**Unit 7 Ancient Africa and Islam Study Guide**

**Vocabulary: Be able to define the following:**

Pilgrimage- journey to a place of religious importance

Savanna- short grassy plain

Swahili- a culture and language that combines African cultures and languages

Caravan- a group of people and animals traveling together

Jihad- in Islam, a military or peaceful “struggle”

Region- an area on Earth with common physical features

Mosque- a Muslim place of worship

Griot- a member of a class of traveling poets, musicians, and storytellers who maintain a tradition of oral history in parts of West Africa

**Review your GRAPES outline (multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blanks, and listing)**

Know about Islam: **founder** - Mohammed, **religious text** – Koran or Qu’ran, **five pillars**- only 1 god Allah, pray 5 times facing Mecca, Give to the poor, fast during Ramadan, pilgrimage to Mecca , basic **principles** – the teachings of the Qu’ran affect their everyday lives, they have no separation of church and state

List the 3 main factors that made Ghana, Mali, and Songhai wealthy. 1) Safe trade routes,

2) located at the crossroads of trade, 3) rich resources – such as gold and rock salt

Rivers in West Africa are Senegal and Niger

Know the means or transporting goods through the different zones of North West Africa and the reason each were important desert – camels, savanna – horses, cattle, donkeys (domesticated animals) rainforest – humans because of tse-tse fly

**Short Answers. You need to remember to use 5 quality sentences for each answer.**

1. Compare and contrast the 3 major West African Empires.

All located in the same geographic area of the savanna

All traded gold and salt

Ghana – native African gods/began influences of Islam

Ghana – smallest 700’s to 1235

Mali and Songhai – Islamic

Mali – Mansa Musa’s pilgrimage to Mecca brought back scholars and architects, increased trade and interaction 1235 to 1470

Songhai – last empire 1470 to 1591; most powerful, defeated by the Moroccans

1. Explain how Islam spread through West Africa and how it affected the three empires.

Spread by traders

Educated people so they could read the Koran which is a part of their everyday life

Non-Muslims had to pay taxes and couldn’t hold positions of power or marry Muslims

Mansa Musa’s pilgrimage brought back architects and scholars, started a university

United the people with common beliefs

1. Explain how international trade affected the three West African empires. Be sure to include the development of trade routes and trade centers.

Increased wealth and interaction

Trade centers were created where the people changed transportation – camels, donkeys, horses, cattle, humans

Brought outside ideas- architects and scholars

Brought interest of Europeans

Important resources made it worth the trip

**Label the map of Africa**

You must be able to:

label the 6 geographic zones Resources

Mediterranean cloth, spices, weapons

Northern Sahel transportation change

Desert – Sahara rock salt

Southern Sahel transportation change

Savanna gold, rice, cattle, donkeys, cotton

Rainforest gold, Kola nuts

write at least one resource for the indicated zones (see list above)

label the Niger and Senegal Rivers

label the 3 great Ancient West African Empires – Ghana, Mali, and Songhai