



Turton School History Department

Name _____

Class _____



Yr 7 History

Homework Book – Topic 1
The Kingdom of Benin

Homework 1

To be completed by:

What is History?

The word history means 'the study of the past'. It is the story of people and how they have lived and developed through time. History is a story, but historians use many key skills in the study of it, skills which you will develop whilst at Turton School. History is a very exciting and unique subject to study as it transports you to the past and through it you can understand why events happened today and how to best learn from them.

What was your favourite period of history which you studied at Primary School?

Why did you enjoy this period more than others?

Write down a fact which you can remember from this period in history.

What period in history do you want to learn about whilst at Turton school?

Why do you want to learn about this period in history?

Homework 2

To be completed by:

The Aztec Empire

The Aztecs lived in Mexico before the Spanish conquest of the 16th century. Their society thrived for over two hundred years in the 14th and 15th centuries. The Aztecs conquered rivals and encouraged trade and alliances with other tribes. Their capital city, Tenochtitlán, was in the same place as Mexico City now. Mexico's capital was built on top of this city.

The Aztecs were famous for their agriculture, land and art. They developed writing skills, a calendar system and also built temples and places of worship. To please their gods they sacrificed humans. The Aztecs were the first people to discover chocolate.

Most Aztecs lived in huts made of mud and straw. Outside, they would grow food in a garden. In contrast, rich people lived in palaces or homes made of stone or brick. Here, they bathed in steam rooms and saunas. There was a big gap between rich and poor, so many people had to work hard to get by. Men were warriors and farmers, whereas the women stayed at home to cook and weave the family's clothes.

Just like in the UK now, all Aztec children had to go to school. It was the law! Unlike many countries at the time, girls and slaves had to go to school too. Boys and girls learnt different things. For example, boys would learn how to hunt and farm, whereas girls would learn about cooking and the home.

In the 1500s Spain was powerful and wanted to build a big empire for more power and money so they sent explorers, known as conquistadors (conquerors) to conquer the Aztec Empire. The Empire was defeated in 1521.

Where was the Aztec Empire?

Name 2 things the Aztecs developed.

What are the similarities between Britain today and the Aztec Empire?

Homework 3

To be completed by:

Medieval Islamic Empire

The Medieval Islamic Empire was a collection of regions in which Islam was practised. From the mid-600s, the Islamic Empire spread throughout the Middle East, west across North Africa and Spain, and east as far as present-day India. The Islamic Empire flourished with trade, invention and innovation.

In 750, the Abbasids seized power and built a new capital, Baghdad. Under Abbasid rule, Islamic culture developed and scientific research flourished. This period is sometimes called the Golden Age of Islam, as Arab learning in the sciences and arts reached new heights, whilst the splendidly decorated buildings in Baghdad and other cities became the envy of travellers.

Baghdad was known as the Round City. It was built as a circle with the impressive Caliph's Palace at its centre. Tens of thousands of people were employed in building the city, which soon became the world's largest city. It became a great trading centre with many of its people making the textiles, leather, and paper that was sold and sent across the world. People worked on the trade caravans whilst others worked on farms outside the city. Islamic merchants travelled as far as South Africa, China and Russia to trade in goods such as: silk; spices; precious metals; carpets; glassware and pottery. Thousands of Arab coins have been dug up by archaeologists in Sweden and elsewhere, showing the extent of Arab trade with Vikings and others.

Abbasid caliphs (leaders of the Islamic community) encouraged learning in every area. Libraries, universities, hospitals and schools, known as madrasas, were built across the Islamic world, and Muslims learned how to make paper from the Chinese. The Qur'an also encouraged learning. Caring for the sick and keeping clean were religious duties, which increased the motivation to develop medicine, hospitals and safer hygiene.

Where was the Medieval Islamic Empires?

Name 2 things the empire traded:

Homework 4**To be completed by:****Similarities and Differences between Empires:**

Using the last 3 homework's and the work you have done in lessons, compare the similarities and differences of the below empires:

- Benin Empire
- Aztec Empire
- Medieval Islamic Empire

Similarities	Differences