



Travels with Marco Polo: From Venice to Hormuz

Student Name _____ Date _____

You are taking an imaginary trip with Marco Polo from Venice to China and back! The first part of your journey starts in Venice and ends in Hormuz. Your teacher will show you the following maps in this lesson. Each one presents a different point-of-view for the route Marco Polo followed. Use the following maps, websites, and your notes to answer the questions below.

Map of Marco Polo's Route - <http://www.silk-road.com/maps/images/polomap.jpg>

Marco Polo's Route - <http://depts.washington.edu/silkroad/maps/marcopolo.html>

Map of the Middle East

http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle_east_and_asia/middle_east_ref_2002.jpg

Elevation map of Iran - <http://www.askasia.org/teachers/maps/map.php?no=58&era=&grade=&geo=>

The Persian carpet gallery - http://persia.org/Images/Persian_Carpet/carpet_history.html

Use the following chart to organize your notes while reading the maps and listening to your teacher's lecture.

	Turkey	Armenia	Persia
Geography			
Major Towns or Cities			
Local Products			
Special Features of Region			
Additional Notes			

Questions:

1. Why did the Polos begin their journey to China by sea?
2. How did the Polos travel to Hormuz after arriving in Acre?
3. How would you describe the geography of the regions of Turkey and Armenia that the Polos traveled through?
4. What are the geographic features of modern Iran (Persia in Marco Polo's time)?
5. What factors determined the easiest route from Acre to Hormuz?

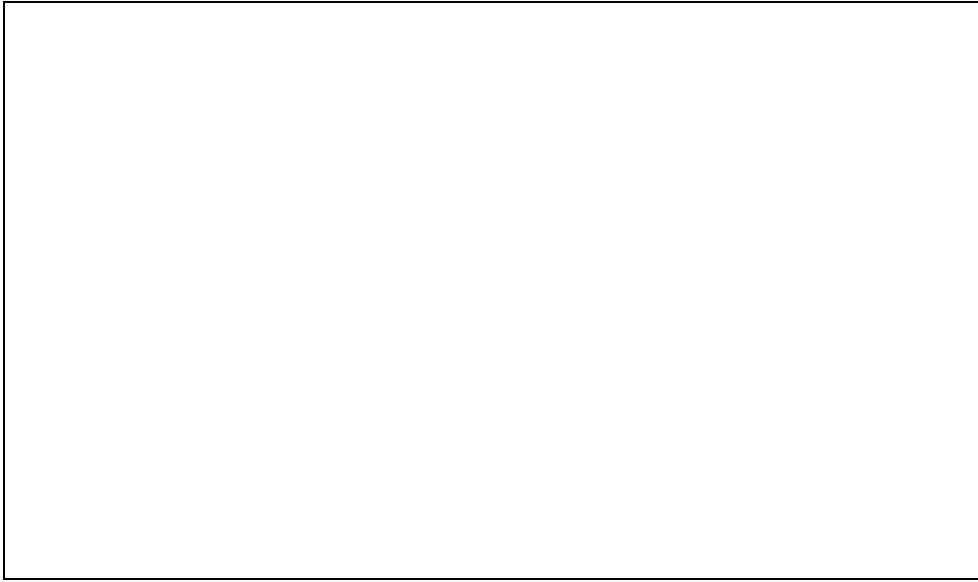
Map Exercise:

1. Find where Venice, Acre, and Hormuz are located.
2. Put a dot in the general area of each city.
3. Draw a line to show the most likely path that Marco Polo took as he moved from one city to the next.
4. If you need help, review the map websites listed above.



Postcard Exercise: Imagine that you are in Persia with Marco Polo. You have already traveled so far and seen so many things! Create a picture postcard that a medieval traveler might have sent home from Persia. **Side 1** (the first box below) should have a picture of a geographical feature or a local product that you would have seen on your journey. If you do not have a picture to print from the Internet or cut out of a magazine, you can draw one. On **Side 2** (the second box below) of the postcard, write a message home. Share some of your experiences from your journey!

Side 1



Side 2

