Read and study the sources about West African Kingdoms. Then use the two sources and your knowledge of social studies to answer the questions.

Source 1

Medieval West African Kingdoms

Source: National Park Service.
Source 2

Equestrian Figure

This clay sculpture of an equestrian\(^1\) figure was discovered in the Inland Niger Delta region of Mali and is dated between the 13th and 15th centuries.

\(^1\) \textit{equestrian}: relating to riding horses

1. Which characteristic of the Mali Empire is **most closely** associated with Source 2?

- [ ] A. trade with North Africa
- [ ] B. powerful military
- [ ] C. wealth obtained from gold mines
- [ ] D. training wild animals for celebrations

2. What do Source 1 and Source 2 suggest about the development of West African kingdoms?

Select the **two** correct answers.

- [ ] A. People specialized in different jobs as a result of the growth in trading cities.
- [ ] B. People often used camels for transportation.
- [ ] C. The armies of each kingdom used a wide variety of weapons in war.
- [ ] D. People had leisure time to develop arts.
- [ ] E. The kingdoms had powerful and rich leaders.
3. Physical and human geography influenced the medieval West African kingdoms of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai. Based on the sources and your knowledge of social studies, identify the geographic factors that **most** influenced the medieval West African kingdoms.

Drag the correct answers from the list to chart titled Geographic Factors Influencing Medieval West African Kingdoms. Fill every space in the chart. All options will not be used from the list.
4. Based on the sources and your knowledge of social studies, explain **two** reasons medieval West African kingdoms were successful.
## Answer Key

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<tr>
<th>Item Number</th>
<th>Item Type</th>
<th>Key</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Multiple Choice (MC)</td>
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<td>Multiple Select (MS)</td>
<td>A, D</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Technology-Enhanced Item (TEI)</td>
<td>Geographic Factors Influencing Medieval West African Kingdoms</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Plentiful salt deposits</td>
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<td>Inland port cities on rivers</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Abundance of gold</td>
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<td>Nearness to trans-Saharan caravan routes</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Constructed Response (CR)</td>
<td>See Rubric and Scoring Notes</td>
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## Constructed-Response Rubric and Scoring Notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Student’s response correctly explains <strong>two</strong> reasons that medieval West African kingdoms were successful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Student’s response correctly explains <strong>one</strong> reason that medieval West African kingdoms were successful.</td>
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</table>
| 0            | Student’s response does **not** correctly explain reasons that medieval West African kingdoms were successful.  
**OR**  
Student’s response is blank, irrelevant, or too brief to evaluate. |

Reasons that medieval West African kingdoms were successful may include:

- The land held natural resources and minerals that could be traded with other groups for a profit.
- Powerful militaries were used to expand and protect the kingdoms.
- Wealth was increased by collecting taxes from merchants traveling on trade routes through the kingdoms.

Accept any other reasonable responses.