History Essay Questions for Chapter 7

1. Explain how ahimsa links Jainism, Hinduism, and Buddhism:
* What is ahimsa?
* How do Jains practice ahimsa, and how do Hindus practice ahimsa?
* Explain the teachings of the Buddha
* Buddhism, Hinduism, and Jainism connected by common belief and practice of ahimsa (nonviolence)
* Jains believed living things had souls and should not be hurt (even insects)
* Hindus believed people could be reborn as lower beings and animals (like humans) have a supreme life force
* Hindus practice ahimsa by not eating animals
* Buddha rejected many Hindu beliefs, but he taught reincarnation and ahimsa

2.) Explain how India’s caste system and Hinduism are linked:

* Tell what a caste is, and how a person is placed into one of those levels
* Explain which three groups the Aryan society was originally organized into
* Connect the Hindu belief of how devout Hindus must faithfully carry out their assigned duties in life in order to achieve a connection with God
* Caste system similar to social class system
* Developed by the Aryan people (they had 3 levels: warrior, priest, commoner)
* 4 social classes
* a person’s class was determined by the job they did
* Hinduism also developed out of Aryan religion
* Hinduism taught how to faithfully carry out your duty in life
* This directly related to caste system