From Arab to Islamic Empire

Skill: Conceptual

Document-based Questions

1) A Baghdad mansion included all except

- A) fountains.
- B) balconies.
- C) fireplaces.
- D) furniture inlaid with gems.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 158

Topic: The Thousand and One Nights as a Mirror of Elite Society in the Abbasid Era

Skill: Factual

2) What item could NOT be found in the market?

- A) Apples
- B) Potatoes
- C) Peaches
- D) Cucumbers

Answer: B

Page Ref: 158

Topic: The Thousand and One Nights as a Mirror of Elite Society in the Abbasid Era

Skill: Factual