



# 7th Grade World History

Lesson # 29, April 30th



I can show conflict of cultures through fighting between the Russians and the Mongols.

I can explain how conflict between cultures illustrates the geographic theme of movement

# Supplies Needed

Paper  
and  
pencil



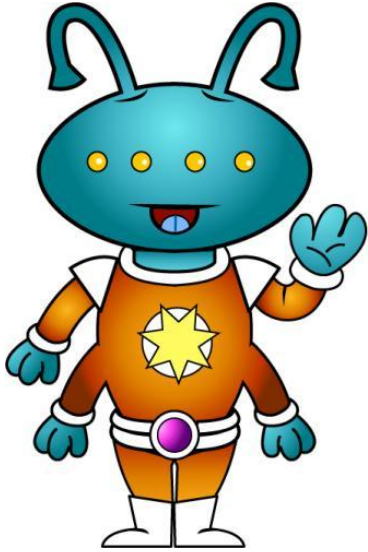
Internet  
access



Your  
brain



# Warm Up



Imagine that an alien from another galaxy wants to know what to expect when she visits the United States. She wants to know what the culture is like. She wants to know about food, music, fashion, religion, and everything else that makes the United States a place to visit and maybe even make her new home.

Keeping in mind that you are describing the whole nation, write a letter to the alien highlighting the culture of the United States.



# Warm Up: Key Terms

Use Google to define these key terms. You should recognize some of them. Others are brand new. Write the key term and definition on your paper.

1. Rus
2. Varangians
3. Slavs
4. Tartars
5. Emissaries
6. Knyaz

# Warm Up: Key Terms

1. Rus-(region) the associated territory. (people) the people of Rus'
2. Varangians-any of the Scandinavian voyagers who traveled by land and up rivers into Russia in the 9th and 10th centuries AD
3. Slavs-a member of a group of peoples in central and eastern Europe speaking Slavic languages
4. Tartars-a member of the combined forces of central Asian peoples, including Mongols and Turks, who under the leadership of Genghis Khan conquered much of Asia and eastern Europe in the early 13th century
5. Emissaries-a person sent on a special mission, usually as a diplomatic representative.
6. Knyaz- a Slavic title found in most Slavic languages, denoting a royal nobility rank. It is usually translated into English as either Prince

# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

As you continue studying history, you will see more short-answer essay and document-based questions. A good answer will cite the text provided and cover all parts of the question. The first step is to read the question and identify each thing you need to write about in your answer. Let's practice that with the following question. First, write the question on your paper. Then number each part of the question.

**Question:** Explain the origins of Russia? How did Rurik become the ruler? What ethnic groups made up the new kingdom? How did Rurik consolidate his power?



# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

*Explain the origins of Russia?<sup>1</sup> How did Rurik become the ruler?<sup>2</sup> What ethnic groups made up the new kingdom?<sup>3</sup> How did Rurik consolidate his power?<sup>4</sup>*





# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

As you have seen, there are actually four questions in this one short-answer essay question. This is typical of these types of questions. They will have a main question and guiding questions to support your answer. On your paper, identify which question is the main question and which ones are guiding questions.

**Question:** Explain the origins of Russia? How did Rurik become the ruler? What ethnic groups made up the new kingdom? How did Rurik consolidate his power?



# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

Explain the origins of Russia?<sup>1</sup> How did Rurik become the ruler?<sup>2</sup> What ethnic groups made up the new kingdom?<sup>3</sup> How did Rurik consolidate his power?<sup>4</sup>

1-main question

2, 3, 4-guiding questions



# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

The next step is to read the entire passage provided. Don't try to answer the question yet. Just read the whole passage.

[The four tribes who had been forced to pay tribute to the Varangians--Chuds, Slavs, Merians, and Krivichians] drove the Varangians back beyond the sea, refused to pay them further tribute, and set out to govern themselves. But there was no law among them, and tribe rose against tribe. Discord thus ensued among them, and they began to war one against the other. They said to themselves, "Let us seek a prince who may rule over us, and judge us according to custom". Thus they went overseas to the Varangians, to the Rus. The Chuds, the Slavs, the Krivichians and the Ves then said to the Rus, "Our land is great and rich, but there is no order in it. Come reign as princes, rule over us". Three brothers, with their kinfolk, were selected. They brought with them all the *Rus'* and migrated. The oldest, Rurik, located himself in Novgorod; the second, Sineus, in Beloozero; and the third, Truvor, in Izborsk. From these Varangians, the Russian land received its name. Within two years, Sineus and his brother Truvor died. Rurik gathered sole authority into his own hands, parceling out cities to his own men, Polotsk to one, Rostov to another, and to another Beloozero. The Varangians in these cities are colonists, but the first settlers in Novgorod were Slavs. Rurik had dominion over all these folk.



# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

Now we will mark up the text. Since the guiding questions support the main question, start by highlighting and marking the parts of the text that go with those questions. If you cannot print this page out, you can just write a list on your paper.

[The four tribes who had been forced to pay tribute to the Varangians--Chuds, Slavs, Merians, and Krivichians] drove the Varangians back beyond the sea, refused to pay them further tribute, and set out to govern themselves. But there was no law among them, and tribe rose against tribe. Discord thus ensued among them, and they began to war one against the other. They said to themselves, "Let us seek a prince who may rule over us, and judge us according to custom". Thus they went overseas to the Varangians, to the Rus. The Chuds, the Slavs, the Krivichians and the Ves then said to the Rus, "Our land is great and rich, but there is no order in it. Come reign as princes, rule over us". Three brothers, with their kinfolk, were selected. They brought with them all the *Rus'* and migrated. The oldest, Rurik, located himself in Novgorod; the second, Sineus, in Beloozero; and the third, Truvor, in Izborsk. From these Varangians, the Russian land received its name. Within two years, Sineus and his brother Truvor died. Rurik gathered sole authority into his own hands, parceling out cities to his own men, Polotsk to one, Rostov to another, and to another Beloozero. The Varangians in these cities are colonists, but the first settlers in Novgorod were Slavs. Rurik had dominion over all these folk.



# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

Here is an example of how you may have marked up the text.

[The four tribes who had been forced to pay tribute to the Varangians--Chuds, Slavs, Merians, and Krivichians<sup>3</sup>] drove the Varangians back beyond the sea, refused to pay them further tribute, and set out to govern themselves. But there was no law among them, and tribe rose against tribe. Discord thus ensued among them, and they began to war one against the other. They said to themselves, "Let us seek a prince who may rule over us, and judge us according to custom". Thus they went overseas to the Varangians<sup>2</sup>, to the Rus. The Chuds, the Slavs, the Krivichians and the Ves then said to the Rus, "Our land is great and rich, but there is no order in it. Come reign as princes, rule over us".<sup>2</sup> Three brothers, with their kinfolk, were selected. They brought with them all the *Rus'* and migrated. The oldest, Rurik, located himself in Novgorod<sup>2</sup>; the second, Sineus, in Beloozero; and the third, Truvor, in Izborsk. From these Varangians, the Russian land received its name. Within two years, Sineus and his brother Truvor died. Rurik gathered sole authority into his own hands, parceling out cities to his own men<sup>4</sup>, Polotsk to one, Rostov to another, and to another Beloozero. The Varangians in these cities are colonists, but the first settlers in Novgorod were Slavs.<sup>3</sup> Rurik had dominion over all these folk.



Excerpt from "Tales of Times Gone By" [Povest' vremennykh let]  
The Russian Primary Chronicles

# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

Now we need to find the extra bits that will put our mark ups for questions 2, 3, and 4 together so that we have an answer for question 1. Mark up the text for question 1.

[The four tribes who had been forced to pay tribute to the Varangians--Chuds, Slavs, Merians, and Krivichians<sup>3</sup>] drove the Varangians back beyond the sea, refused to pay them further tribute, and set out to govern themselves. But there was no law among them, and tribe rose against tribe. Discord thus ensued among them, and they began to war one against the other. They said to themselves, "Let us seek a prince who may rule over us, and judge us according to custom". Thus they went overseas to the Varangians<sup>2</sup>, to the Rus. The Chuds, the Slavs, the Krivichians and the Ves then said to the Rus, "Our land is great and rich, but there is no order in it. Come reign as princes, rule over us".<sup>2</sup> Three brothers, with their kinfolk, were selected. They brought with them all the Rus' and migrated. The oldest, Rurik, located himself in Novgorod<sup>2</sup>; the second, Sineus, in Beloozero; and the third, Truvor, in Izborsk. From these Varangians, the Russian land received its name. Within two years, Sineus and his brother Truvor died. Rurik gathered sole authority into his own hands, parceling out cities to his own men<sup>4</sup>, Polotsk to one, Rostov to another, and to another Beloozero. The Varangians in these cities are colonists, but the first settlers in Novgorod were Slavs.<sup>3</sup> Rurik had dominion over all these folk.



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The Russian Primary Chronicles



# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

Here is an example of how you may have marked up the text.

