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2020

### Academic ESL World History Unit 2.11. The Silk Road - Listening and Writing Exercise

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## 11. THE SILK ROAD - LISTENING AND WRITING ASSIGNMENT

### Listening Exercise

A. The Silk Road is the name of a trade route between Europe and Asia which began under the Romans and continued to be important up until the discovery of the New World in the 1500's.

Think about these questions. Do not use the internet to search for the right answers. Just reflect and consider the most likely answers.

- 1) What were the means of transportation at the time of the Greeks and Romans?
  
- 2) Look at a world map. Which areas and how could Greeks and Romans reach different parts of the world by boat?
  
- 3) What are the disadvantages of transporting goods over land?

B. Watch this video to get an overview over time and geography when studying the silk road. Take notes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lLeIclx2lAU>

C. Now watch this second video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcdIpNtZCok>

Some of the parts are a bit silly. Just listen and wait for the real information which has a lot of interesting facts. The short lecture explains three major areas of impact that the Silk road had on the world: Economic impact, religious impact, and the impact of disease. Listen and focus on which main area you find the most interesting. As always, **take notes**.

1. Choose the area **you want to focus on**. Summarize what you know from listening to the video. Write in full sentences. Do not copy.

2. Research: Find two sources on the internet that offer information about the area you want to know more about. List the sources here.

### **REFLECTIVE SUMMARY**

#### The Silk Road and its Impact on the World

Go over your notes and sources about the main topic you chose from the Silk Road video.

Write a summary in which you describe and explain what you know about your topic. Include and cite your sources. You must either paraphrase or quote from your sources. Add a reflective paragraph: What do you find interesting about the topic? How does this compare to something you know from your own culture and history, or today's society? Write at least 300 words. Add your sources at the end of the summary