

This is NOT an exhaustive or complete list. **You are not limited to the topics on this list.**

❖ **Topics Arranged from conventionally LEAST to MOST Challenging (25–32).**

1. Black Death/Bubonic Plague
2. **Literary and artistic** figures of the **Italian Renaissance**: Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Masaccio, Raphael, Brunelleschi, Machiavelli, Castiglione, Boccaccio
3. Role of the **Crusades**: varying perspectives (Islamic vs. Christian)
4. Major **political** figures of the Renaissance: Queen Elizabeth I, Francesco Sforza, Cosimo de Medici, etc.
5. Medieval architecture (Romanesque, Gothic, Byzantine)
6. Medieval & Renaissance women: Hildegard von Bingen, Joan of Arc, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Catherine de Medici
7. Hundred Years' War: politics, military innovations, etc.
8. Northern humanism (literary & artistic): Shakespeare, Bruegel, van Eyck, Dürer, etc.
9. Bushido and Chivalry
10. **Art and literature** in the Middle Ages: Petrarch, Chaucer, Dante, Rabelais, etc.
11. **Political** figures of Middle Ages: Charlemagne, Gregory I, William of Normandy, Henry the Navigator, Henry II, King John; Saladin
12. Chinese influence on Japan (cultural and/or political influence)
13. Protestant Reformation: Henry VIII, Martin Luther, John Calvin, Erasmus, John Knox, Zwingli, etc.
14. Tang China: trade, technology and innovation
15. Spanish Inquisition; Isabelle and Ferdinand
16. European explorers to the "New World," Asia, or Africa; conquistadors
17. Religious ceremonies/rituals of Meso-American cultures—Aztec, Inca, Maya
18. Islamic contributions to science and medicine
19. Zheng He and the Chinese treasure fleet
20. Paul of Tarsus, influence on Christianity
21. West African culture/history: griots, Sundiata, Mansa Musa; Ibn Battuta
22. Tokugawa Japan; Great Unifiers
23. Johannes Gutenberg and role of printing
24. Mongol Expansion/Mongol Empire; *Pax Mongolica*; Chinggis Khan, Kublai Khan (in China)
25. Arab and Muslim influence on North/West Africa, India, OR Spain
26. Islam and Hinduism in India; Mughal Empire
27. Catholic Reformation; role of religious orders
28. Italian city-states (Florence, Venice, Milan)
29. Asoka and expansion of Buddhism
30. Magna Carta
31. Emergence of Estates General and the English Parliament
32. OTHER: Theodora, Princess Olga of Kiev, Heian Japan (court life, rituals), Columbian Exchange, Scientific Revolution (key figures)

For reference, please see textbook Table of Contents for ideas/interest, Chapters:

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| ⇒ 4 & 8 (Indian & Chinese Civs) | ⇒ 9 (Islamic Civilization) | ⇒ 15 (Ren & Ref) |
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Fall of Rome) | ⇒ 10 (African Kingdoms) | ⇒ 16 (Exploration & Expansion) |
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