**The Silk Road:**

**Ancient Long-Distance Trade**

**Part I: Basic Facts & Maps**

[Map of the Ancient Silk Road](https://media.nationalgeographic.org/assets/photos/142/159/6af2ebd5-8255-4573-985e-4c9978df58cd.jpg)

(1) What is the *time frame* of this map?

**Answer:**

(2) What three major ancient empires did the trade routes cross?

**In Europe:**

**In the Middle East:**

**In China:**

(3) What *trade goods* (“things being bought and sold”)were produced in the Roman Empire?

**Answer (7 different goods):**

(4) What *trade goods* were produced in the Han Empire?

**Answer (4 different goods):**

(5) *Connecting to Previous Units:* Think back to what we learned about the geography of this part of the world. What kinds of environments and physical barriers would make this journey so difficult?

**Answer:**

**Part II: Staying safe along the trade routes of the Silk Road**

[Use this link to answer these questions](https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/where-worlds-and-ideas-connect-caravanserai/)

(1) What was a *caravanserai*?

**Answer:**

(2) Use the drawing to describe the layout of a caravanserai.

**Answer:**

(3) The diagram explains seven aspects of caravanserai design. Choose three and explain them.

*Example: The Marketplace was at the front of the caravanserai and it was important because….*

**1:**

**2:**

**3:**

(4a) Look at the map of caravanserai locations. *Estimate* how many major caravanserais are known about.

**Answer:**

(4b) *Critical thinking:* What does the location of these caravanserais tell you about the ‘Silk Road’?

**Answer:**

**Part III: Personal Connection**

These are real careers you could have had if you had lived along the Silk Road in ancient times.

- Silkworm farmer, a quiet life feeding your little bugs and spinning their silk into fabric.

- Moneylender, living in a bustling city and financing expeditions.

- Caravan trader, travelling through dangerous and exciting new lands.

- Caravanserai innkeeper, welcoming people from all over the world to your safe haven.

**🡪** Which of these Silk Road careers would you choose and why?

**Answer:**