[The four tribes who had been forced to pay tribute to the Varangians--Chuds, Slavs, Merians, and Krivichians<sup>3</sup>] drove the Varangians back beyond the sea, refused to pay them further tribute, and set out to govern themselves. But there was no law among them, and tribe rose against tribe. Discord thus ensued among them, and they began to war one against the other.<sup>1</sup> They said to themselves, "Let us seek a prince who may rule over us, and judge us according to custom". Thus they went overseas to the Varangians<sup>2</sup>, to the Rus. The Chuds, the Slavs, the Krivichians and the Ves then said to the Rus, "Our land is great and rich, but there is no order in it. Come reign as princes, rule over us".<sup>2</sup> Three brothers, with their kinfolk, were selected. They brought with them all the *Rus'* and migrated. The oldest, Rurik, located himself in Novgorod<sup>2</sup>; the second, Sineus, in Beloozero; and the third, Truvor, in Izborsk. From these Varangians, the Russian land received its name. Within two years, Sineus and his brother Truvor died. Rurik gathered sole authority into his own hands, parceling out cities to his own men<sup>4</sup>, Polotsk to one, Rostov to another, and to another Beloozero. The Varangians in these cities are colonists, but the first settlers in Novgorod were Slavs.<sup>3</sup> Rurik had dominion over all these folk.



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# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

Now we need to decide which parts of our mark up we want to quote word for word in our answer. Underline the best quotes you want to use. DON'T UNDERLINE EVERYTHING.

[The four tribes who had been forced to pay tribute to the Varangians--Chuds, Slavs, Merians, and Krivichians<sup>3</sup>] drove the Varangians back beyond the sea, refused to pay them further tribute, and set out to govern themselves. But there was no law among them, and tribe rose against tribe. Discord thus ensued among them, and they began to war one against the other.<sup>1</sup> They said to themselves, "Let us seek a prince who may rule over us, and judge us according to custom". Thus they went overseas to the Varangians<sup>2</sup>, to the Rus. The Chuds, the Slavs, the Krivichians and the Ves then said to the Rus, "Our land is great and rich, but there is no order in it. Come reign as princes, rule over us".<sup>2</sup> Three brothers, with their kinfolk, were selected. They brought with them all the Rus' and migrated. The oldest, Rurik, located himself in Novgorod<sup>2</sup>; the second, Sineus, in Beloozero; and the third, Truvor, in Izborsk. From these Varangians, the Russian land received its name. Within two years, Sineus and his brother Truvor died. Rurik gathered sole authority into his own hands, parceling out cities to his own men<sup>4</sup>, Polotsk to one, Rostov to another, and to another Beloozero. The Varangians in these cities are colonists, but the first settlers in Novgorod were Slavs.<sup>3</sup> Rurik had dominion over all these folk.



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# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

Here is an example of what you might have underlined.

[The four tribes who had been forced to pay tribute to the Varangians--Chuds, Slavs, Merians, and Krivichians<sup>3</sup>] drove the Varangians back beyond the sea, refused to pay them further tribute, and set out to govern themselves. But there was no law among them, and tribe rose against tribe. Discord thus ensued among them, and they began to war one against the other.<sup>1</sup> They said to themselves, "Let us seek a prince who may rule over us, and judge us according to custom". Thus they went overseas to the Varangians<sup>2</sup>, to the Rus. The Chuds, the Slavs, the Krivichians and the Ves then said to the Rus, "Our land is great and rich, but there is no order in it. Come reign as princes, rule over us".<sup>2</sup> Three brothers, with their kinfolk, were selected. They brought with them all the Rus' and migrated. The oldest, Rurik, located himself in Novgorod<sup>2</sup>; the second, Sineus, in Beloozero; and the third, Truvor, in Izborsk. From these Varangians, the Russian land received its name. Within two years, Sineus and his brother Truvor died. Rurik gathered sole authority into his own hands, parceling out cities to his own men<sup>4</sup>, Polotsk to one, Rostov to another, and to another Beloozero. The Varangians in these cities are colonists, but the first settlers in Novgorod were Slavs.<sup>3</sup> Rurik had dominion over all these folk.



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# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

Now let's review the question. Do we have an answer for each part of it?

*Explain the origins of Russia?*<sup>1</sup>  
*How did Rurik become the ruler?*<sup>2</sup>  
*What ethnic groups made up the new kingdom?*<sup>3</sup>  
*How did Rurik consolidate his power?*<sup>4</sup>



Now we can begin writing our answer. The easiest way to start your answer is by rewording the whole question as a statement. Try that on your paper.

# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

Here's what you might have written.

