

Name _____

The Mongol Empire: Conquerors of the Steppes

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The Mongol Empire's administration policies allowed for stability by accommodating diverse cultures and religions within the empire. This reduced resistance from conquered peoples and facilitated cooperation. The longevity of the empire was partly due to its ability to govern a vast and diverse population without imposing a single cultural or religious identity.
2. As a traveler on the Silk Road during the Mongol Empire, one would encounter a vibrant exchange of goods, ideas, and cultures. The Silk Road acted as a bridge between East and West, facilitating the spread of knowledge, technology, and diverse traditions.
3. The Mongol Empire played a role in the spread of the Black Death by creating interconnected trade networks. The movement of goods and people along these routes facilitated the transmission of the disease, which had devastating consequences for Europe and other regions.
4. Genghis Khan's leadership style emphasized loyalty, meritocracy, and unity among the Mongol tribes. His successors employed similar military strategies, such as the use of cavalry and psychological warfare, to expand the empire. However, differences in governance and leadership emerged as the empire fragmented into separate khanates, leading to both unity and division in the Mongol realm.

