

# THE IMPORTANCE OF TRADE ROUTES

Trade leads to **cultural diffusion**

**Cultural diffusion = spread of culture (ideas, etc)**

**Europeans benefited from cultures they met when trading**

**examples**

**China - compass**

**India (Mughals) - textiles (cotton)**

**Middle East (Ottomans) - better maps**

**Reflection: Explain what cultural diffusion is and why it's a good thing.**