

Learning Organiser: What was life like in Baghdad during the Golden Age of Islam?

Key objective

Understand why Baghdad was at the centre of the period known as the Golden Age of Islam around AD 900.

Important things I will know, understand and do

Where the modern country of Iraq and city of Baghdad is located.

What Abu Jafar al Mansur's 'city of peace' in Iraq might have looked like in AD 766.

Why Baghdad had become the most important trading centre in the world by AD 900.

The purpose and importance of Bayt al – Hikma in central Baghdad in AD 900.

The areas of the world known and unknown to the people of Baghdad in the tenth century.

The importance of inventors, designers and engineers working in Baghdad during the Golden Age of Islam.

Why the period around AD 900 is referred to as 'The Golden Age of Islam'.

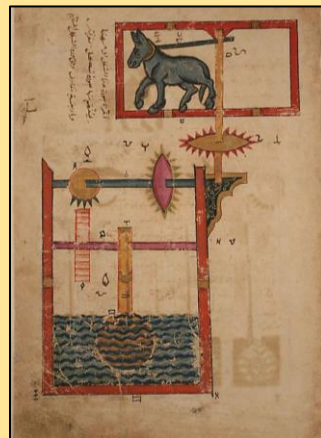
Why Baghdad was the first city in the world to have one million inhabitants.

How Anglo Saxon life in Britain in the tenth century compared with life in Baghdad.

Important vocabulary I will learn

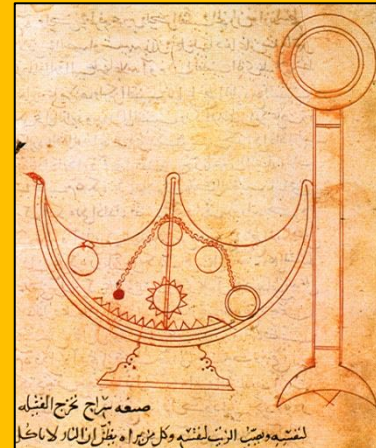
Islam	a major religion founded by Muhammad the prophet of Allah and taught by the Koran.
Muslim	a follower of the religion of Islam.
Sultan	a ruler of a Muslim country.
Metropolis	a huge built up area with the power to control an entire country or region of the world.
Philosopher	someone who asks questions and attempts to make sense of the world in a non- religious way.
Engineer	someone who invents, designs, builds and tests machines.
Scholar	an intelligent, well educated person who has great knowledge about a particular subject.
Caliph	a Muslim civil and religious ruler, regarded as the successor of Muhammad.
Contemporaneous	happening in or belonging to the same period of time.
Merchant	a person who buys and sells goods

An important invention I will know the significance of



Crankshaft

An important book I will learn about



Book of Knowledge and Ingenious Mechanical Devices AD 850

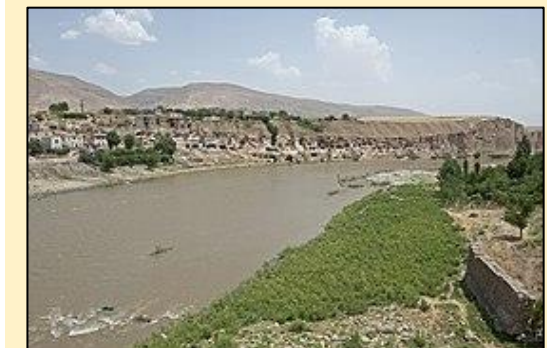
Important historical sources I will use

- Sketches
- Engravings
- Paintings
- Artist reconstructions
- Statues
- Sculptures
- Maps
- Photographs
- Manuscripts

Important trading routes I will understand



The Silk Road



River Tigris

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Important historical concepts I will understand

Change	the process or actions by which something or someone becomes different
Causation	the connections between events where one thing happens as a result of another
Significance	identifying events, sources, people, places or ideas which are most important
Similarity and difference	comparing ways of life at different times
Sources	evidence that is used to gather information
Chronology	arranging historical events in their correct time order
Empathy	placing yourself in another's position to better understand their actions
Society	a community of people who share a common way of life
City	a large and densely populated human settlement
Religion	a set of beliefs and convictions about life usually involving the worship of a god or gods
Trade	the buying and selling of goods and services
Empire	a group of countries ruled by a single person, government or country
Civilisation	an advanced society with its own system of government, laws and written language

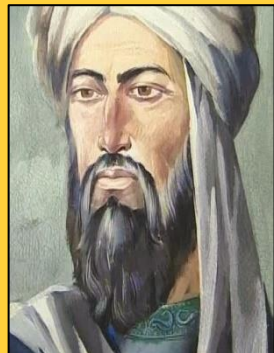
Important people whose work I will understand



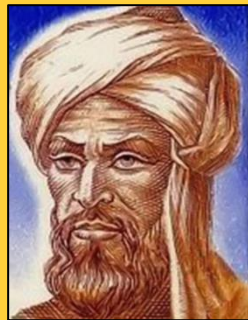
Abu Jafar al
Mansur



Ibn Hawqal



Al Jazari

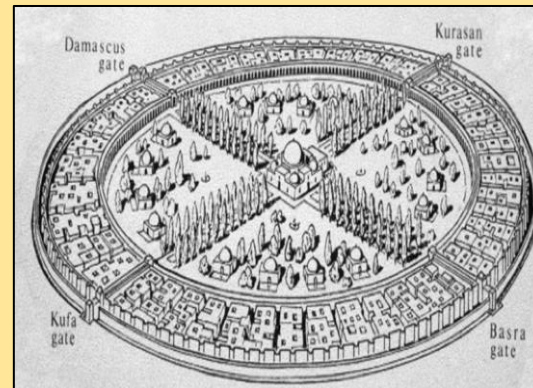


Muhammad ibn
Musa al -
Khwarizmi

Important geographical concepts I will know more about

Synthesise	Bring together a range of ideas and facts from different sources to develop an argument or explanation for something.
Explain	Demonstrate understanding and comprehension of how or why something is the way it is as a result of synthesising information.
Empathise	The capacity to place oneself impartially in another's position to better understand their motives, decisions and actions (even if they are not shared values).
Informed conclusion	A knowledgeable summing up of the main points or issues about something.
Reasoned judgement	A personal view or opinion about something supported by factual evidence.
Justify	Give reasons to show or prove what you feel to be right.
Apply	The transfer of knowledge and/or skills learned in one context to help make sense of a different situation
Evaluate	Weigh up and judge the relative importance of something in relation to counter ideas and arguments.
Critique	Review and examine something critically particularly to gain an awareness of its limitations and reliability as evidence
Hypothesise	Come up with an idea, question or theory that can be investigated to see whether it has any validity or truth.

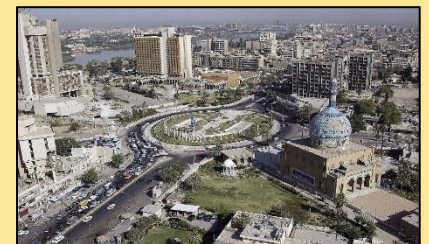
Important places I will learn more about



Madina al- Salam



Bayt al – Hikma



Modern day Baghdad