Ch 14 Reading Guide Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Last Great Nomadic Challenges:

From Chinggis Khan to Timur

*The Transcontinental Empire of Chinggis Khan*

1. What lifeway did the Mongols practice at the time of Chinggis Khan? What animals were integral to their way of life, and how?
2. What was Chinggis Khan’s birth name? What characteristics established his reputation as a capable leader? To what office was he elected?
3. What were the most effective weapons used by the Mongols? Explain why the Mongols were successful in conquering neighboring areas under Chinggis Khan.
4. What policy did the Mongols take toward those who resisted Mongol conquest? Who was spared? How were towns that surrendered without a fight treated?
5. Describe the ruling style adopted by the Mongols.
6. How did the Mongolian Empire treat religion? What type of political structure did they adopt?
7. What was the overall impact of the Mongol conquests on Asia, including economically? What was a fatal impact?

*The Mongol Drive to the West*

1. How was Chinggis’ empire divided after his death?
2. What did the Russians call the Mongol invaders? How was Russia impacted overall by Mongol conquest?
3. How did Moscow fare overall? How were Russia’s interactions with western Europe affected?
4. What development prevented the Mongols from conquering western Europe?
5. What civilization in the Islamic heartland did the Mongols defeat?

*The Mongol Interlude in Chinese History*

1. Who was Kubilai Khan, and which civilization did his forces defeat? What name did he give to his dynasty here?
2. What overall approach did Kubilai take toward Chinese culture? Who was at the top of the social hierarchy?
3. What aspects of Chinese culture regarding women did Mongolians reject, and what rights did Mongolian women retain?
4. Describe the general approach taken by Mongol overlords such as Kubilai Khan toward outside influences. What famous European traveled to and wrote about Kubilai Khan’s court?
5. Which groups who were typically shunned in Chinese society were elevated by the Yuan Mongols?
6. According to the “Thinking Historically” box on pages 330-331, why were the nomadic Mongols successful in defeating civilizations?
7. What Chinese dynasty replaced the Yuan?
8. What nomadic people did Timur-I Lang lead in battle? What general region did he conquer? For what else is he remembered?
9. According to the “Global Connections” section, what general benefits resulted from the establishment of the Mongol Empire?