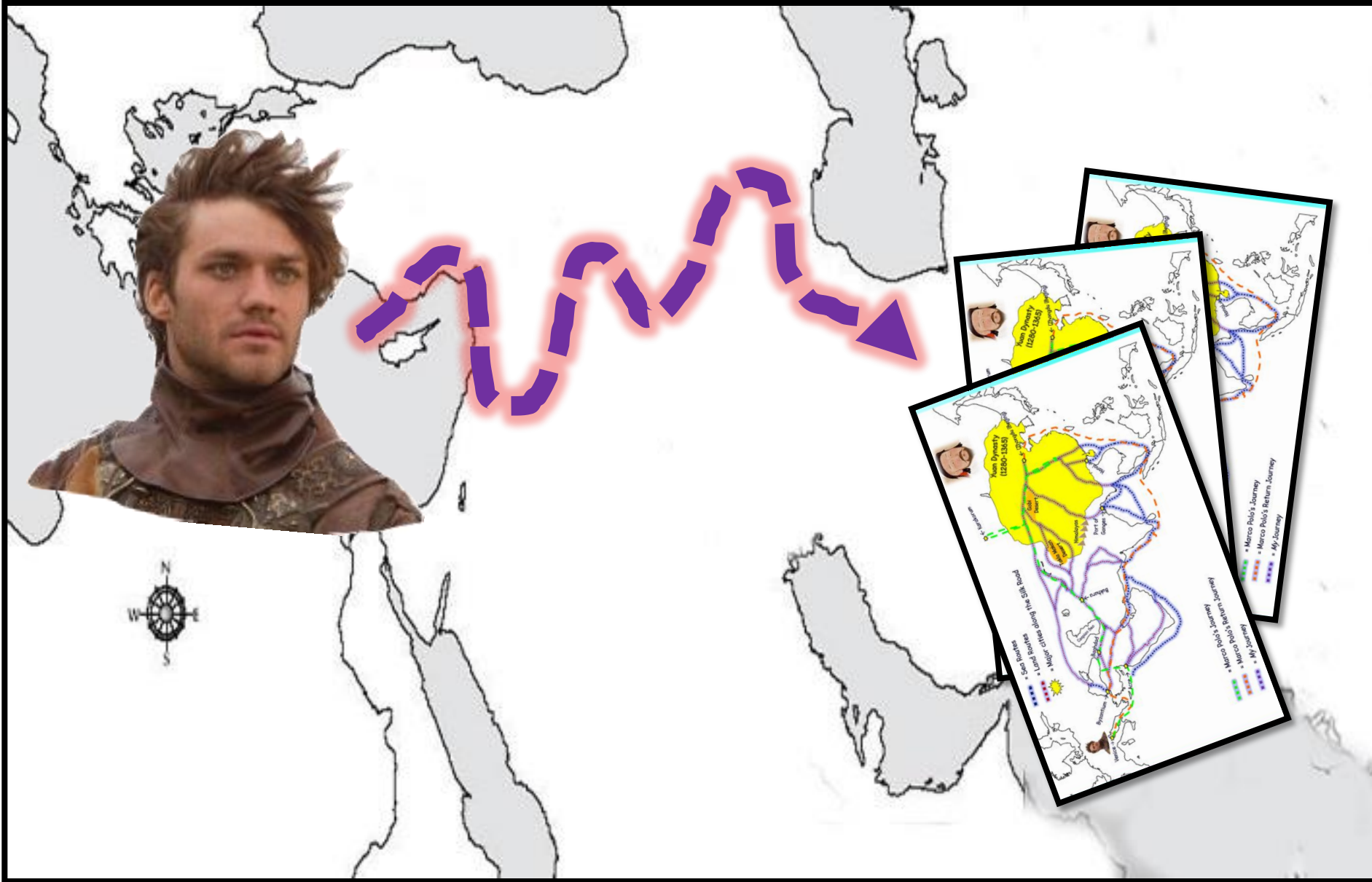


SPICES

- Marco Polo brought back many exotic spices unfamiliar to Europeans.
 - cloves, cardamom, cinnamon, star anise, nutmeg, mace, peppercorns, fennel seed, ginger
 - *Can you guess which spice is which? Let's try. 😊 (take a few moments)*
- *"There is great abundance of pepper and also of ginger, besides cinnamon in plenty and other spices, and coconuts."*
 - quote from Marco Polo's book (primary source)

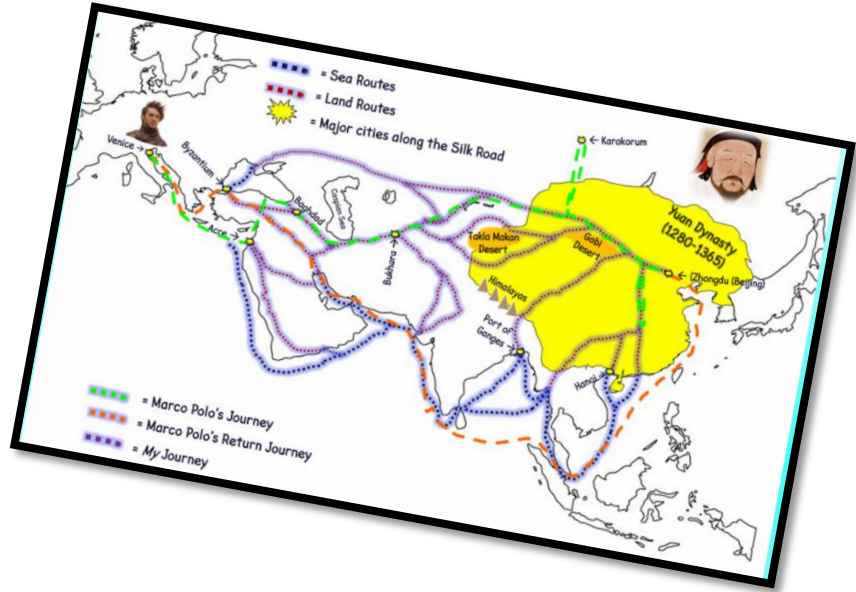
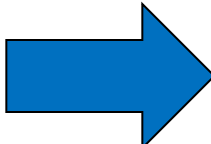
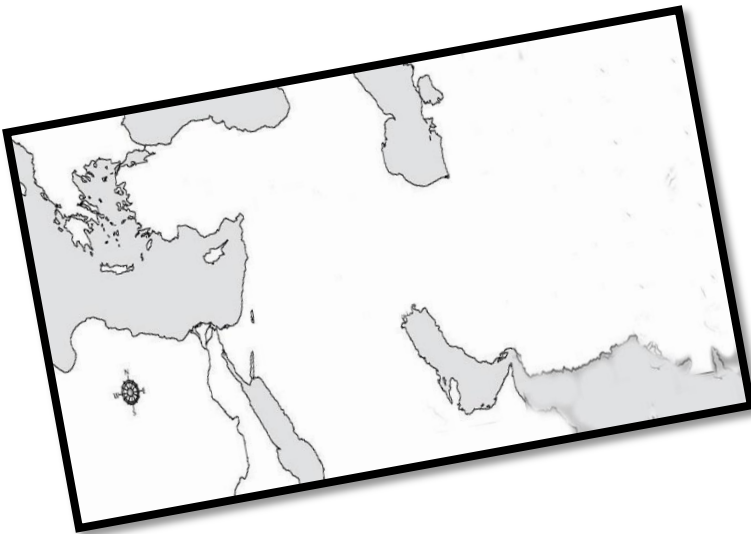


Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*






Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Follow along to turn your blank map into an informational resource about Marco Polo, the Mongols, and the Silk Road...



Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 1: Decide which color will represent land routes, sea routes, and cities, then create this key

-  = Sea Routes
-  = Land Routes
-  = Major cities along the Silk Road



Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 2: Label the city of Venice on your map and use a colored star



Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 4: Marco Polo was born in Venice, becoming a successful merchant there. Draw a young Marco Polo.



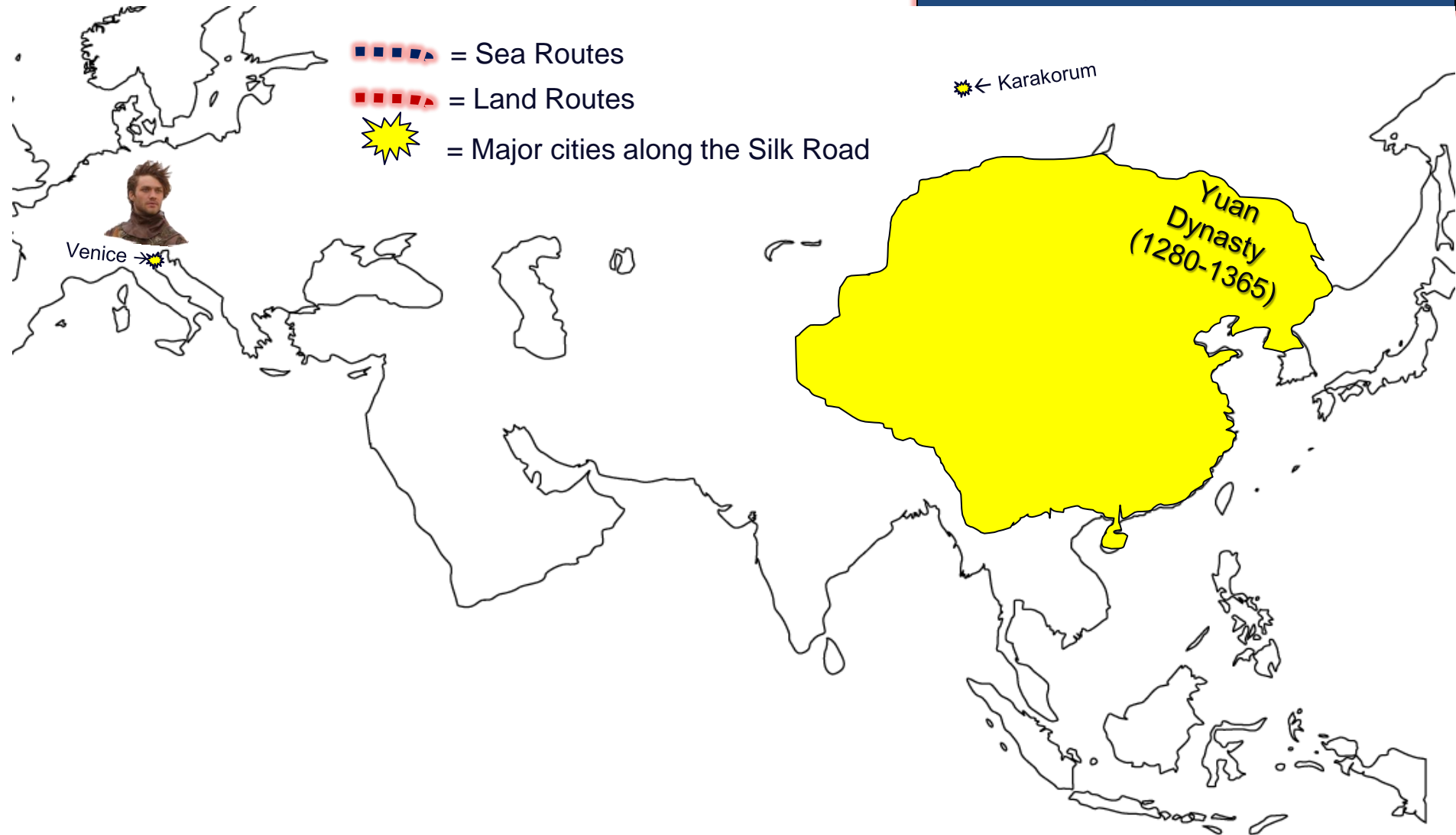
Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 5: Label the city of Karakorum, the former capital of the Mongol Empire.



Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 6: The Mongols took over China to establish the Yuan Empire. Using a different color, lightly shade in the boundaries of the Yuan Dynasty.



Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 7: Kubali Khan moved the Mongol capital from Karakorum to Zhongdu (present-day Beijing). Add this to your map.



