

7th Grade World History: World Studies from 1000 B.C. to 1750: Ancient Civilizations Through the First Global Age

In the seventh grade, students begin the four-year historical sequence with a study of the ancient world. This study incorporates each of the seven standards into the chronology. Students learn that each historic event is shaped by its geographic setting, culture of the people, economic conditions, governmental decisions and citizen action. Students also expand their command of social studies skills and methods.

Unit One: Intro & Ancient Greece (9 weeks)

Big Ideas:

- Why did the earliest Civilizations form around major river systems?
- How did the Ancient Greeks advance human civilization and progress?

Texts/Activities	Assessments	Standards
<p><i>World History Journey Across Time.</i></p>	<p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Locate the 4 major river civilizations of the ancient world on a world map. 2. Describe the geographic factors and processes that lead to the diffusion of people, products, and Ideas in the 4 major civilizations of the ancient world (could us a chart). 3. Compare the characteristics of the major economic, political, geographic, social, and cultural characteristics of 4 ancient river civilizations. 4. Describe the changes that early civilizations made to their environment to ensure stability and promote the well-being of their citizens. 5. Identify and describe the significance of the Code of Hammurabi. 6. Explain the importance of folklore and storytelling in ancient times. 7. Identify the scientific and cultural advancement of the ancient river civilizations. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Historians and archaeologists describe historical events and issues from the perspectives of people living at the time to avoid evaluating the past in terms of today's norms and values. 2. The civilizations that developed in Greece and Rome had an enduring impact on later civilizations. This legacy includes governance and law, engineering and technology, art and architecture, as well as literature and history. The Roman Empire also played an instrumental role in the spread of Christianity. 17. Greek democracy and the Roman Republic were radical departures from monarchy and theocracy,

	<p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze the role that geography (particularly isolation of groups) played in early Greek history. 2. Explain the influence that Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations had on Greek civilization and how advances were passed on from the Minoans to the Mycenaeans. 3. Describe the development of the Greek City-States and the importance of independence of each Polis. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe how the values and history of Greece were recorded. 2. Identify major religious beliefs and practices of ancient Greeks. 3. Understand that religion was used to explain natural events and to bring benefits to people. 4. Describe changes that occurred in the government of the Greek City-States with a focus on the shift from a monarchy to democracy. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze the society of Sparta. 2. Understand Sparta's need for defense and how it influenced the way the people of Sparta were governed. 3. Explain the development of democracy in Athens, including the importance of Cleisthenes in the development of democracy. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p>	<p>influencing the structure and function of modern democratic governments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Maps and other geographic representations can be used to trace the development of human settlement over time. 13. Geographic factors promote or impede the movement of people, products and ideas. 15. Improvements in transportation, communication and technology have facilitated cultural diffusion among peoples around the world. 16. The ability to understand individual and group perspectives is essential to analyzing historic and contemporary issues. 19. Individuals, governments and businesses must analyze costs and benefits when making economic decisions. A cost-benefit analysis consists of determining the potential costs and benefits of an action and then balancing the costs against the benefits. 20. The variability in the distribution of productive resources in the various regions of the world contributed to specialization, trade and interdependence. 21. The growth of cities and empires fostered the growth of markets. Market exchanges encouraged specialization and the transition from barter to monetary economies.
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1. **Explain** the basis of Athens' economy, including farming and trading.
2. **Describe** the family life and educational system in Athens.
3. **Compare** and contrast the roles of men and women in Athens.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Understand** that the Persian Wars began as a conflict between Greece and Persia and that a main result of the war was a unity between the Greek city-states.
2. **Analyze** the effects of Pericles' leadership on Athens, including moves he made to strengthen the Delian League and powers he gave to Athens.
3. **Explore** the beginnings of the Peloponnesian War (discontent between Athens and Sparta) and assess its results.
4. **Identify** modern cultural icons/symbols that can be traced back to Ancient Greece (ex. Michigan State Spartans).
5. **Create** a multiple tier timeline to track events in the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Explain** why the 400's BC are considered the Golden Age of Greek Art and Architecture.
2. **Understand** that this Golden Age made Greece the center of learning and artistic achievement during the time period.
3. **Examine** how Greek art of the Golden Age reflected the Greek's view of themselves and the world.
4. **Examine** how Greek artists expressed beauty, strength, and pride in their artwork.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Explain** the basic ideas of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.
2. **Identify** ways in which each philosopher stressed individual values.
3. **Identify** the achievements of Greek mathematicians and scientists of the Golden Age including Pythagoras and Hippocrates.
4. **Identify** the important literary forms that originated or flourished during Greece's Golden Age, including examples of dramas, tragedies, and comedies.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Describe** how Phillip II of Macedon paved the way for cultural change and how Greece was united under his rule.
2. **Examine** what Alexander the Great accomplished, including his expansion of the empire.
3. **Identify** the factors that contributed to the breakup of Alexander's empire, especially the internal conflict which followed his death.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Describe** how society changed during the Hellenistic Age.
2. **Explore** the significance of trade during the Hellenistic age, including how many people prospered and how values in turn shifted.
3. **Explain** how philosophers of the Hellenistic Age viewed ethics, including the four chief schools of philosophy: Cynicism, Skepticism, Stoicism, and Epicureanism.
4. **Identify** how Hellenistic scientists added to the existing body of knowledge.

