

MAKING CLAIMS – EXPANDING NETWORKS

Preparation

- Download “Archipelago of Trade”
- Download “Trans-Saharan Routes”
- Download “Indian Ocean Routes”
- Download the Three Close Reads Worksheet

Purpose

You practice testing claims a lot in this course. You make claims as well, often within the context of writing assignments. This activity gives you the opportunity to practice making claims, which will help you make strong historical arguments both verbally and in writing.

Practices

Claim testing

In many ways, claim testing is really shorthand for “making and testing claims.” In this activity, you will practice your claim-making skills.

Process

This is a quick activity where you’re asked to make two claims about why networks expanded during this era. Today you’re just making claims, but you’ll be making counterclaims in similar activities later in the course!

First, review the articles in this lesson (use the Three Close Reads worksheet, if your teacher asks you to). Then, in pairs or small groups, write two claims about why networks expanded during this period. For each claim, find two pieces of evidence that support it. You should be able to support your claims using course materials, but your teacher might ask you to use the Internet, as well.

Be prepared to share your claims at the end of class. Note that most if not all of these claims are causal claims. Historical claims often relate to historical thinking practices such as causation, CCOT, and comparison. You should consider the types of historical claims you want to make when you respond to a particular type of historical question.

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Name:

Date:

Directions: Come up with two claims and each supported by evidence from the course about why networks expanded during this era.

Claim 1:			
Evidence		Citation	
Evidence		Citation	

Claim 2:			
Evidence		Citation	
Evidence		Citation	