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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Map in the Attic: Final History Quiz

### *Historical Adventures of Madison and Cash — Travel Companion Guide*

**Adventure Companion Note:** This final quiz checks what Madison and Cash learned during their time-travel journey along the continental highways. Use these questions to test your knowledge on the advanced science, massive cities, and historical links uncovered in the book!

**Question 1 (Topic: Cahokia):** Cahokia, located near modern-day St. Louis, was a major Mississippian city that had a population larger than many European cities of the same time period.

☐ True — *Correct! At its peak around 1100 AD, Cahokia was a bustling urban center with a population estimated between 15,000 and 20,000 residents, rivaling or exceeding London or Paris.*

☐ False — *Incorrect. Cahokia was one of the largest urban networks in North America, completely dismantling the 'empty wilderness' myth.*

**Question 2 (Topic: Chaco Canyon):** The massive multi-story 'great houses' in Chaco Canyon were constructed using modern steel beams and poured concrete.

☐ True — *Incorrect. Industrial steel and concrete are modern technologies. Chaco Canyon was a masterpiece of ancient masonry.*

☐ False — *Correct! The Ancestral Puebloans engineered grand complexes like Pueblo Bonito using millions of carefully shaped sandstone blocks and heavy timber hauled from distant forests.*



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**Question 3 (Topic: Indigenous Trade Networks): Trade networks in pre-columbian North America were strictly local and never extended beyond a single village's immediate neighborhood.**

☐ True — *Incorrect. Continental highways and pathways connected thousands of miles of trade across North America.*

☐ False — *Correct! Pre-Columbian trade routes were massive web systems where items like desert turquoise from New Mexico were carried all the way to Mexican royal courts and Midwestern river valleys.*

**Question 4 (Topic: Cahokia): Monks Mound at Cahokia is the largest pre-Columbian earthen structure north of Mexico.**

☐ True — *Correct! Monks Mound is a colossal, multi-tiered monumental earthwork standing over 100 feet tall and covering 14 acres at its base, larger at its base than the Great Pyramid of Giza.*

☐ False — *Incorrect. Monks Mound stands firmly as the largest prehistoric earthen construction north of Mesoamerica.*



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**Question 5 (Topic: Indigenous Agriculture): The 'Three Sisters' agricultural technique involved planting corn, beans, and squash together so they benefited each other's growth.**

☐ True — *Correct! The corn stalk forms a natural trellis, the beans fix life-giving nitrogen into the soil, and the wide squash leaves shade the ground to prevent weeds and retain moisture.*

☐ False — *Incorrect. The Three Sisters method is a brilliant, highly successful example of companion-planting engineering used across the continent.*

**Question 6 (Topic: Chaco Canyon): The ancestral Puebloans of Chaco Canyon built an extensive network of wide, straight roads connecting distant communities.**

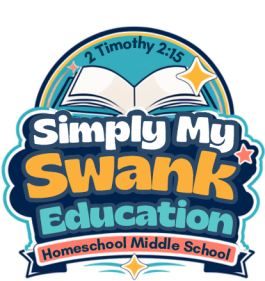
☐ True — *Correct! The Great Chaco Roads ran remarkably straight across the desert, cutting right through canyons and climbing cliffs via carved stone stairways to link outlying communities.*

☐ False — *Incorrect. Chaco Canyon is highly famous for its deeply engineered, wide road system used for trade and pilgrimage routes.*

**Question 7 (Topic: Historical Perspectives & Parallels): During the 19th century, some European-Americans created myths claiming the ancient mounds were built by a lost civilization mentioned in the Bible rather than the ancestors of Native Americans.**

☐ True — *Correct! Due to deep biases, early settlers struggled to credit Native Americans with building monumental pyramids, creating 'Mound Builder myths' that often tried to tie the structures to lost biblical tribes.*

☐ False — *Incorrect. This historical bias was widespread in the 1800s before modern archaeology definitively proved the ruins belonged directly to Indigenous ancestors.*



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**Question 8 (Topic: Indigenous Trade Networks): Archaeological discoveries show that luxury items like Southwestern turquoise and Gulf Coast shells were traded all the way to places like Cahokia.**

☐ True — *Correct! Cahokia acted as a giant continental economic hub. Excavations have uncovered marine shells from the Gulf of Mexico, Great Lakes copper, and Southwestern turquoise.*

☐ False — *Incorrect. Exotic items originating hundreds of miles away are consistently discovered across Mississippian sites.*

**Question 9 (Topic: Chaco Canyon): Chaco Canyon served primarily as a densely populated, year-round urban metropolis for hundreds of thousands of permanent farmers.**

☐ True — *Incorrect. The high-desert ecosystem could not sustain vast numbers of permanent farming populations without crashing resources.*

☐ False — *Correct! Chaco Canyon functioned more as a sacred, ceremonial, and administrative gathering hub where regional communities converged during major celestial cycles.*

**Question 10 (Topic: Pre-Columbian Societies): All Indigenous cultures north of Mexico lived a completely nomadic lifestyle and never established permanent towns or complex societies.**

☐ True — *Incorrect. This is a common historical textbook error. Millions lived in advanced, permanent architectural metropolises long before 1492.*

☐ False — *Correct! Sprawling stone cliff cities like Mesa Verde and immense earthwork plazas like Hopewell prove that North America was packed with deeply rooted, permanent, complex societies.*