



education

Department of
Education
FREE STATE PROVINCE

GRADE 6
SOCIAL SCIENCES: HISTORY
JUNE 2025

MARKS: 40

TIME: 1 HOUR

School Name: _____

Learner's Surname and Name:

Marks: Section A: _____ **Section B:** _____ **Total:** _____
15 25 40

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION:

1. This question paper consists of TWO sections.

Section A: An African Kingdom Long Ago in Southern Africa: Mapungubwe [15 marks]

Section B: Explorers from Europe Find Southern Africa [35 marks]

2. Choose only **ONE** of the following case study questions:

Question 4.1: Case Study on Leonardo da Vinci's Work **OR** Question 4.2: Case Study on Galileo

3. Write all answers in the spaces provided in this question paper.
4. Write neatly and legibly.

This question paper consists of 7 pages

SECTION A: AN AFRICAN KINGDOM LONG AGO IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: MAPUNGUBWE**Question 1:** Read Source A and answer all the questions.Source A: **African Villages in the Limpopo Valley**

About a thousand years ago, some African farmers moved to the Limpopo Valley. There was good land and enough rain for farming. There were also many elephants, which people killed for their tusks for ivory trade.

From around the year 900 AD, people started building bigger villages in the Limpopo Valley. Archaeologists found artefacts like glass beads and broken ivory at places called Schroda and K2. This shows that these people were also traders.

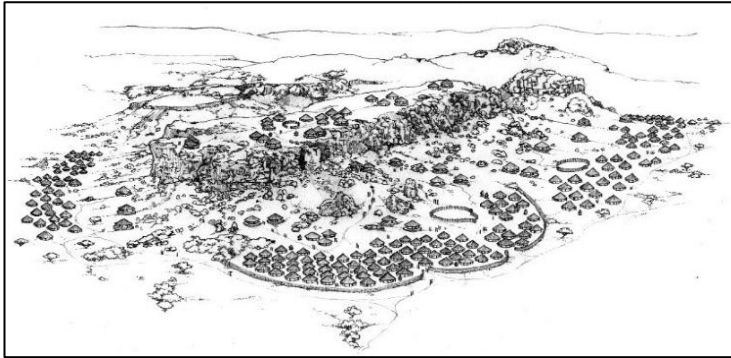
[Source: Adapted from: Clever Social Sciences]

- 1.1 Choose and circle the most correct answer to the questions below.
- 1.1.1 Why did early African farmers move to the Limpopo Valley? (1)
- A. To find gold
 - B. To farm and to trade ivory
 - C. To hunt wild animals
 - D. To find glass beads
- 1.1.2 What happened to the villages in the Limpopo Valley after 900 AD? (1)
- A. They disappeared from the land
 - B. They became smaller and simpler
 - C. They were moved to the coast
 - D. They became larger and more complex
- 1.1.3 Which settlements were before Mapungubwe in the Limpopo Valley? (1)
- A. Great Zimbabwe
 - B. Schroda and K2
 - C. Bigger settlements
 - D. Stone walled settlements
- 1.2 Answer the question: (1)
- The people of Mapungubwe did not have writing. According to the source, how did we find out how these people lived?

[4]

Question 2: Study Source B below and also use your knowledge to answer the questions that follow:

Source B: **Mapungubwe, the first town with different social classes**



Mapungubwe was a powerful kingdom in South Africa. The king was a sacred leader and had to be separated from ordinary people. He lived on top of the hill. A stone house was built for the king on the hill to show his power.

Graves were found on top of the hill. In one grave a male was buried with his hands holding a golden sceptre. Other golden objects and treasures were found in the graves. The king sent

groups of men to the coast to trade goods with Arab traders from other places across the Indian ocean.

[Source: Adapted from: <https://www.sahistory.org.za>]

2.1 Describe where the two social classes in Mapungubwe lived. (2)

The king and his family lived _____

Ordinary people lived _____

2.2 Explain why the king had high stone walls built for his palace? Give 2 reasons. (2)

2.3 What evidence in the source explains that the rulers of Mapungubwe were rich? (1)

2.4 How do we know that one of the graves found on top of the hill was that of the king? (1)

2.5 Name ONE other golden object, excluding the sceptre, that was also found in a grave. (1)

2.6 Explain how Mapungubwe became part of a trade network (globalisation). Also mention goods that were traded. (3)

2.7 Today Mapungubwe is a World Heritage Site. Why is it important to protect archaeological sites like Mapungubwe? (1)

[11]

TOTAL SECTION A: 15

SECTION B: EXPLORERS FROM EUROPE FIND SOUTHERN AFRICA

Question 3: Read Source C: *The European Renaissance* to answer questions below.

Source C: The European Renaissance

The European Renaissance took place during the 15th and 16th centuries. The Renaissance was a period in history when many new ideas were developed. This was a turning point in European history.

