The Silk Road

Ted-Ed Video Notes: The Silk Road

How many miles? ________________________

The Silk Road was a network of roads connected to each other

One of the most important strands...was the P_________ Royal Road in the 5th century BCE

With A______________ the Great’s conquest of Persia, the Silk Road expanded

Chinese goods made their way to R__________, and Roman glass made its way to C__________

The Silk Road caused many goods and ideas to spread, like:

Goods:

Ideas:

How did the Silk Road cause explorers to sail and find places like America?

Think About It

Name four problems a person might face traveling any of the routes of the Silk Road

1. ____________________ 2. ____________________

3. ____________________ 4. ____________________

Why would a person be willing to travel the Silk Road?

Imagine you are a wealthy Chinese merchant, but you like to be home every day for supper. How could the Silk Road be used in a way that lets you do what you want?
Directions:

1. Constantinople isn’t labeled on this map. Find it, and label it with a big black dot and its name.

2. Label these deserts in big letters: Gobi - Taklimakan

3. Label these mountain ranges in big letters: Himalayas - Hindu Kush

4. Label these seas in big letters, but don’t drink their water! Caspian Sea - Aral Sea

4. You are going to plot out three trade routes by drawing lines on the map. Start in Khanbalik (Beijing, China) each time. Remember, people and animals need water to live, so make sure your routes all include at least a couple natural sources of water (rivers, lakes...even if a lake has salt water, there might be rivers nearby). Also, remember that your camels can’t climb up the side of a mountain, so avoid the mountain ranges. Finally, it’s easiest for you to avoid crossing a river whenever possible. You wouldn’t want to damage your products. Straight lines WILL NOT work. Make an effort.

Route 1: You want to become rich selling Chinese silk to the Byzantine Empire. Draw a route from Khanbalik (Beijing) to Constantinople

Route 2: Your silk-makers want to dye their silk blue. You heard that Isfahan, Persia has a source of blue dye made from a creature in the Persian Gulf. Start at Khanbalik (Beijing), and travel to Isfahan, stopping in Samarkand for water and food after your dry trip across the Taklimakan Desert.

Route 3: Your silk workers will work better with stomachs full of tasty food. Start at Khanbalik (Beijing), and travel to the Ganges Delta in India.