12-3

* Mongols are nomads who lived in northern China in TRIBES – groups of related families.
* Mongols were expert horse riders and great at waging war.
* Genghis Khan – means “strong ruler” – name given to Temujin as the new Mongol leader.
* Genghis Khan: created a law code, great military and enlarged Mongols’ land.
* Genghis Khan’s army was the most skilled fighting force in the world at that time because he chose leaders for their ability not wealth/family.
* Genghis Khan’s army was known for their cruelty and TERROR – violent actions that are meant to scare people into surrendering.
* The Mongol empire was the largest land empire the world had ever known.
* Genghis Khan’s grandson, Kublai Khan is the new Mongol ruler.
* Khanbaliq (present day Beijing) was the capital city of the Mongol Empire.
* Kublai Khan created the Yuan dynasty in China.
* China reached its height in wealth and power under Mongol rule.
* The Mongols were different from the Chinese in: language, laws, and customs.
* Much of what we know about the Chinese comes from Marco Polo – a famous European traveler who wrote a book about his adventures in Asia.
* China prospered through trade.
* Europeans brought Chinese discoveries like steel, gunpowder, and the compass back to their homelands.