The Renaissance began in Italy then spread to other parts of Europe.

The age of exploration happened at the same time as the Renaissance. During this time European people began exploring the world by sea.



3.1 Define the term "Renaissance". (1)

3.2 In which country did the Renaissance begin? (1)

3.3 How did the new ideas spread to other parts of Europe? (1)

[3]

Question 4: Choose **only ONE** of the following case study questions:

QUESTION 4.1 **OR** QUESTION 4.2

Question 4.1: Study **Source D** to answer all the questions that will follow.

Source D: **Leonardo da Vinci's Work**

Leonardo da Vinci was a very smart man from Italy who lived more than 500 years ago. He was good at art, science, and inventing new things. His most famous painting is the *Mona Lisa*, and another is *The Last Supper*, showing Jesus and his friends eating. He also drew clever plans for flying machines, bridges, and weapons—some looked like helicopters and tanks! Leonardo studied the human body and drew detailed pictures of bones, muscles, and organs. His work helped people understand how the body works.



4.1.1 Circle the correct answer: (1)

What is the name of Leonardo da Vinci's most famous painting?

- A. Starry Night
- B. The Flying Machine
- C. Mona Lisa
- D. The Thinker

4.1.2 Is the statement True or False: (1)

Leonardo da Vinci took photos to help him design flying machines.

4.1.3 Name one of Leonardo's inventions and say like what modern machine it looked. (2)

4.1.4 Why do you think Leonardo studied the human body so carefully? (1)

4.1.5 Explain why Leonardo da Vinci's work in science was important. (1)

[6]

OR

Question 4.2: Case Study: Galileo

4.2 Study **Source E** to answer all the questions that will follow.

Source E: Case Study: Galileo Galilei and cartoon

Galileo Galilei was a famous Italian scientist born in 1564. He invented a telescope that helped him discover Jupiter’s moons and mountains on the moon. He found out that the Earth moves around the Sun. At that time, many people — including the Roman Catholic Church — believed the Earth was the centre of the solar system. The church was not happy with Galileo’s ideas and put him under house arrest. The discoveries of Galileo changed science forever.



4.2.1 Circle the correct answer:

What did Galileo use to see planets and moons? (1)

- A. Microscope
- B. Telescope
- C. Camera
- D. Binoculars

4.2.2 Is the statement True or False: (1)

Galileo invented a machine to travel to the moon. _____

4.2.3 Name one thing Galileo discovered using his telescope. (1)

4.2.4 What did the people believe about the Earth and Sun before the Renaissance? (1)

4.2.5 Look at the cartoon of the churchman hitting Galileo with a telescope. Why do you think he is doing this? (1)

4.2.6 Explain why Galileo’s work was important. (1)

[6]

Question 5: Read the sentences below. Choose the correct invention from the word bank that best matches how it helped explorers. Write your answer on the line.

Caravel Magnetic Compass Gunpowder

- 5.1 This invention helped explorers find direction when they were far from land. (1)

- 5.2 This invention was used in cannons to protect ships during sea battles. (1)

- 5.3 This was a fast and strong ship that could travel long distances. (1)

[3]

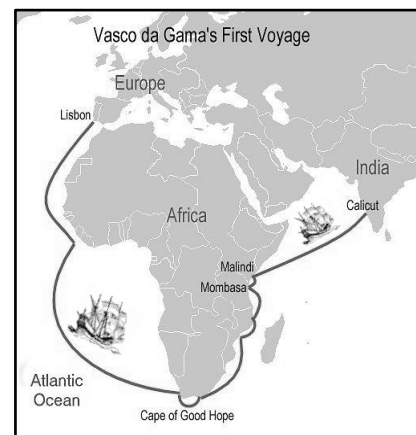
Question 6: Study Source F below and use your knowledge to answer the questions that follow:

Source F: The Journeys of Diaz and Da Gama and Map of the route to the East

The King of Portugal believed that if he could find a sea route to India, he would become rich trading spices in Europe. The King asked Bartholomew Dias and later Vasco da Gama to find a trade route to the East. Dias discovered the Cape of Good Hope in 1488. He sailed around the tip of Africa and landed at Mossel Bay. There, he met the Khoi-Khoi people. He did not find the route to India, as



he had to turn back to Portugal because his sailors did not want to continue the journey. Vasco da Gama was successful and reached India in 1498.



- 6.1 Explain why the Portuguese King wanted to find a sea route to the East? (2)

- 6.2 Why was Diaz's discovery of the Cape of Good Hope important for Portugal? (1)

- 6.3 Describe what happened when Diaz met the Khoikhoi at Mossel Bay? (2)

- 6.4 Look at the journey of Da Gama on the map. Da Gama was welcomed as a hero when he returned to Portugal. Why? (2)

- 6.5 Do you think the journeys of Dias and Da Gama had a positive or negative impact on the world? Give a reason for your answer. (1)

[8]

