

Attachment D: Answer Key for Mix and Match Activity

Physical Characteristics	Located in the western region of the continent of Africa
	Had rivers nearby
	Had desert-like conditions
	Had gold mines
	Laid across the trade routes between the Sahara Desert and the West African region
	Contained the important city of Timbuktu
Human Characteristics	Farmers
	Miners
	Traders
Adaptations to Environment	Mined gold in West Africa and traded it for salt from the Sahara Desert
	Used salt for their health and to preserve food
	Trade made Mali one of the wealthiest empires in the region
Government	Ruled by rich and powerful kings
	Kings controlled the trade in West Africa and made Mali an important trade center
Oral Tradition	Mali did not have a formal written language
	History was passed down by oral accounts through storytellers from one generation to the next
Architecture	Built a famous university in Timbuktu that contained a large library of Greek and Roman books