

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE: ASIAN GOLDEN AGES

Introduction: Both the Islamic world and China experienced their “golden ages” during the Postclassical Era. During times of political stability, art and architecture flourish! Through reading poetry and researching art from the Tang and Song Dynasties of China and the Islamic Caliphates, you will gain insight into cultural values. Choose ONE of the three below to complete.

OPTION ONE: TANG AND SONG DYNASTY POETRY

1. Research and read

- Use [this link](#) to read a minimum of three Tang- or Song-era poems.
 - Print them out and annotate each
 1. You can talk about the tone, how it reflects Chinese life at the time, themes, motifs, etc

2. Create your own original artwork

- You now must create an original piece of art that reflects the poem you just created
 - Your artwork can be inspired by the poem, but should reflect the Chinese art at the time. I suggest doing research into Tang/Song Era Chinese paintings for guidance.
 - The connection between your poem and your piece of art does not have to be “literal” (as in, your poem includes a bird, and therefore you drew a bird as your art) – the connection can be symbolic or tonal.
- Your original artwork should take up at least one half sheet of computer paper, but can be larger

To turn in: copy of the inspiration poem and your artwork

OPTION TWO: ADVERTISEMENT OR INFOMERCIAL

1. Research one innovation or invention that occurred during the Islamic or Chinese golden ages

- a. Please check with me to make sure that your invention is from the appropriate time period
- b. As you research, you will answer the following questions in approximately one page (typed or handwritten):
 - i. What is the invention? Who invented it? When was it invented? Where was it invented? What were the short-term effects? What were the long-term effects?
 - ii. Cite your sources using MLA format at the bottom of the page

2. Once you have completed your background research, you will either create an infomercial or an advertisement

Infomercial:

- This will be filmed and emailed to me at epool@cherrycreekschools.org
- Your infomercial must: be at least 45 seconds long, include what the product is, have an example of the product (drawn or physical), discuss why people should buy it, and discuss its effects

Advertisement:

- Your advertisement must: have a title, be one full page, colored, detailed, have two specific pieces of evidence that support why people should “buy” your product

To turn in: Your background research paper, and either your advertisement OR your infomercial

OPTION THREE: ISLAMIC ART

1. Research THREE innovations or inventions that occurred during the Islamic golden age

- a. Please check with me to make sure that your invention is from the appropriate time period
- b. As you research, you will answer the following questions. They can be bullet pointed, but they must be in complete sentences.
 - i. What is the invention? Who invented it? When was it invented? Where was it invented? What were the short-term effects? What were the long-term effects?
- c. Cite your sources using MLA format at the bottom of the page

2. Create three calligraphy drawings

- a. According to one Hadith, some Muslims cannot draw human form. Because of this, they focused on geometric art and calligraphy. Most mosques have are ornately decorated with carved calligraphy.
 - i. Muslims who follow use calligraphy to create animals and shapes. You will be doing the same.
 - ii. First, create a statement about the Islamic Golden Age based on your reading/research. It should be two to three sentences long.
 1. You should choose something that Muslims or people in the Islamic world invented (coffee, clocks, etc).
 - iii. Then, figure out a way to write out your sentence into an artistic form.
 1. For example: Muslims created coffee! I can write two to three sentences about that, and then can draw those sentences into a coffee mug.
 - iv. You can use English, or, if you speak a different language fluently, you can write it in that! Please write an English translation of your sentence, though.

To turn in: three calligraphy drawings

OPTION FOUR: TANG AND SONG FOOT BINDING AND THE CONCEPT OF "BEAUTY"

1. Introduction to foot binding

- Read and annotate the three Chinese foot binding documents (one story and two poems)

2. Synthesize!

- Research other ways that societies/people modify their body in order to achieve their societal standards of beauty. Choose something that is/was present OUTSIDE of China. It can be as simple as plastic surgery, but I encourage you to dive a bit deeper than that.
- Find one that interests you, and take notes on its history and application in approximately half a page.
 - Where was/is it practiced? What was/is it? Why did it start? How prevalent was/is it?