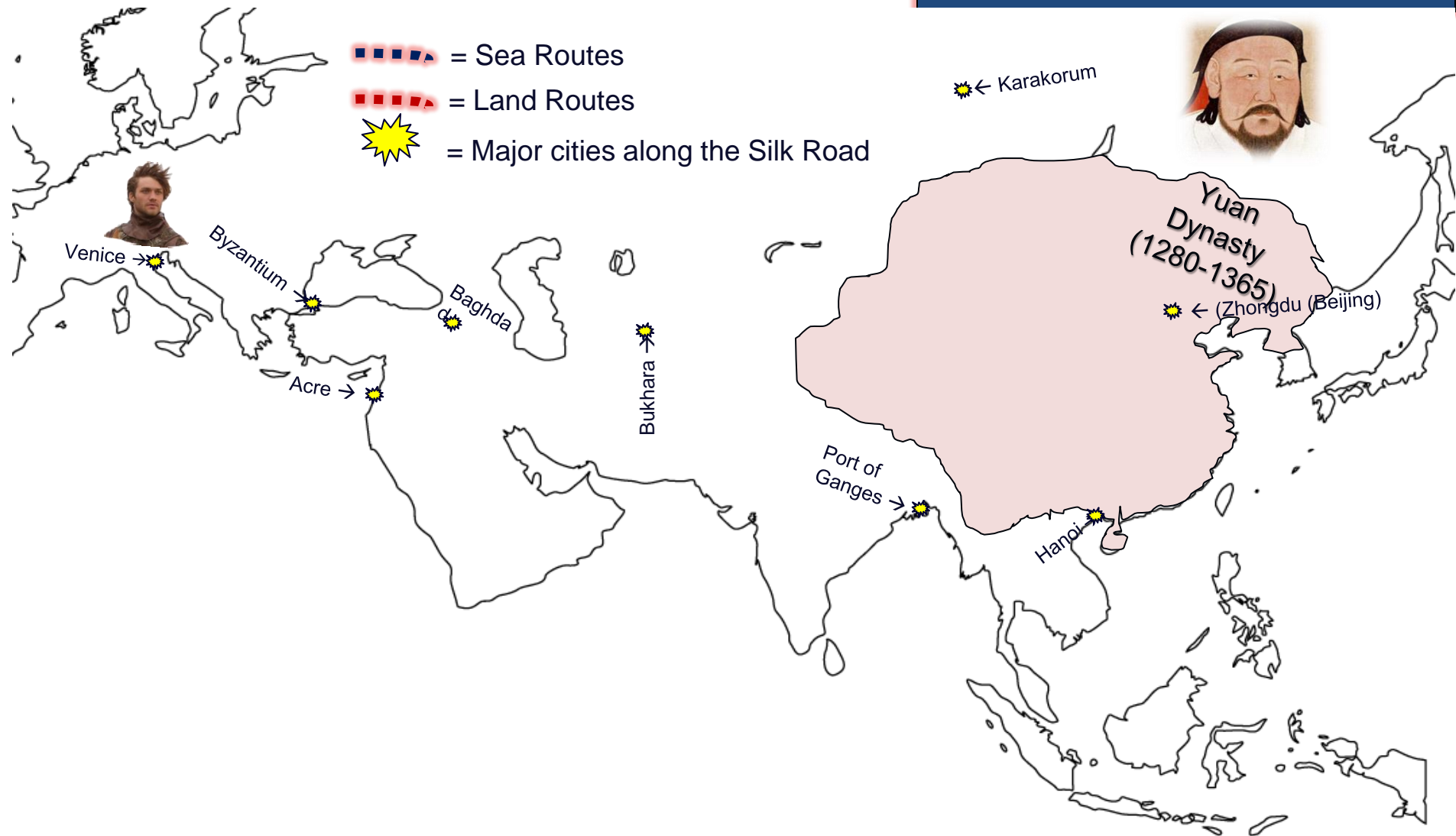
Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 8: Draw Kublai Khan near Karakorum and Zhongdu...



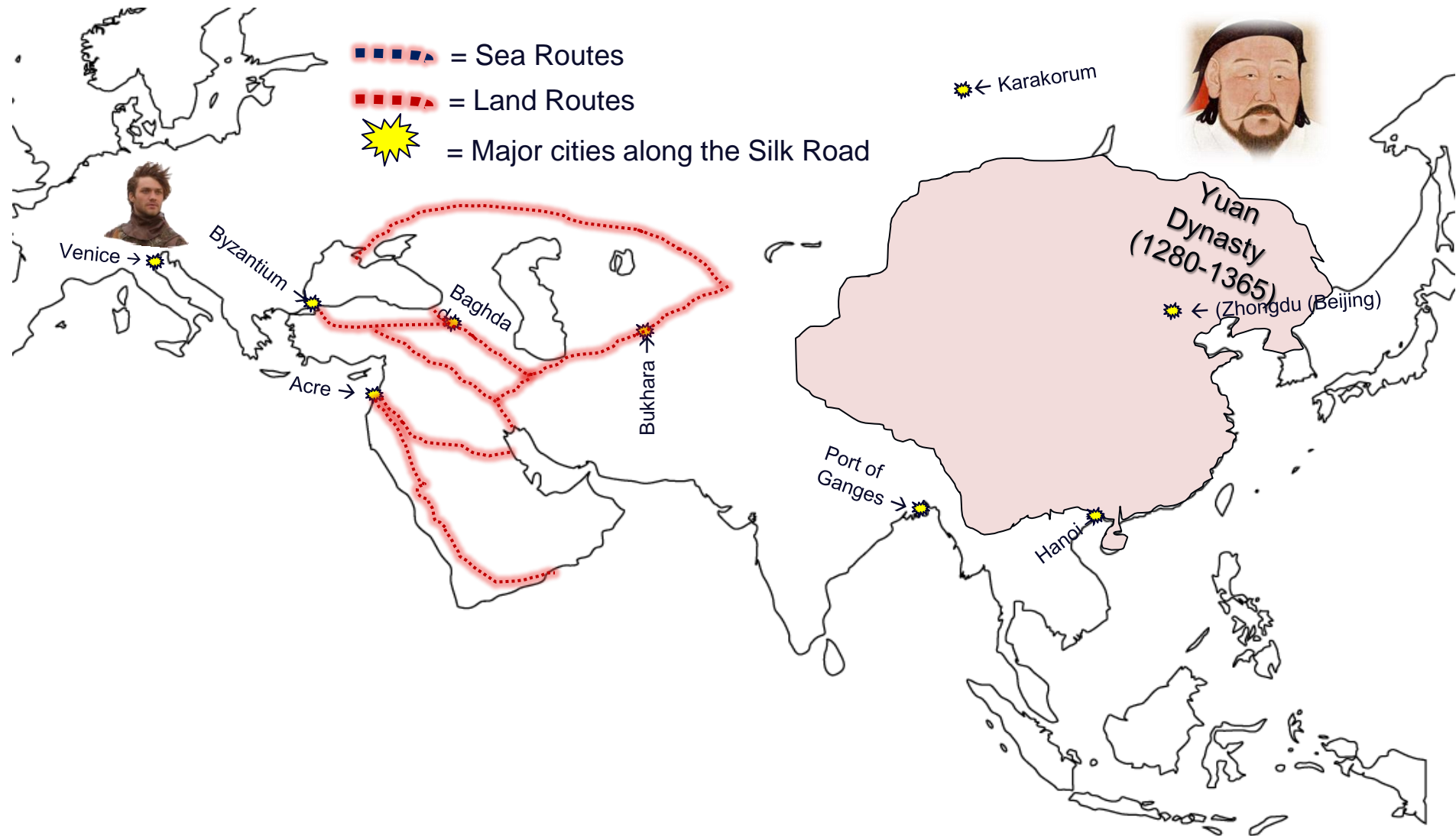
Marco Polo & the Silk Road Map Activity

Step 9: The silk road was really a series of trade routes between Europe and Asia. Label other major cities along the silk road...