	5. Study the achievements of Euclid, Archimedes, Aristarchus, and Eratosthenes.	
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Unit Two: Rome (9 Weeks)

Big Ideas:

- What lessons can be learned by studying the rise and fall of the Roman Empire?

Texts/Activities	Assessments	Standards
<p><i>World History Journey Across Time.</i></p>	<p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the role geography played in the development of Italy and Rome, including the advantages and disadvantages of geographic location. 2. Describe the form of government in the Roman Republic. 3. Understand how the Roman government utilized a system of checks and balances. 4. Examine the Conflict of the Orders and how it changed the early Roman Republic. 5. Identify the parties that benefited from the conflict of orders. 6. Compare and contrast the roles of citizens and non-citizens as Rome expanded its power. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Historians and archaeologists describe historical events and issues from the perspectives of people living at the time to avoid evaluating the past in terms of today's norms and values. 2. The civilizations that developed in Greece and Rome had an enduring impact on later civilizations. This legacy includes governance and law, engineering and technology, art and architecture, as well as literature and history. The Roman Empire also played an instrumental role in the spread of Christianity. 17. Greek democracy and the Roman Republic were radical departures from monarchy and theocracy, influencing the structure and function of modern democratic governments

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Discuss** the Punic Wars and how Rome gained control over Carthage.
2. **Understand** the ramifications of the results of the Punic Wars, including an expansion of Roman control over the Mediterranean.
3. **Identify** political, economic and social changes caused by Roman expansion, with a focus on increasing power of the Senators and Nobles and problems faced by former soldiers.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Identify** the political events in Rome that helped weaken the Roman Republic including civil unrest/violence and a loss of respect for the law.
2. **Explain** how the reign of Julius Caesar served as a transition between the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire (with a focus on how he reduced the power of the Senate and assumed the role of a dictator).
3. **Describe** the events and conditions that marked the first two centuries of the Roman Empire including territorial expansion, loss of Senatorial power, decline of representative government, and the Pax Romana.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. Explain how the Romans built a strong and unified empire, with a focus on the effects of trade, transportation, strong government policies, revisions to the law, and a strong army.
2. Describe how Roman citizens made a living and conducted their daily lives.
3. Discuss the role played by science and the arts in the empire.

12. Maps and other geographic representations can be used to trace the development of human settlement over time.

13. Geographic factors promote or impede the movement of people, products and ideas.

15. Improvements in transportation, communication and technology have facilitated cultural diffusion among peoples around the world.

16. The ability to understand individual and group perspectives is essential to analyzing historic and contemporary issues.

19. Individuals, governments and businesses must analyze costs and benefits when making economic decisions. A cost-benefit analysis consists of determining the potential costs and benefits of an action and then balancing the costs against the benefits.

20. The variability in the distribution of productive resources in the various regions of the world contributed to specialization, trade and interdependence.

21. The growth of cities and empires fostered the growth of markets. Market exchanges encouraged specialization and the transition from barter to monetary economies.

4. Identify how the Romans collected and organized knowledge in the arts and sciences and how they applied this knowledge to practical situations.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Describe** how the conditions Jews faced in Judea contributed to the rise of Christianity.
2. **Identify** the difficulties early Christians experienced while under the influence of the Roman Empire, including persecution, property seizures, and execution.
3. **Discuss** the changes that occurred during the Roman Empire that helped establish Christianity and stabilize the Church (focus on how Christianity became the official religion of the Empire).

