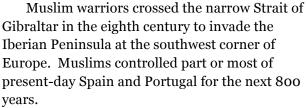
## Name: Date:



In 409, the Roman government in Spain fell to Germanic speaking warriors called Visigoths, or Western Goths. The Visigoths migrated into the Roman Empire from the east to escape the Huns. During the three centuries that followed, Christianity spread through the

peninsula, and the Visigoth's Germanic culture blended with the native population of the peninsula.

Arab and Berber Muslims crossed the ninemile wide waterway between Africa and Europe In 711, to land on a mountain of stone that juts out from Spain. The Spanish called the invaders Moors, a term that means "dark-skinned."

The leader of the 10,000 invaders was Jabal Tariq, and the point where the Muslim army landed became Mount Tariq. The local people pronounced Jabal Tariq as Gibraltar. We now call the narrow channel that separates Europe from

Africa the Strait of Gibraltar, and Mount Traiq as the Rock of Gibraltar.

Tariq's army met with little opposition from the Visigoths, so they managed to control most of the peninsula by 719. The Moors were never able to control all of the Iberian Peninsula because several small Christian kingdoms remained in the

north. Tariq's army crossed the Pyrenees Mountains and attempted to invade the land we now call France in 732, but the Muslim army was defeated at the Battle of Tours by Charles Martel, the grandfather of Charlemagne.

For the next three hundred years, Spain was known by its Arabic name, Al-Andalus. The

Moors were tolerant of the Christian and Jews who lived in the land they conquered, but they taxed the people who did not share their Islamic faith at a higher rate. As a consequence, many citizens converted to Islam to avoid paying higher taxes.

> The Moors formed a caliphate, or religious center, in Cordoba. Scholars studied the works of the Greek and Roman authors while artists and architects established the city as a center of the arts. Cordoba also became a center for the study of mathematics, astronomy, and agriculture.

A civil war among the Muslims in the eleventh century caused the collapse of the caliphate into small kingdoms called taifas. The disunity allowed for the Christian reconquest of Spain.

Christian warriors began the Reconquista, or reconquest of the peninsula 1085. The Christian kingdoms of Castille and Aragon in northern Spain won several military victories. After years of fighting, a nobleman named Afonso expelled the Muslim rulers from the western part of the peninsula and established the Kingdom of Portugal in 1139. By the end of the thirteenth century, only the Emirate of Granada in southwest Spain remained under Muslim control.

In 1469, the two most influential Christian kingdoms on the peninsula united through the marriage of Ferdinand II of Aragon and Catherine of Castile. These "Catholic kings" built roads and standardized laws and coinage throughout their kingdoms. In 1492, armies of Ferdinand and Isabella captured Granada, the last Muslim territory in Spain. Soon after, the monarchs ordered all Muslims and Jews to either convert to Christianity or leave their kingdom.

As the Muslims retreated to Africa, Spain began to look west. The same year that Ferdinand and Isabella banished Jews and Muslims from Spain, Isabella financed the sailing expedition of Christopher Columbus, which led to the establishment of a Spanish Empire in the America.

FRANKS renees Mounta Óaŝtile Aragon SPAIN-Gibraltar

AFRICA

THE MOORS





Name:	
Date:	



## Fill in the Blanks

The Moors were M\_s\_im warriors who crossed the Strait of G\_b\_a\_t\_r to conquer and control the I\_e\_i\_n Peninsula for nearly \_\_\_\_\_ years. The Moors conquered the G\_r\_a\_ic Visigoths, who replaced the R\_m\_ns in power on the peninsula 300 years earlier. In 711, J\_b\_l T\_r\_q led a Muslim army of A\_a\_s and B\_r\_e\_s into S\_a\_n. The rock where the warriors landed and the strait they crossed are now called G b a t r, a S\_a\_i\_h word derived from J\_b\_l T\_r\_q's name. Tariq's army conquered the \*s\_u\_h\_rn part of the I\_e\_i\_n Peninsula, but many small C\_r\_s\_i\_n kingdoms survived in the north. The Muslims crossed the P\_r\_n\_es Mountains to fight the F\_a\_ks in the Battle of T u s in \_\_\_\_\_, but they were routed by an army led by C a l s M rt l. An eleventh-century civil war led to the fall of C\_r\_o\_a; and A\_-A\_d\_l\_s broke apart into several small t\_\_if\_\_s, leaving the Muslims vulnerable to the Christian R\_\_c\_\_n\_u\_s\_\_a. Christian warriors, particularly from C\_s\_i\_le and A\_a\_on, forced the M\_s\_i\_s to withdraw to G\_e\_a\_a by the end of the t\_i\_t\_e\_th century. Once the \*m\_n\_rc\_s of C\_s\_i\_le and Aragon m\_r\_i\_d in 1469, Christian armies in Spain became a unified force. By the sixteenth century, F\_r\_i\_a\_d and I\_a\_e\_la had banished the M\_s\_i\_s from the peninsula.

## **Answer in Complete Sentences**

1. What was significant about the city Cordoba during Moorish rule?

2. How did the Moors treat the Christians and Jews of Al-Andalus?

3. What was the Reconquista?

\*This is a higher order learning question. You will earn credit for any reasonable answer.