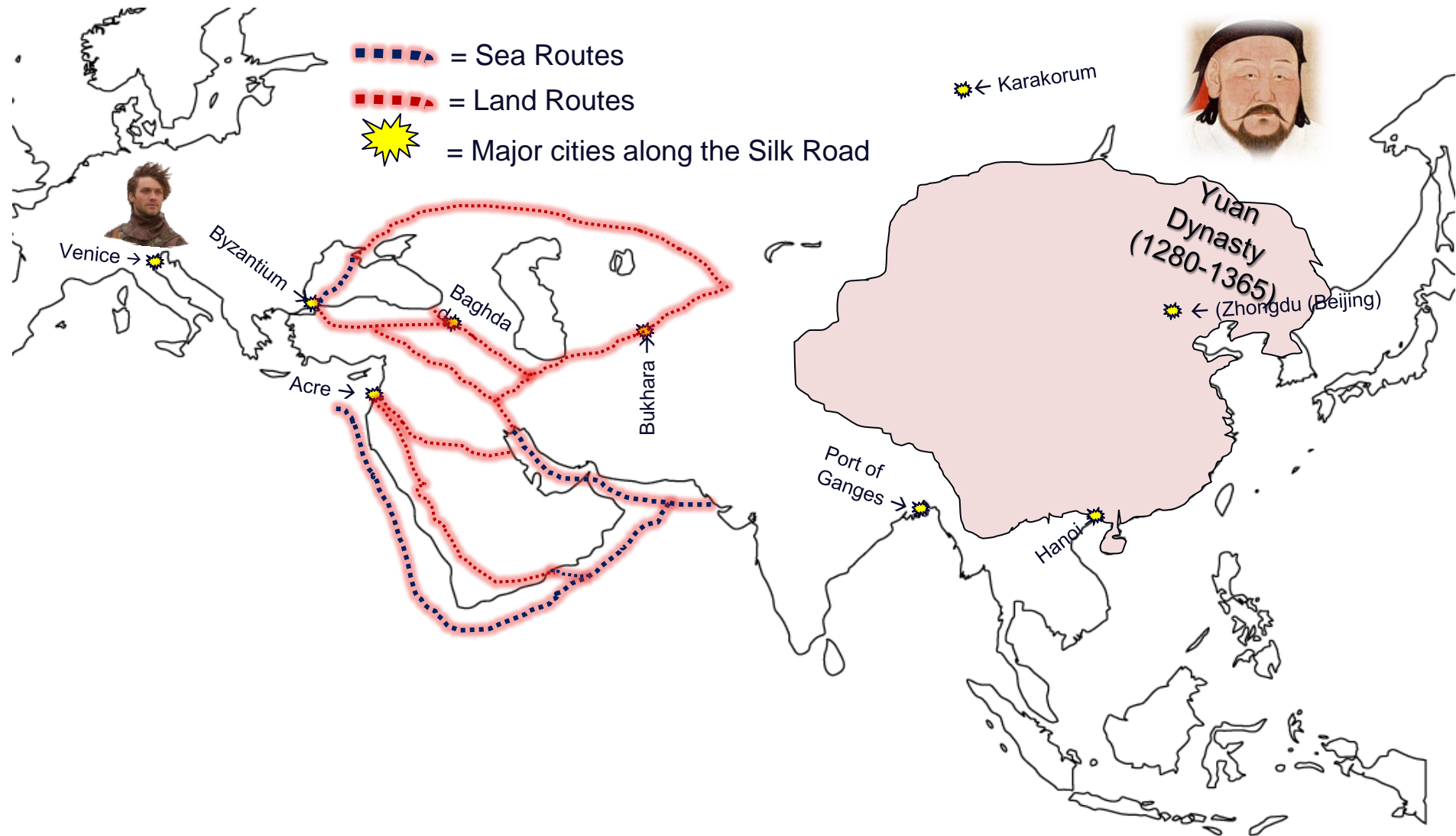
Marco Polo & the Silk Road Map Activity

Step 10: Using a different color, indicate some of the land routes that could take a traveler from Europe to Asia...



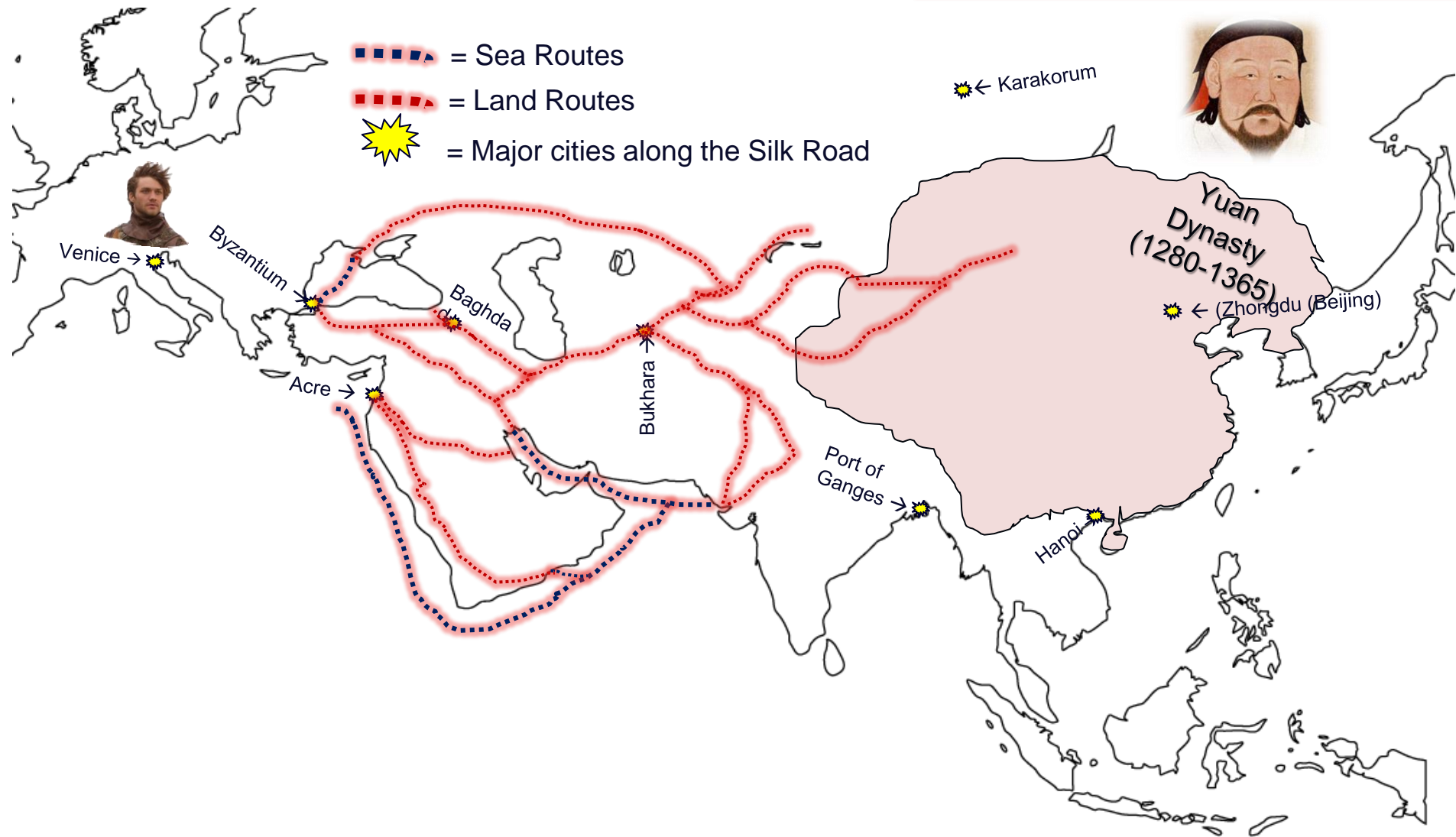
Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 11: Using a different color, indicate some of the sea routes that could take a traveler from Europe to Asia...