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Identify** the problems the Roman Empire had to deal with during the 3rd Century (200's AD) and how these problems led to inflation and growing insecurity among the people.
2. **Describe** how the reigns of Diocletian and Constantine slowed the decline of the Empire including a focus on the division of rule and governmental controls.
3. **List** the factors that led to the final decline of the Roman Empire in the West (ex. military and political weakness, economic and social decline).
4. **Create** a timeline denoting important events in the fall of the Western Roman Empire.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Identify** the factors that contributed to the growth and strength of the Byzantine Empire, including the Justinian Code.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Explain how the Christian church came to be divided over different ideas concerning practice between leaders in the West and East.3. Analyze cultural contributions made by the Byzantines and examine how they built on and modified previously established cultures.4. Explain the factors that contributed to the decline of the Byzantine Empire, with a special focus on the invasion of the Seljuk Turks.	
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Unit Three: World History (Mongol, East Asian, Islamic & West African Civilizations) (4 Weeks)

Big Ideas:

How did the spread of Islam contribute the growth and strength of Muslim Empires and Kingdoms across Northern Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia?

How did the Mongol Empire fundamentally alter the course of World History.

How were the West African trading empires connected to the Mediterranean world vis trade.

Texts/Activities	Assessments	Standards
<p><i>World History Journey Across Time.</i></p>	<p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <p>1. Analyze the ways in which Mongol rule affected China & the Silk Road</p> <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <p>1. Describe how geography affected the people of the Arabian Peninsula.</p> <p>2. Explain how Islam began.</p> <p>3. Identify the main beliefs and practices of Islam.</p> <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <p>1. Explore how the Muslims expanded their empire.</p> <p>2. Explain why the Muslim community divided.</p> <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p>	<p>4. Mongol influence led to unified states in China and Korea, but the Mongol failure to conquer Japan allowed a feudal system to persist.</p> <p>8. Empires in Africa (Ghana, Mali and Songhay) and Asia (Byzantine, Ottoman, Mughal and China) grew as commercial and cultural centers along trade routes.</p> <p>9. The advent of the trans-Saharan slave trade had profound effects on both West and Central Africa and the receiving societies</p> <p>12. Maps and other geographic representations can be used to trace the development of human settlement over time.</p> <p>13. Geographic factors promote or impede the movement of people, products and ideas.</p>

	<p>1. Describe how the location of Arabia affected trade in the Muslim Empire.</p> <p>2. Explain what Muslim society and family life were like.</p> <p>3. Identify Muslim achievements in science.</p> <p>4. Explore how Islam influenced Arab art and literature.</p> <p><u>Culminating Chapter Questions</u></p> <p>1. How did conquest contribute to the spread of Muslim culture?</p> <p>2. In what ways did the Islamic religion shape how the Muslim culture developed?</p> <p>3. How was Islam linked to other faiths?</p> <p>4. What do you think was the most important contribute of the Muslim Empire to the world? Why</p> <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identify what geographical features of Africa affected human cultures and explain how different terrains affected trade and travel. Describe how historians have learned about the migrations of early African peoples including linguistic study. Explain the predominant patterns of life in early African Societies, including the importance of women and the role they played. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss how trade developed along the East African coast. Understand why location, weather, wind patterns, and resources are important to establishing trade. Explain how the kingdoms of West Africa became rich and powerful and how trade assisted these Kingdoms in gaining power. Identify how the Arabic language spread to Africa through the travels of Mansa Musa. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements in transportation, communication and technology have facilitated cultural diffusion among peoples around the world. The ability to understand individual and group perspectives is essential to analyzing historic and contemporary issues. Individuals, governments and businesses must analyze costs and benefits when making economic decisions. A cost-benefit analysis consists of determining the potential costs and benefits of an action and then balancing the costs against the benefits. The variability in the distribution of productive resources in the various regions of the world contributed to specialization, trade and interdependence. The growth of cities and empires fostered the growth of markets. Market exchanges encouraged specialization and the transition from barter to monetary economies.
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Suggested Assessment Items

1. Explain how Chinese civilization advanced during the Sui and Tang Dynasties, including the importance of Buddhism, Confucianism, and the development of powerful literature.
2. Describe what daily life was like for the Chinese people during the Sung dynasty and identify developments that generally improved life for the Chinese.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Explore** how the Mongol Invaders were able to conquer and rule so much of Asia.
2. Identify and compare the positive and negative effects Mongol rule had on China, including communication, transportation, and trade as well as unequal treatment, harsh taxes, and laws.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Investigate** how the geography and isolated nature of Japan influenced its development.
2. **Analyze** how China influenced the early development of Japan.
3. **Describe** how changes in government influenced society and social status in feudal Japan.
4. **Examine** how Southeast Asia was influenced by China and India, and how many Indian and Chinese influences were rejected over time.

