

Jennifer Sage  
Teaching About East Asia  
Revised July 24, 2009

Title: East Asian TIP: Comparison between the Silk Road & the Crusades (7<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Purpose: During the Middle Ages unit, students will compare the impact of the Silk Road (between the Chinese, Arabs, and Europeans) with the Crusades (Europe and Arabs). Students will use notes from other activities to fill in a Venn Diagram.

Rationale: Students will make a comparison between two very different situations (the Silk Road trade and trade as a result of the Crusades). They will see that although the situations that brought people together were very different, the result of trading goods and ideas had similar outcomes.

Grade level & Standards/benchmarks this would satisfy:

- State of Ohio Standard/Benchmark: 7<sup>th</sup> grade People in Societies Benchmark
  - Cultures: 2. Explain how the Silk Road trade and the Crusades affected the cultures of the people involved.

Goals/objectives (specific to this lesson):

- Students will retrieve prior knowledge of the unit on Asia we studied earlier in the school year.
- Students will use higher level thinking skills to come up with outcomes of the crusades (other than war and death).
- Students will begin to make comparisons between diverse groups of people.
- Students will see how interaction between cultures and societies leads to the spread of goods and ideas.

Materials/Resources:

- Asia & Medieval Europe packets (provided by teacher).
- OR copies of handout (included in this lesson).
- Access to textbook or other writing dealing with feudal Japan and Medieval Europe.

Essential questions:

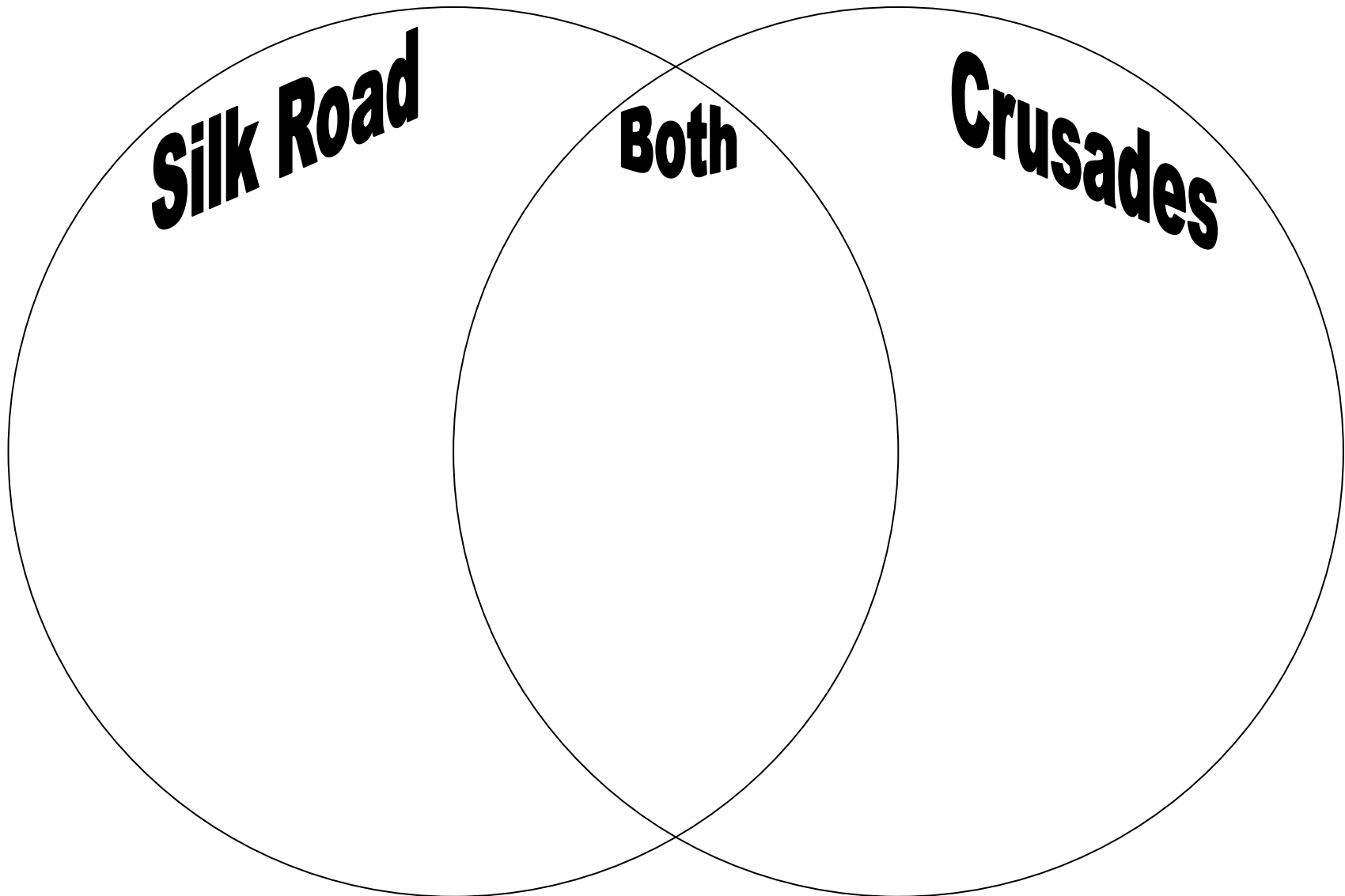
- How does ECONOMY influence the way civilizations function?
- How does interaction between different cultures lead to new ideas?

Activities (by day if multiple days are used)

- Students will have studied the Silk Road during the Asia unit several units prior to this one. In my class, they complete packets for each unit. At the time of this activity, they will need to have their Asia packet passed back to them to use as reference.
- Students will have just completed an in class activity learning about the Crusades and their effect on Europe and the Middle East (not included in this TIP).
- In small groups (no more than 4) students will work to complete the Venn Diagram. Allow them about 20-30 minutes to work on it.
  - Come back together as a class and go over the information.

Assessment:

Have students answer the essential questions from this lesson on the back of their Venn diagram.



**Things to include:**

- Religion
- Culture
- Food
- Trade items
- Animals

- New ideas

← Give specific examples of things traded, don't just list those topics!