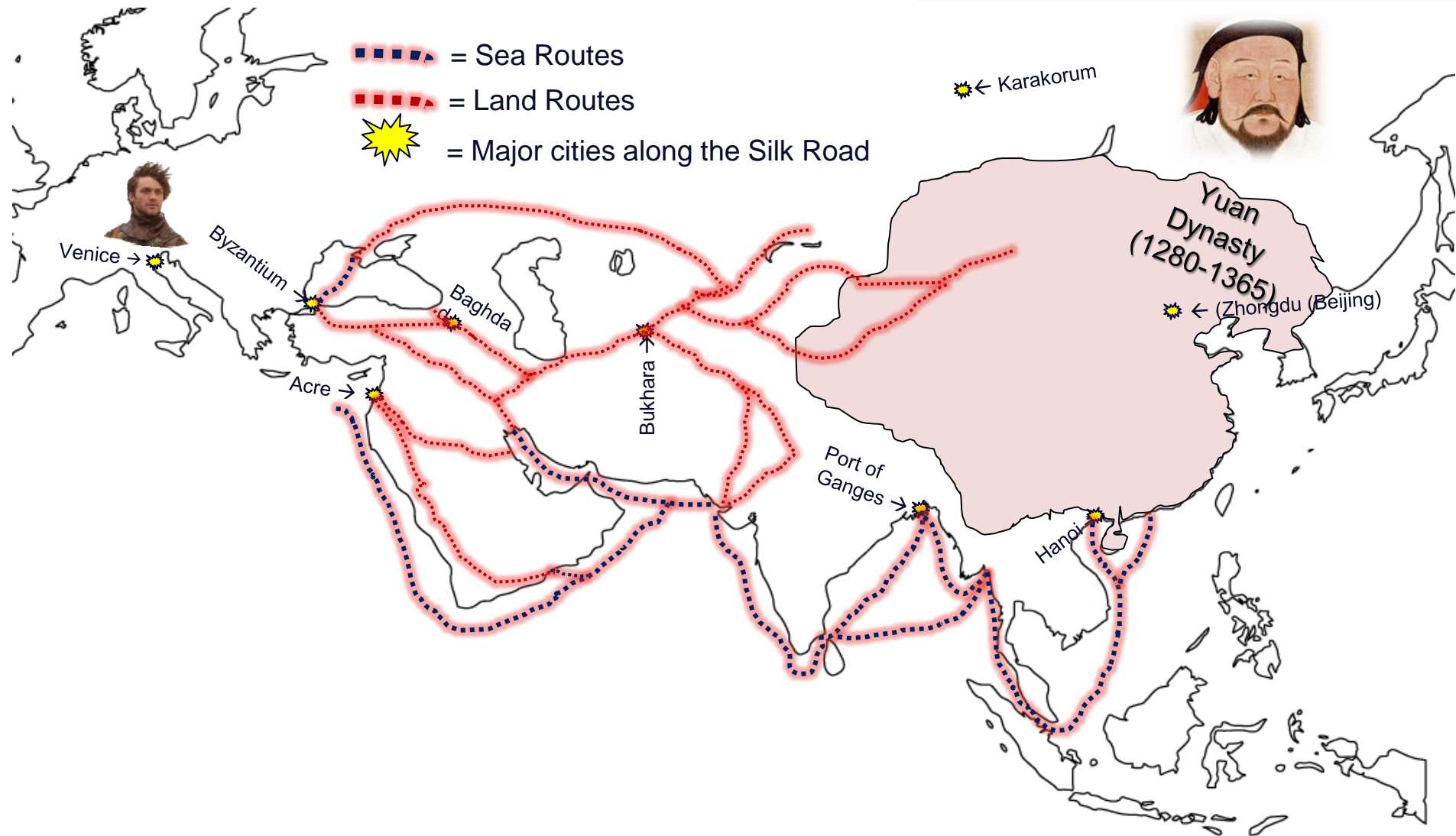
Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 12: Using the same color for land routes, continue the silk road toward East Asia...