Unit Four: Middle Ages (6 Weeks)

Big Ideas:

The Dark Ages: Were they really Dark?

Texts/Activities	Assessments	Standards
<p><i>World History Journey Across Time.</i></p> <p><i>Blood Red Horse.</i></p>	<p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine how political and social disorder allowed Frankish rulers to gain control of Europe. 2. Understand that the decline of Charlemagne's empire after his death was due to weak rulers who succumbed to fighting among themselves. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain how feudalism helped shape political and social development in Europe during the Middle Ages. 2. Identify the ways in which the manorial system influenced economic growth in Europe during the Middle Ages. 3. Examine the rule of lords in each community and the importance of self-sufficient manors in feudal society <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe how the church hierarchy fit into society and how it filled the need for leadership. 2. Explain how the practices of monasticism changed due to St. Benedict creating rules for organizing and governing monk's lives. 3. Explore how the church influenced life in medieval Europe both politically and economically. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Germanic invasions helped to break up the Roman Empire and set the stage for the development of feudal and manorial systems. Later invasions helped establish Mongol dominance in central Asia and led to the destruction of the Byzantine Empire by the Turks. 5. Achievements in medicine, science, mathematics and geography by the Islamic civilization dominated most of the Mediterranean after the decline of the Roman Empire. These achievements were introduced into Western Europe as a result of the Muslim conquests, Crusades and trade, influencing the European Renaissance. 18. With the decline of feudalism, consolidation of power resulted in the emergence of nation states. 12. Maps and other geographic representations can be used to trace the development of human settlement over time. 13. Geographic factors promote or impede the movement of people, products and ideas.

	<p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain how the kingdom of England was formed as a result of the continental struggle for power. 2. Identify the achievements of William the Conqueror and his successors such as a strong monarch and improvements in the legal system. 3. Describe how Parliament and common law affected political developments in England and how the laws were applied equally to all. 4. Explore how the French kings gained power over their nobles by weakening Church power. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe how the Holy Roman Emperors used their power over church leaders. 3. Explain how the struggle between the Popes and Emperors developed and how each sought to gain supreme power. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the main causes of the Crusades. 2. Understand that a major purpose of the Crusades was to free the Holy Land from Muslim influences. 3. Describe the outcome of the First Crusade. 4. Describe the outcomes of the other major Crusades. 5. Explain how the Crusades affected Europe, including the development of new weapons, improved methods of fighting, and a strengthening of the monarchy. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Improvements in transportation, communication and technology have facilitated cultural diffusion among peoples around the world. 16. The ability to understand individual and group perspectives is essential to analyzing historic and contemporary issues. 19. Individuals, governments and businesses must analyze costs and benefits when making economic decisions. A cost-benefit analysis consists of determining the potential costs and benefits of an action and then balancing the costs against the benefits. 20. The variability in the distribution of productive resources in the various regions of the world contributed to specialization, trade and interdependence. 21. The growth of cities and empires fostered the growth of markets. Market exchanges encouraged specialization and the transition from barter to monetary economies.
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1. Identify rights townspeople gained during the late Middle Ages including exemption from manor work, town justice, and commercial privileges.
2. Explain how merchant and craft guilds contributed to their communities by allowing middle class citizens to gain power.
3. Describe how the growth of cities helped lead to the decline of serfdom by allowing serfs a chance to improve their lives.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. Analyze changes in language and literature during the Middle Ages, particularly how vernacular languages began to replace Latin.
2. Examine changes in education during the Middle Ages including the development of Universities.
3. Identify developments made in philosophy and science and how each were studied in the context of religious faith.
4. Describe the characteristics of architecture of the later Middle Ages and compare this style to that of the Romanesque style.

Suggested Assessment Items

- Identify how the Hundred Years' War affected England and France.
- Analyze how Spain's rulers both strengthened and weakened their nation (ex. how Ferdinand and Isabella concurrently strengthened the monarchy while weakening business and trade).
- Explore reasons why the Holy Roman Empire remained weak throughout the later Middle Ages.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. Identify the factors that led to the decline of the Catholic Church in the later Middle Ages, including a shift of power from the church to the monarchy.
2. Describe how the Babylonian Captivity and the Great Schism weakened the Church and Papal authority.

