# The Silk Road – Student Handouts

## Pre-Video Questions

Instructions: As you watch the Crash Course video on the Silk Road, answer the following questions based on what you learn.

1. 1. What were the main goods traded along the Silk Road?
2. 2. How did the relay trade system work?
3. 3. What cultural and religious exchanges took place along the Silk Road?
4. 4. What were some unintended negative consequences of trade along the Silk Road?

## Silk Road Simulation Activity

Instructions:

1. Your group will represent one of the following regions: China, Central Asia, India, the Middle East, or Europe.  
2. Each group will receive a profile card listing your exports and desired imports.  
3. During the simulation, you will trade goods with other groups to increase your supply and variety.  
4. After three rounds, reflect on your group's trading experience.

* Debrief Questions:
* How did geography and goods influence your trading?
* What challenges did you face?
* How might this reflect real experiences on the Silk Road?

## Comprehension Check

Answer the following questions based on the video and simulation activity:

1. 1. What were the main routes of the Silk Road?
2. 2. Why was silk so valuable?
3. 3. Name two positive and two negative impacts of the Silk Road.
4. 4. How did Buddhism spread along the Silk Road?

## Reflection Writing Prompt

Imagine you are a merchant traveling one segment of the Silk Road. Describe your journey. What do you trade? Who do you meet? What cultural practices or ideas do you encounter? Write at least one paragraph.