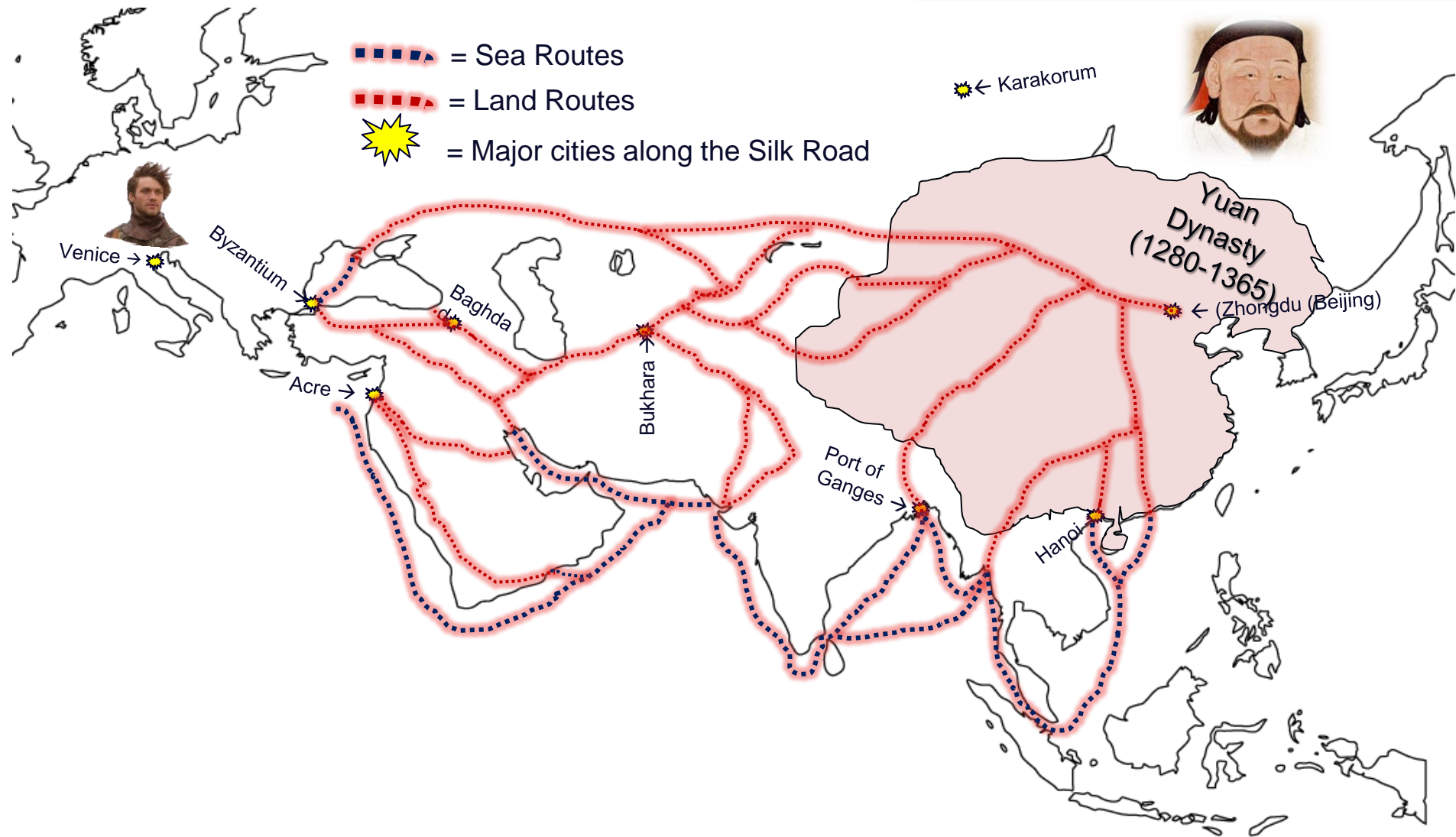
Marco Polo & the Silk Road Map Activity

Step 13: Using the same color for sea routes, continue the silk road into East Asia...



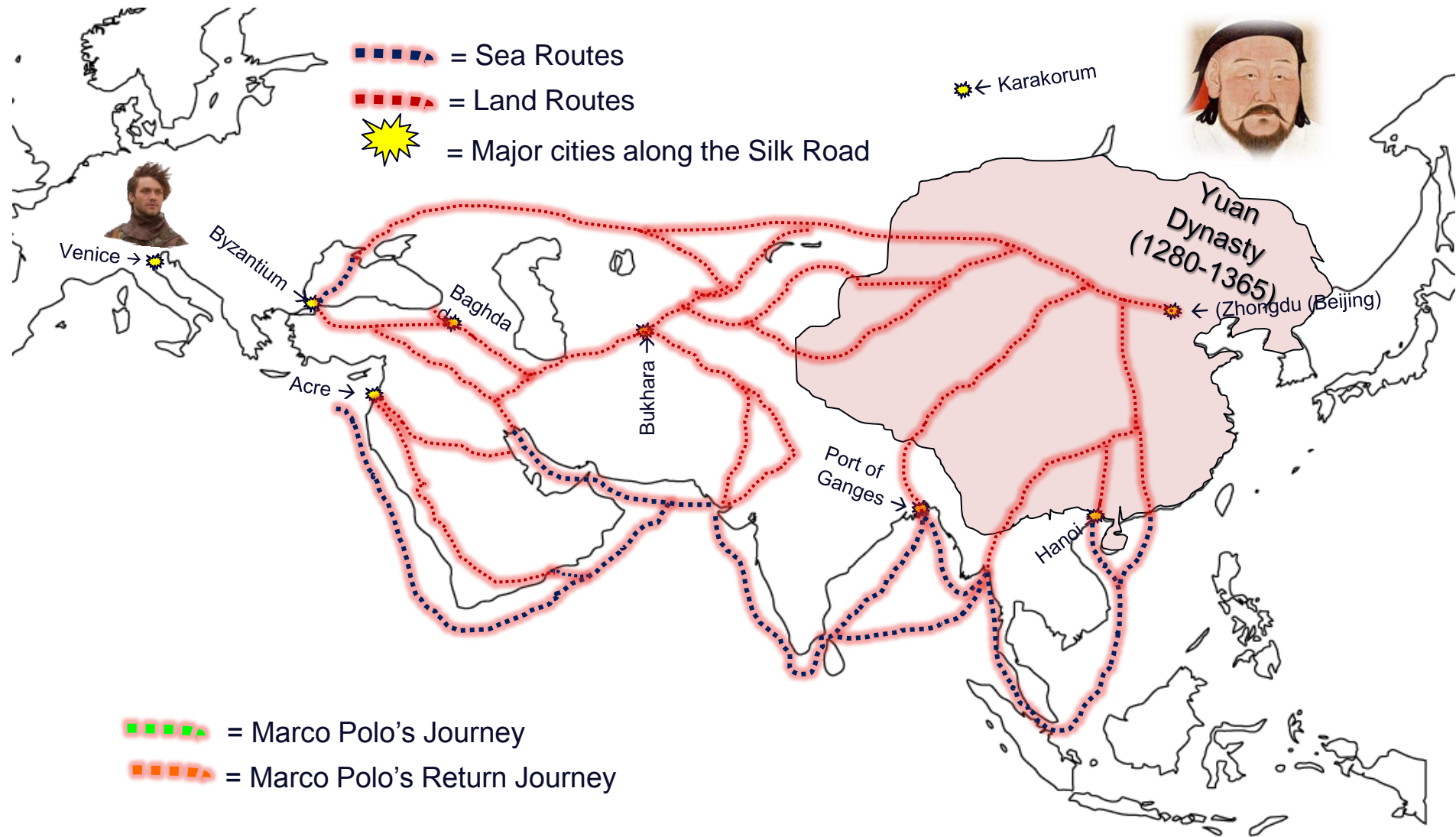
Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 13: Using the same color for land routes, complete the silk road in East Asia...



