**Name (A/B):**

**Due: 11/25/15**

**West African Civilizations Reading Guide**

*Please answer the questions below on a separate sheet of paper*

1. What allowed the trade routes across the Sahara to function? Why?
2. What were the most important items traded across the Sahara? How did this add to the wealth of African kingdoms?
3. How did Ghana grow to power?
4. What was the structure of Ghana’s government?
5. How did Islam reach Western Africa? What happened when it got there?
6. What caused the fall of Ghana?
7. How did Mali rise to power?
8. What role did Sundiata play in Mali’s rise to power?
9. What did Mansa Musa do? How did Timbuktu flourish under his rule?
10. What impressed Ibn Battuta about Mali? What does this tell you about the Empire?
11. What did Sunni Ali do to expand Songhai?
12. What did Askia Muhammad do to expand Songhai? Why did the Empire fall?
13. What form of government did the Hausa city-states follow? How did they maintain power?
14. What allowed Yoruba people to maintain their city-states?
15. How did the Kingdom of Benin maintain power?

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