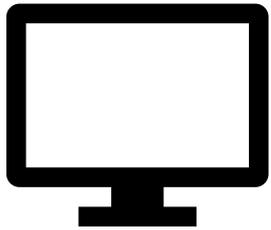


ANCIENT AFRICA



DIGITAL



PRINT

ANCIENT AFRICA

Ancient Africa holds some of the oldest discoveries about human development. For instance, cave paintings were discovered in Ancient Africa. Ancient Egypt is one of the oldest and long-lasting parts of Ancient Africa. However, there are many other civilizations, empires, and cultures to explore in Ancient Africa, including the Mali Empire and the Kingdom of Ghana.

The Empire of Ghana was located in West Africa - where Mauritania, Senegal, and Mali are today. The Empire of Ghana was not located where Ghana currently is. This grassy region was south of the Sahara Desert. The Soninke people banded together under king Dinga Cisse. Ghana comes from the Soninke people, meaning "warrior king".

The Gambia River, Senegal River, and the Niger River in the Empire of Ghana were used for transportation and trade. This area was called the Trans-Saharan trade route. Trade was important since Ghana was situated between traders from the north and south. Over 200,000 soldiers from the army protected the gold mines in the south and the salt mines in the north. Trading protection for goods, Ghana became rich. This region became known as the Gold Coast. As trade increased, Ghana became more prosperous. Caravans of camels transported goods across the Sahara. These treks from a coastal city to Ghana took up to 40 days.

The Empire of Ghana lasted for 800 years, from 300-1000 BCE, before Mali reigned. The people were happy and hard working. They were protected and safe food, especially fish and waterfowl, was abundant with the Niger River nearby. There was water for bathing and cooking. Likewise, farming was successful.

The Empire of Ghana mined for iron and gold. Ironsmiths were considered magicians because they used fire and earth to make resources. Iron was transformed into weapons and tools. Meanwhile, gold was traded for livestock, tools, and cloth. Salt was almost as valuable as gold.

The people of Ghana were creative and wove their own fabric. They valued peace and ruled with gentle laws. Storytellers were called Griots. Ghana was the first to tell the story of *Anansi the Spider*.

The Mali Empire followed the Empire of Ghana. It was located in West Africa, where Mali, Niger, Senegal, Mauritania, Guinea, and Gambia are today. Established around 1235 CE, Mali began losing power in the 1400s and collapsed in 1600 CE.

What empire was after the Empire of Ghana? *

- Sahara
- Mali
- Mecca
- Mansa

What was the name of Sundiata's grandson? *

- Dalai Lama
- Delta Rome
- Mansa Musa
- None of the above

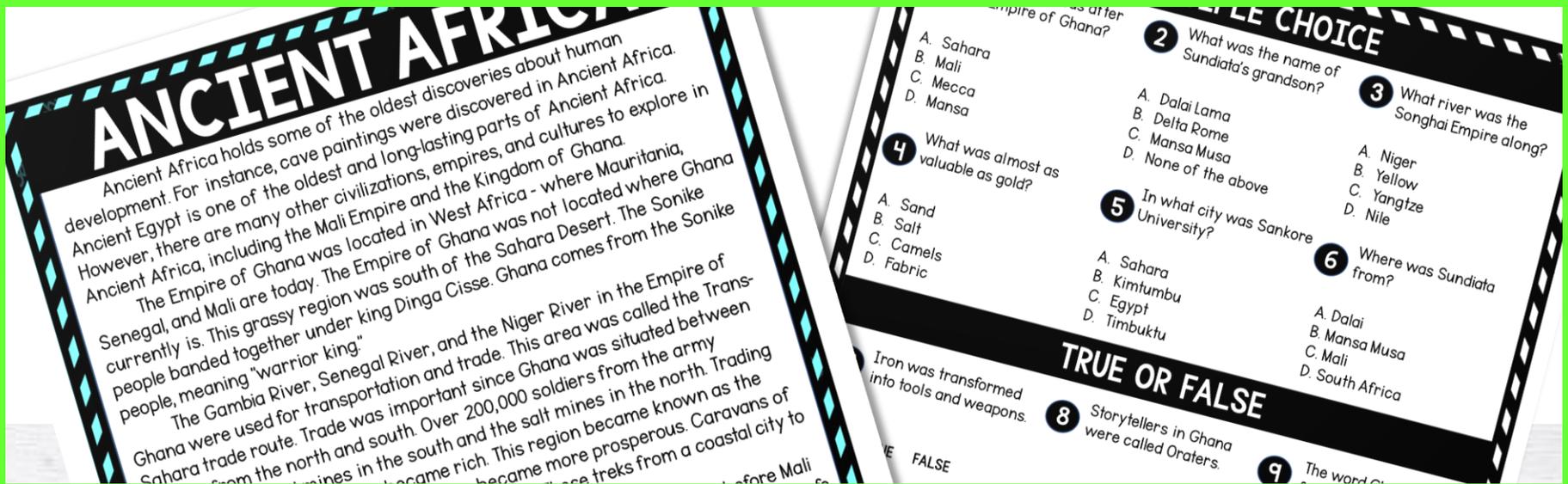
What river was the Songhai Empire along? *

- Niger
- Yellow
- Yangtze
- Nile



READING PASSAGE

15 QUESTIONS



Digital or print



INCLUDED

- ✓ READING PASSAGE
- ✓ TEACHER DIRECTIONS
 - ✓ ANSWER KEY
 - ✓ 15 QUESTIONS
 - ✓ SELF-GRADING
- ✓ PRINTABLE VERSION
- ✓ DIGITAL VERSION



QUESTION TYPES

-  **MULTIPLE CHOICE (6)**
-  **TRUE OR FALSE (9)**
-  **EDITABLE QUESTIONS
(FOR DIGITAL VERSION)**

True

False



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(IF USING THE DIGITAL FORMAT)

✓ GOOGLE™ ACCOUNTS

✓ KNOW HOW TO ZOOM IN AND ZOOM OUT TO
ENLARGE OR SHRINK THE SCREEN

True

False



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OPTIONS



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ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY



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