

Name: _____

Hour: _____

Use complete sentences if needed.

MARCO POLO AND THE WORLD OF THE SILK ROAD WEBQUEST

Go to the following website:

http://www.ducksters.com/history/china/ancient_china.php

Click on the [Legend of Silk](#)

1. How is silk made?
2. What can silk be made into?
3. How was silk important to Ancient China?
4. According to legend, who discovered silk?
5. What leaves do silk worms like to eat?
6. Why are cocoons steamed?
7. What happens to make the cloth softer?
8. What groups of people were allowed to wear silk in Ancient China?
9. Why did the Chinese want to keep the process of making silk a secret?
10. What would happen to anyone in China who gave away the secret of making silk?
11. How long were the Chinese able to keep the making of silk a secret?

12. What year and what empire stole the Chinese secret of silk?

13. During what dynasty were Chinese peasants finally able to wear silk?

14. List several of the other uses of silk besides clothing:

15. What European country became a major producer of silk in the 13th century?

Click on the [Silk Road](#)

16. What two areas of the world were connected together by the Silk Road?

17. Why was the Silk Road important?

18. List several of the things that were spread along the Silk Road?

19. Why did people throughout Europe and Asia prize silk?

20. What did the Romans call China?

21. Besides silk what other items did the Chinese trade along the Silk Road?

22. What items did merchants traveling to China bring with them to trade for silk other goods that were from China?

23. Why did merchants travel in large caravans?

24. Why were camels commonly used by merchants traveling the Silk Road?

25. What Chinese dynasty expanded and promoted the Silk Road?

26. Under the rule of what empire did the Silk Road reach its peak of use?

27. How long was the Silk Road?

28. What horrible disease traveled along the Silk Road to Europe?

29. Where were most goods traded along the Silk Road?

30. Why do you think there were many routes along the Silk Road?

Click on [Marco Polo](#)

31. Where was Marco Polo born?

32. What is Marco Polo best known for?

33. Why was Marco Polo important and so well known today?

34. During what years was Marco Polo alive?

35. How did Venice become wealthy?

36. How long did it take for Marco Polo's father and uncle to travel to China and back to Venice?

37. How old was Marco when he left for China?

38. What important Mongol ruler did Marco Polo and his family meet during their travel along the Silk Road?

39. How long did it take Marco Polo to reach China?

40. How did Marco Polo help Kublai Khan?
41. List several of things Marco Polo experienced while in China?
42. How long did Marco Polo spend in China and traveling along the Silk Road?
43. What did Marco Polo do while under arrest in Genoa, Italy?
44. Why was Marco Polo's book so popular in Europe?
45. How were merchants typically treated in China?
46. What desert did Marco Polo have to cross to reach China?

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Click on [Kublai Khan](#)

47. When did Kublai Khan reign or rule? What dynasty did he create?
48. Who was Kublai Khan's grandfather?
49. What culture was Kublai Khan very interested in?
51. How did Kublai Khan become the great Khan?
52. What weapon helped Kublai Khan conquer the cities of the Song?
53. What modern city is Dadu or Khanbaliq?
54. How did Kublai Khan improve China?

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Click on [Yuan Dynasty](#)

54. Why did Kublai Khan use Chinese officials to run his government?

55. What were Kublai Khan's policies towards religion?

56. Why did Kublai Khan institute a social class system based on race?

57. What caused the downfall of the Yuan Dynasty?

58. What was the summer capital of Yuan Dynasty called?

59. List two new or interesting things you learned by doing this webquest:

60. What grade would you give Marco Polo for his impact on the world?

A

B

C

D

F

Please explain your grade: