Study Questions for Chapter 18

1. What was the function of the griot in sub-Saharan African culture?
2. Why were bananas and camels so significant in early African history? What do they represent and how did they change the way people lived?
3. How are kin-based societies structured? How does this affect political dynamics?
4. Compare and contrast the Kingdom Of Kongo and the Kingdom of Ghana
5. Where and how did Islam spread to sub-Saharan Africa? HOW WAS IT DIFFERENT from north African and southwest Asian Islam? Explain why.
6. What was the role of the Mali Empire in the Eurasian trade network? How was this impacted by Mansa Musa?
7. Is Kilwa a good example of a Swahili city-state? Explain.
8. What was the significance of age and gender grades in sub-Saharan societies?
9. 9. Discuss the history of slavery in Africa. How did its development from1000-1500 set the stage for the Atlantic slave trade that followed?
10. How and where did Christianity and Islam supplement (and at times supplant) native African religions in this period (up to 1500)?