

Go to page 553 of the textbook and use document 12.2, 12.3, and 12.4
Read The Historical Background (Introduction) and all information contained in the following documents about the Mongols.

On your own paper, answer the following questions about each of these documents (answers only is fine):

12.2

1. How would you describe the TONE of Chinggis Khan's letter to Changchun?
2. What does the letter suggest about Mongol attitudes toward the belief system of conquered peoples?
3. What do you think the author's PURPOSE of creating this document was?
4. How does he describe himself in the letter? Cite the evidence that helped you come to that conclusion.

12.3

(Don't forget that Novgorod was a very important trade city in Russia!)

1. What does Knyazes mean?
2. Who are the Tartars in reference to?
3. Who is the author of this document?
4. How does the author describe what happened to the town of Ryazan that was taken by them?
5. What weapons of Mongolian conquest are mentioned in this document?

12.4

1. Describe who Menggu is (read the description before the document! Always!)
2. What does this document suggest about Menggu's treatment of:
 - a) Craftsmen, merchants, and shopkeepers?
 - b) Farmers
3. Why might a highly educated Chinese scholar choose to write such a flattering public tribute to a Mongol official? (What was the purpose of this document)?
What evidence brought you to that conclusion?
4. Why might historians be a bit skeptical about the validity of all details in this document? Which statements in the document lead you to this conclusion?