

Chapter 12 "Cross Cultural Exchanges on the Silk Roads" from the text *Traditions and Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past* by Bentley & Ziegler

1. What developments in the classical era helped reduce the risks inherent in long-distance trade?
2. How did the trade networks of the Hellenistic era help set the stage for the silk roads?
3. In general, what goods from what regions were traded along the silk roads?
4. How did Buddhism become the most popular faith in all of East Asia?
5. How did the silk roads facilitate the spread of Hinduism and Christianity?
6. Why is the rise of Manichaeism such a good example of the relationship between long-distance trade and the spread of religion?
7. What were the long-term effects of the spread of disease along the silk roads?
8. How did China's culture change after the decline of the Han dynasty?
9. What were some of the main causes of the decay and fall of the western Roman empire?
10. How did Europe's culture change during the late Roman empire?