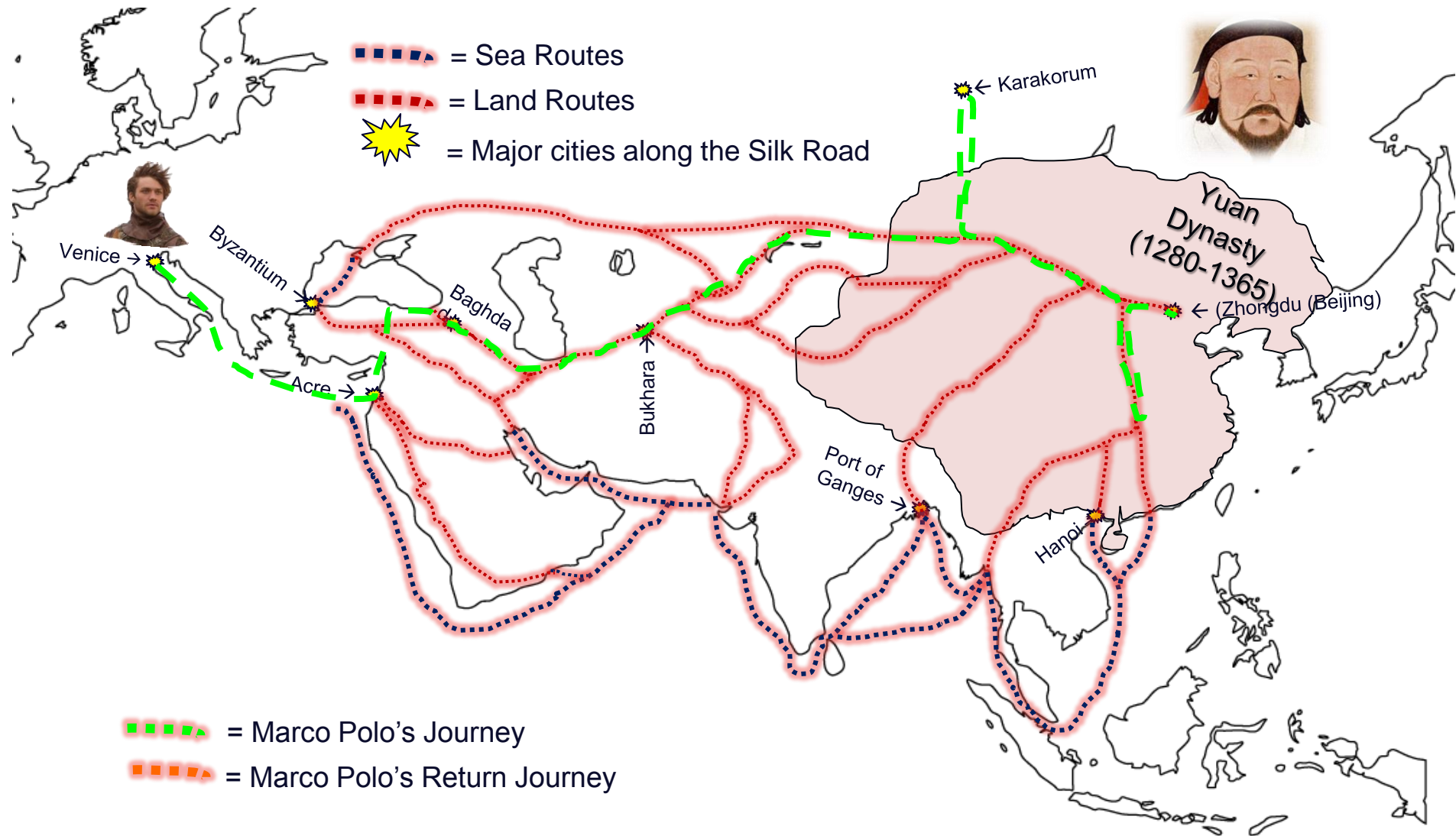
Marco Polo & the Silk Road Map Activity

Step 14: add two more items to your key with different colors...



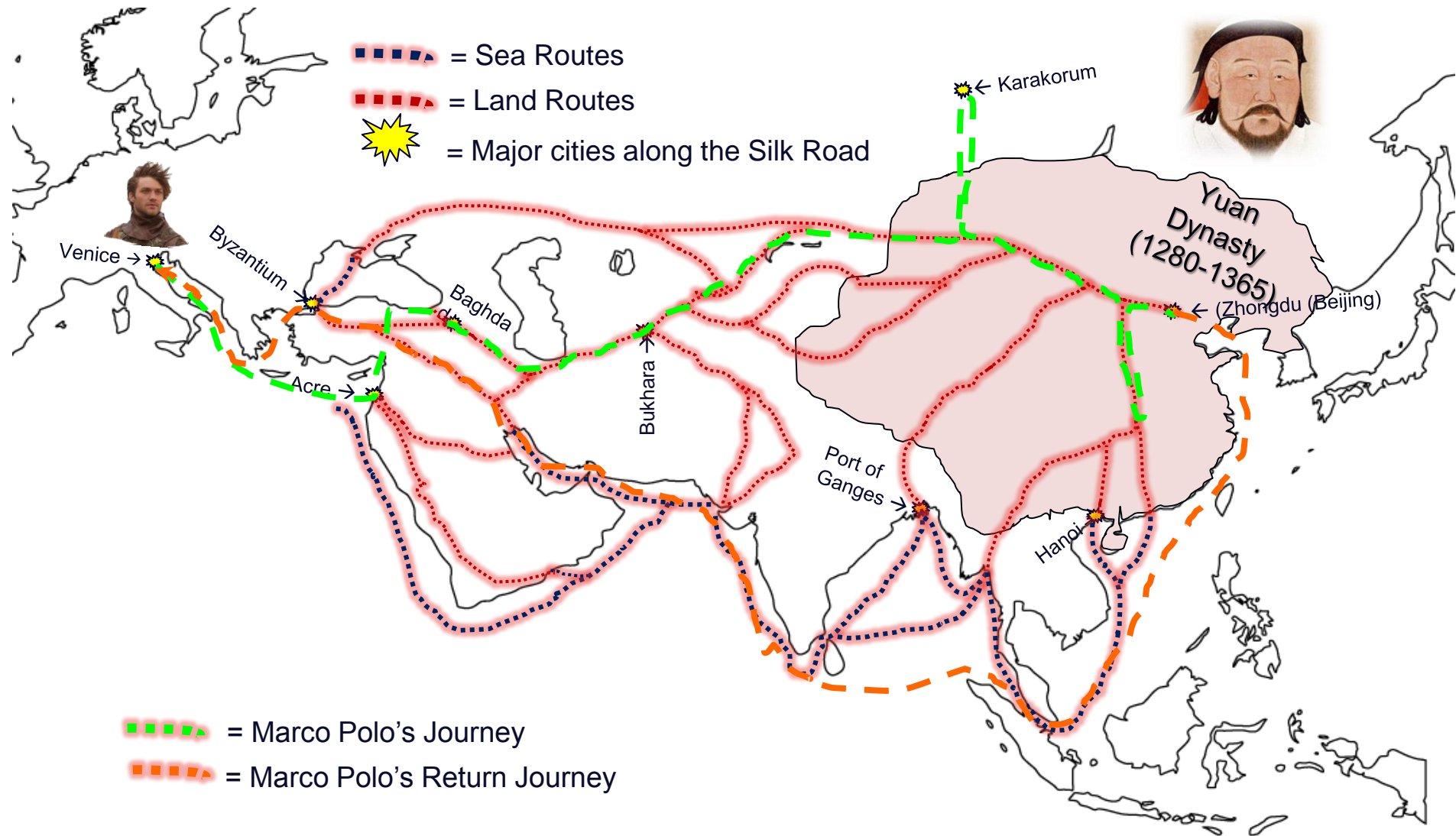
Marco Polo & the Silk Road Map Activity

Step 15: Trace Marco Polo's Journey from Venice to East Asia...



