

THE GREAT QUESTIONS FROM HISTORY

AL-ANDALUS



1. Which year did the Moors invade Spain?
2. Why did they invade Spain?
3. What was the name of the Moorish leader?
4. What was the name of the Moorish general from whom we take the name Gibraltar?
5. What was the name of the battle where the Moors defeated the Visigoths?
6. What was the name of the Visigothic leader?
7. What part of Spain did the Moors not conquer?
8. Was the conquest of Spain a bloody conflict?
9. What is the origin of the word al-Andalus?
10. What does al-Andalus refer to?
11. What things did the Moors bring to Spain?
12. True or false: Arabic medicine and science was much more advanced than Christian medicine and science?
13. True or false: When the Christians finally expelled the Moors in the *Reconquista*, some historians say that Spanish culture went back 600 years.
14. What was the name of the dynasty that escaped Damascus and established an independent emirate in Córdoba?
15. What was the name of the Caliph who founded the Caliphate of Córdoba?
16. What is a Caliphate?
17. What was the name of the palace he built just outside Córdoba, considered one of the greatest palaces ever built in Europe?
18. What did the geometric shapes used in Arabic art represent?
19. Name at least four principle architectural monuments of al-Andalus that still survive today

20. Name one intellectual from al-Andalus
21. What did Islam encourage the people to do which was at variance with Christianity?
22. What was the name of the fanatical tribe that invaded the peninsula and destroyed the Cordoban palace and ushered in a new wave Islamic fanaticism, ending the era of tolerance and scientific advancement in al-Andalus?
23. Which other fanatical tribe followed them and founded a dynasty in al-Andalus?
24. After the fall of the Caliphate of Córdoba, al-Andalus fell into separate states called what? T_____
25. Name some of the cultural achievements of al-Andalus:
L_____, P_____, P_____
26. What type of poetry did the Moors bring into Europe?
27. What do you know about how the Alhambra was built?
28. What was the *Reconquista* of Spain?
29. One historian has said that “*The Reconquest was a c_____ war between Spaniards of two different f_____.*” (see your notes from the documentary)
30. When did the Christians finally defeat the last Moors in Spain?
31. Who was the last Moorish ruler of Granada?
32. What did his mother say to him when the city fell to the Christians? “*Don’t cry like a w_____, for what you could not defend like a m_____.*”
33. When did the Christians finally expel the rest of the Moors living in Spain?
34. What did Christians come looking for in the city of Toledo after it fell in 1085?
35. What cultural and scientific movement associated with Italy has its origins in Islamic Spain?
36. What did the Duchess of Medina Sidonia say about her famous ancestor Gúzman el Bueno?
37. What did she say happened to Spanish history around the 16th century?
38. Name another famous ‘hero’ of the Reconquest period, often appearing in films.

39. Name the monuments in the images below:

		
		
		

