

ORAL QUIZ ON THE MONGOLS AND MARCO POLO

The points and level of detail given below are those which a lower-grammar student might be expected to know from his reading, though he may not include every detail. You may also use these points to prompt your student.

The Mongols and Marco Polo

1. Who were the Mongols, and where did they live?
The Mongols were a nomadic people who roamed the plains of Asia.
2. Who was Genghis Khan, and what was he famous for?
In 1180 as a young Mongol warrior named Temujin, he led raids against enemy Mongol tribes, eventually bringing all of them under his control. In 1206, the tribes named him Genghis Khan, which means "supreme ruler." Under his leadership, the Mongols invaded northern China and swept westward toward Europe, killing many in their path.
3. Which grandson of Genghis Khan conquered all of China? What European did he meet?
Kublai Khan conquered all of China and met Marco Polo (as well as Marco's father Niccolo Polo and uncle Maffeo Polo).
4. Where did Marco Polo originally live? What is important about this place?
Marco Polo was a young merchant from Venice, Italy, an important trading center and one of the largest and richest cities in Europe at the time. Many items from the East such as spices and precious gems were sold in Venice.
5. Where did Marco Polo travel, and what did he do there?
Marco Polo traveled with his uncle and father to China where he lived and worked for the great Kublai Khan for more than fifteen years.
6. How did Marco Polo influence other Europeans?
He wrote a book called The Description of the World, which detailed Kublai Khan's extensive, beautiful empire, giving Europeans their first glimpse of the lands and riches of the East. This gave rise to an increased interest among Europeans to travel and explore distant lands.

1. WHO WERE THE MONGOLS, AND WHERE DID THEY LIVE?

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COMMENTS: _____

2. WHO WAS GENGHIS KHAN, AND WHAT WAS HE FAMOUS FOR?

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COMMENTS: _____

3. WHICH GRANDSON OF GENGHIS KHAN CONQUERED CHINA, AND WHAT EUROPEAN DID HE MEET?

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COMMENTS: _____

4. WHERE DID MARCO POLO ORIGINALLY LIVE, AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

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COMMENTS: _____

5. WHERE DID MARCO POLO TRAVEL, AND WHAT DID HE DO THERE?

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COMMENTS: _____

6. HOW DID MARCO POLO INFLUENCE OTHER EUROPEANS?

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

