1. **5 Pillars of Islam**: belief in Allah, prayer 5 times a day, fasting during Rammalan, charity, pilgrimage to Mecca (greater hage)

2. **Arabian Peninsula**: a peninsula between the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf

3. **Ghana, Mali, Songhai**: During the Trans-Saharan trading time, Kingdoms such as these three countries of western Africa were important in connecting the Mediterranean basin to sub-Saharan Africa

4. **Gold-Salt Trade**: Gold and salt made up trade and wealth in the African kingdoms because the Europeans wanted gold, and the Africans needed salt

5. **Ibn Battuta**: Moroccan Muslim scholar, the most widely traveled individual of his time. He wrote a detailed account of his visits to Islamic lands from China to Spain and the western Sudan.

6. **Islam**: the religion of Muslims collectively which governs their civilization and way of life

7. **Mansa Musa**: this Mali king brought Mali to its peak of power and wealth from 1312 the 1337; he was the most powerful king in west africa

8. **Mohammed**: the Arab prophet who founded Islam (570-632)

9. **Quran (koran)**: the name for the holy book of Islam; meaning "recital"

10. **Savanna**: a flat grassland in tropical or subtropical regions

11. **Sunni / Shiite**: The two types of Islam which divided over disagreement over who should be the next spiritual leader after Muhammad.

12. **Timbuktu**: a city in central Mali near the Niger river