3. Create a poem

- You will be creating a *Lushi* poem on beauty practices. Using the primary documents from my website (one story and two poems), write a *Lushi* poem. *Lushi* are traditional Chinese poems that are 8 lines of 8 characters. You will write a poem of 8 lines of 8 words each that uses lines from the primary documents (FOUND) and lines that are original (you create). Your original lines will be based on the other type of cultural beauty that you researched above. You may alter one word in each found line (from the story/two poems) in order to better suit your new poem, if need be. *Get creative!*
 - Example setup:
 - FOUND in the text reading
 - ORIGINAL you create
 - FOUND in the text reading
 - ORIGINAL you create
 - FOUND in the text reading
 - ORIGINAL you create
 - FOUND in the text reading
 - ORIGINAL you create

To turn in: annotated documents, research of beauty, your original poem

**CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE:
ASIAN GOLDEN AGES
RUBRIC**

OPTION ONE: TANG AND SONG DYNASTY POETRY

Annotations Did you print out and annotate three poems? Are your annotations are developed and detailed?	/12
Artwork Does your artwork reflect Tang/Song art at the time? Is your artwork inspired by the poems? Is your artwork at least one half page? Is your artwork detailed?	/16
Directions Did you fully follow all of the directions?	/2
Extra Does your project have a "wow!" factor?	/+3
TOTAL	/30

OPTION TWO: ADVERTISEMENT OR INFOMERCIAL

Background Did you research your product? Is your research detailed? Did you answer every question (What/Who/When/Where/Short-term and long-term effects)? Did you include MLA citations at the end of your page?	/12
Infomercial Is/does your infomercial: at least 45 seconds long, include what the product is, have an example of the product (drawn or physical), discuss why people should buy it, discuss its effects? Did you email it to me before the bell rang on Friday? Is there clear effort put into it?	/16
Advertisement Is/does your advertisement: have a title, be one full page, colored, detailed, have two specific pieces of evidence that support why people should "buy" your product? Is there clear effort put into it?	/16
Directions Did you fully follow all of the directions?	/2
Extra Does your project have a "wow!" factor?	/+3
TOTAL	/30

OPTION THREE: ISLAMIC ART

<p>Background Did you research your three innovations/inventions? Is your research detailed? Did you answer every question (What/Who/When/Where/Short-term and long-term effects)? Did you include MLA citations at the end of your page?</p>	<p>/10</p>
<p>Artwork Do you have three calligraphy drawings? Are your drawings created into the shape of the invention/innovations you researched? Are they detailed? Colored? Shaded? Is clear effort provided for each? Are your sentences at the top of each sheet of paper?</p>	<p>/18</p>
<p>Directions Did you fully follow all of the directions?</p>	<p>/2</p>
<p>Extra Does your project have a "wow!" factor?</p>	<p>/+3</p>
<p>TOTAL</p>	<p>/30</p>

OPTION FOUR: TANG AND SONG FOOT BINDING AND THE CONCEPT OF "BEAUTY"

<p>Annotations Did you print out and annotate the three Chinese foot binding documents (one story and two poems)? Are your annotations are developed and detailed?</p>	<p>/8</p>
<p>Research Did you research another way people modify their bodies in order to achieve societal standards of beauty? Did you write up approximately one half page of background research that answers the following: where was/is it practiced? What is/was it? Why did it start? How prevalent was/is it?</p>	<p>/10</p>
<p>Poem Did you create a Lushi poem that is 8 lines of 8 words? Are your lines alternating FOUND and ORIGINAL? Did you not alter more than one word per line from the FOUND lines?</p>	<p>/10</p>
<p>Directions Did you fully follow all of the directions?</p>	<p>/2</p>
<p>Extra Does your project have a "wow!" factor?</p>	<p>/+3</p>
<p>TOTAL</p>	<p>/30</p>