*Explain the origins of Russia? How did Rurik become the ruler? What ethnic groups made up the new kingdom? How did Rurik consolidate his power?*

*Russia originated when Rurik became the ruler of different ethnic groups and consolidated his power.*



Now finish your answer by including the information you highlighted and the quotes you chose. Don't forget to cite the document when you use your quotes and to write a conclusion.

# Activity : (part 1-DBQ: The Origins of Russia)

Here's what you might have written.

*Russia originated when Rurik became the ruler of different ethnic groups and consolidated his power. After defeating the Varangians, the tribes of the area tried to govern themselves unsuccessfully. The Russian Primary Chronicles say, "Discord thus ensued among them, and they began to war one against the other." The tribes then went to the Rus and according to the Chronicles they said, "Our land is great and rich, but there is no order in it. Come reign as princes, rule over us." Rurik and his brothers came to rule over the Chuds, Slavs, Merians, and Krivichians. When his brothers died, Rurik consolidated his power. According to the Chronicles, "Rurik gathered sole authority into his own hands, parceling out cities to his own men." That is how Russia was born as a kingdom of different ethnic groups combined into one.*



## Activity : (part 2)

Now that we have reviewed the process, try it on your own. Remember to follow the steps.

**Question:** Describe the Tartar invasion of Russia in 1238 as written in The Chronicle of Novgorod. How does this account show not only a war but also a conflict of cultures? How are the Tartars described? How does the Russians' Christian faith color their perception of the invasion?



1. Write out the the question and number each part.
2. Identify the main question and the guiding questions.
3. Read the document without doing anything.
4. Re-read the document and mark up the text that goes with the guiding questions.
5. Mark up the text for the main question.
6. Underline any direct quotes you want to use.
7. Review the question to make sure you have answered every part.
8. Write your answer

## **Activity : (part 2)**

**A.D. 1238, A.M. 6746** That same year foreigners called Tartars came in countless numbers, like locusts, into the land of Ryazan. And thence they sent their emissaries, a sorceress and two men with her, to the Knyazes of Ryazan demanding from them one-tenth of everything: one-tenth of men and Knyazes and horses; of everything one-tenth. And the Knyazes said to them: “Only when none of us remain then all will be yours.”

**And the accursed ones having come thence took Moscow, Pereyaslavl, Yurev, Dmitrov, Vozok, and Tver. And thence the lawless ones came to Torzhok on the festival of the first Sunday in Lent. They fenced it all round with a fence as they had taken other towns, and here the accursed ones fought with battering rams for two weeks. And so the pagans took the town, and slew all. The people gave up their souls to the Lord in a bitter and a wretched death. And the accursed godless ones then pushed on from Torzhok by the road of Seregeri right up to Ignati’s cross, cutting down everyone like grass, to within 65 miles of Novgorod. God, however, and the great and sacred apostolic cathedral Church of St. Sophia, and the prayers of the faithful Knyazes, protected Novgorod. And who, brothers, fathers, and children, seeing this, God’s infliction on the whole Russian Land, does not lament? God loosed the pagans on us for our sins. God brings foreigners on to the land in his wrath, and thus crushed by them they will be reminded of God.**

**Excerpts from The Chronicle of Novgorod 1016-1471 translated from the Russian by Robert Michell and Nevill Forbes, Ph.D. (note years written as A.M. are from the Byzantine Calendar which was the official calendar of Russia until 1700.)**



## Activity : (part 2)

Here's what you might have written.



*The Tartar invasion of Russia in 1238 wasn't just a battle of armies, it was a conflict between cultures. When the Tartars first arrive, The Chronicle of Novgorod describes them as coming "in countless numbers, like locusts." The Tartar emissary is called "a sorceress." They demanded 1/10 of Russia's wealth as tribute, but the Russian Princes replied, "Only when none of us remain then all will be yours." The Tartars attacked and captured many cities, including Moscow, Vozok, and Torzhok by surrounding them with a fence and battering down the walls. The Tartars were so ferocious that the Chronicle says, "the accursed godless ones then pushed on from Torzhok...cutting down everyone like grass." They were finally repelled at Novgorod. As the Tartar army left, the Russians saw the invasion through Christian eyes. They showed that it was more than a series of battles, it was a conflict of cultures by writing, "God loosed the pagans on us for our sins. God brings foreigners on to the land in his wrath, and thus crushed by them they will be reminded of God."*

# Wrap up/Extend Your Learning



When the Tartars came out of Asia and invaded Russia, they brought their culture with them. Although they eventually returned to the Mongolian steppes, some stayed behind and their descendants would eventually become Russian citizens. Watch these two videos to see how the geographic theme of movement of ideas and culture are represented in Russian today by the descendants of the Tartar invaders and how diversity in Russia is controversial.

