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Review Questions

•What is a “trade diaspora”? What was the importance of trade diasporas to the spread of world trade before 1500? What advantages did Jews and Muslims have for exercising world trade in the period 1000–1500?

•What were the principle inter-regional trading networks in 1300?

•What is a lateen sail? Where did it originate? What is its significance?

•How would you compare the relative importance of inland and overseas trade for China in the fifteenth century?

•How did the Mongol Empire facilitate world trade?

•Trace the rise of Arab seafaring to show how it came to be predominant in the Indian Ocean and South China Sea.