Reading Guide—Unit 5—Chapter 12—Byzantine

Read: Byzantine (pg. 311-312)

Answer:

Outline the beginning of Christianity. Who first recognized it and when?

Who established it as the official religion of the Roman Empire and when?

Who proclaimed Christianity New Rome’s only lawful religion and when?

Draw a timeline of the three golden ages of Byzantine art.

Read: Early Byzantine Art AND Architecture and Mosaics

Answer:

What influence did Justinian have over Byzantine architecture?

Read: Hagia Sophia

Answer:

Who designed and built the Hagia Sophia?

Who commissioned it?

What distinguishes the building from other Roman buildings such as the Pantheon?

Read: Pendentives and Squinches (boxed text on 315)

Answer:

What is the purpose for pendentives and squinches and how do they work?

How is the structural design of Hagia Sophia different than the Pantheon?

Read: Ravenna

Answer:

What was Ravenna and why is it important?

Read: San Vitale

Answer:

Describe the floor plan of San Vitale.

Compare and contrast the floor plan of San Vitale with the centrally planned churches of Late Antiquity.

Read: Sant’Apollinare in Classe

Answer:

What subject is depicted in the apse mosaic of Sant’Apollinare in Classe?

What stylistic features of this mosaic are characteristic to the Byzantine era?

Read: Ivory Carving and Painting AND Archangel Michael Ivory

Answer:

Define diptych.

What’s wrong with Michael’s feet?

Read: Icons and Iconoclasm (pg. 326)

Answer:

What is a Byzantine icon?

What was controversial about them?

Read: Iconoclasm (pg. 327)

Answer:

Explain what was happening in the 7th century that led to the ban on images.

Why might Leo III have banned icons in 726?

Read: Middle Byzantine Art AND Architecture and Mosaics

Answer:

Describe the next step historically in the use of icons (9th century).

Define Iconoclast.

Define Iconophile.

Read: Vladimir Virgin

Answer:

What is conventional about this painting?

What is innovative?

Read: Late Byzantine Art

Answer:

What brought the end of the Byzantine Empire?