	3. Explain reasons why teachers and priests challenged the church during the later Middle Ages.	
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Unit Five: Renaissance & Reformation (6 Weeks)

Big Ideas:

Was the Renaissance really a rebirth of Ancient Greece and Rome?

How did the Catholic Church inadvertently bring about the Reformation and what were its effects?

Texts/Activities	Assessments	Standards
<p><i>World History Journey Across Time.</i></p>	<p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify how the Renaissance began and how thought was characterized during this era. 2. Explain how the Renaissance writers were able to bring classical teachings and Christian doctrine together. 3. Describe ways in which Renaissance art differed from art during the Middle Ages. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. The Renaissance in Europe introduced revolutionary ideas, leading to cultural, scientific and social changes. 7. The Reformation introduced changes in religion including the emergence of Protestant faiths and a decline in the political power and social influence of the Roman Catholic Church.

1. **Explain** how the ideas of the Italian Renaissance spread to other parts of Europe.
2. **List** the ways that Northern Renaissance writers differed from Italian Humanists.
3. **Identify** the characteristics of Northern Renaissance art.
4. **Explain** the significance of the development of the printing press.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. Explain the developments that led to the Reformation.
2. Describe how Martin Luther protested against the Roman Catholic Church and began a new church.
3. Identify the factors that caused the spread of Protestantism.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Describe** how the Catholic Church responded to the Reformation.
2. **Explain** what the results of the Reformation and the Counter-Reformation were.
3. **Compare** and contrast the major points of the Protestant and Catholic Reformation using a graphic organizer.

Suggested Assessment Items

1. **Explain** why Europeans believed in superstitions.
2. **Describe** the characteristics of daily life that were typical in Europe during the Reformation.
3. **Explain** how knowledge spread to European villages.
4. **Identify** factors that caused changes in the daily lives of Europeans.

12. Maps and other geographic representations can be used to trace the development of human settlement over time.

13. Geographic factors promote or impede the movement of people, products and ideas.

15. Improvements in transportation, communication and technology have facilitated cultural diffusion among peoples around the world.

16. The ability to understand individual and group perspectives is essential to analyzing historic and contemporary issues.

19. Individuals, governments and businesses must analyze costs and benefits when making economic decisions. A cost-benefit analysis consists of determining the potential costs and benefits of an action and then balancing the costs against the benefits.

20. The variability in the distribution of productive resources in the various regions of the world contributed to specialization, trade and interdependence.

21. The growth of cities and empires fostered the growth of markets. Market exchanges encouraged specialization and the transition from barter to monetary economies.

Unit Six: Age of Exploration & Scientific Revolution (6 Weeks)

Big Ideas:

How did the Mongols help spur the European Age of Exploration?

How did the Age of Exploration usher in the first Global Age?

What caused the Scientific Revolution and how did it impact Europe?

Texts/Activities	Assessments	Standards
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<p><i>World History Journey Across Time.</i></p>	<p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain how people first arrived in the Americas. 2. Describe changes that the development of agriculture brought to the Americas. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify factors that contributed to the Scientific Revolution including developments in communication, the spread of knowledge, and the exchange of ideas. 2. Explain how Copernicus, Kepler, and Galileo challenged traditional thought by their new approaches to knowledge and new methods and instruments. 3. List and describe some important scientific discoveries including: heliocentric theory, laws of planetary motion, observing objects in space with a telescope, anatomy, chemistry, and the universal law of gravity. <p><u>Suggested Assessment Items</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the technological advances that made European exploration possible, including improvements in navigation, instruments, the compass, and ships. 2. Explain how the standardization of money affected exploration during the commercial revolution. 3. Explain the importance of mercantilism in colonies and how it increased a home country's wealth. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. European economic and cultural influence dramatically increased through explorations, conquests and colonization. 11. The Columbian Exchange (e.g., the exchange of fauna, flora and pathogens) between previously unconnected parts of the world reshaped societies in ways still evident today. 12. Maps and other geographic representations can be used to trace the development of human settlement over time. 13. Geographic factors promote or impede the movement of people, products and ideas. 15. Improvements in transportation, communication and technology have facilitated cultural diffusion among peoples around the world. 16. The ability to understand individual and group perspectives is essential to analyzing historic and contemporary issues. 19. Individuals, governments and businesses must analyze costs and benefits when making economic decisions. A cost-benefit analysis consists of determining the potential costs and benefits of an action and then balancing the costs against the benefits. 20. The variability in the distribution of productive resources in the various regions of the world contributed to specialization, trade and interdependence.
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