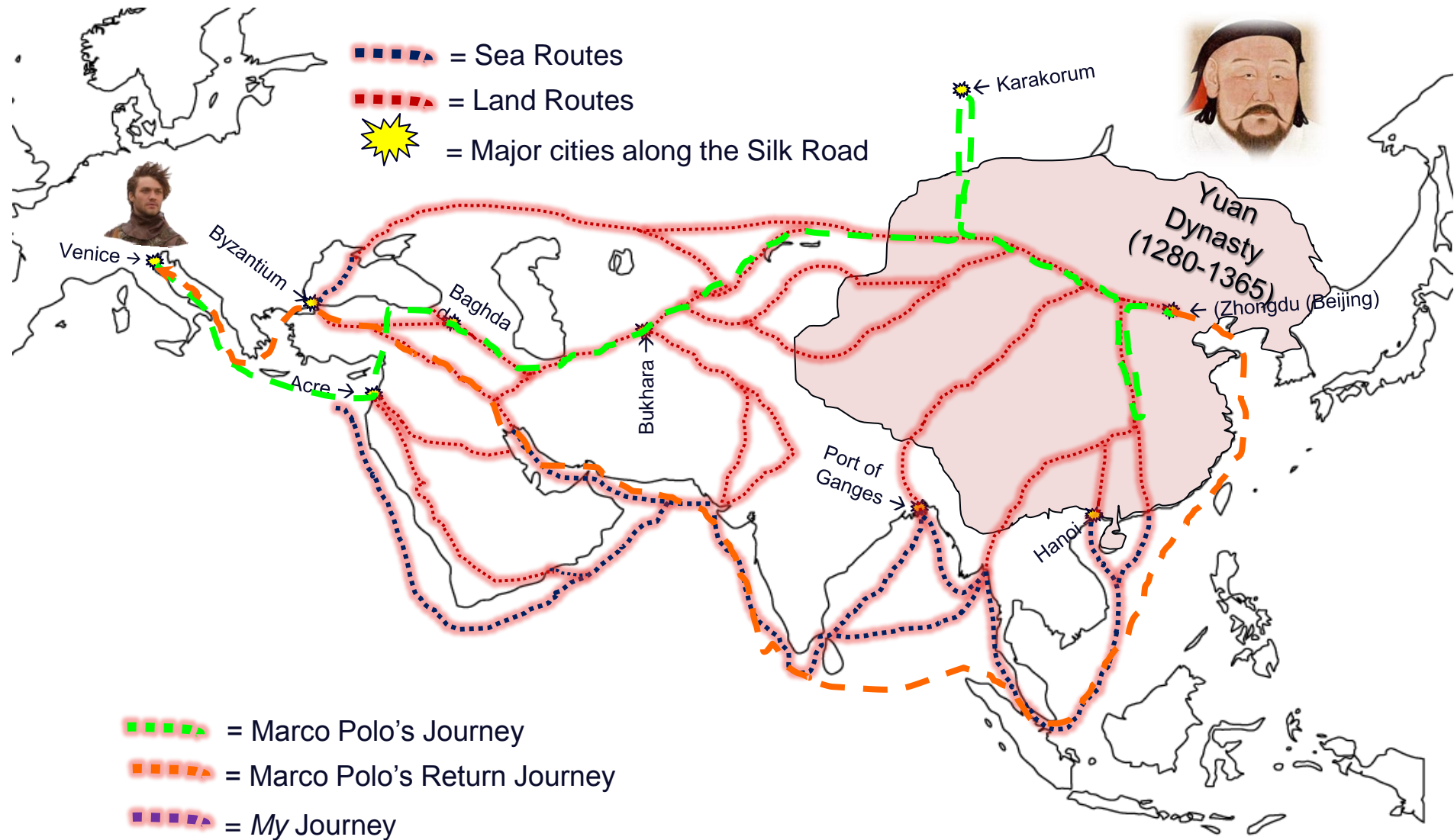
Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 16: Trace Marco Polo's return journey (from East Asia back to Venice)...



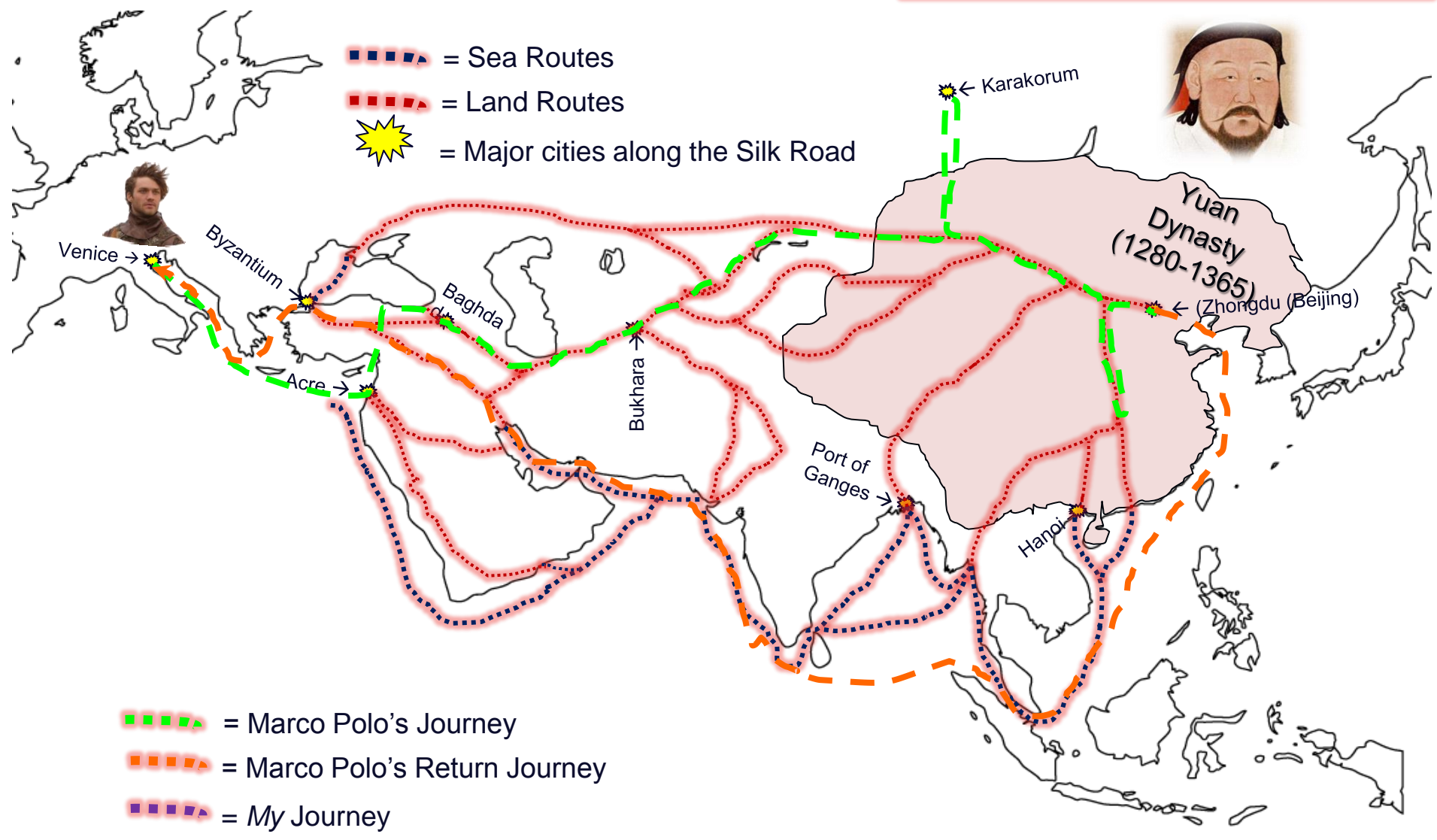
Marco Polo & the Silk Road *Map Activity*

Step 17: Add one last item to the key using a different color



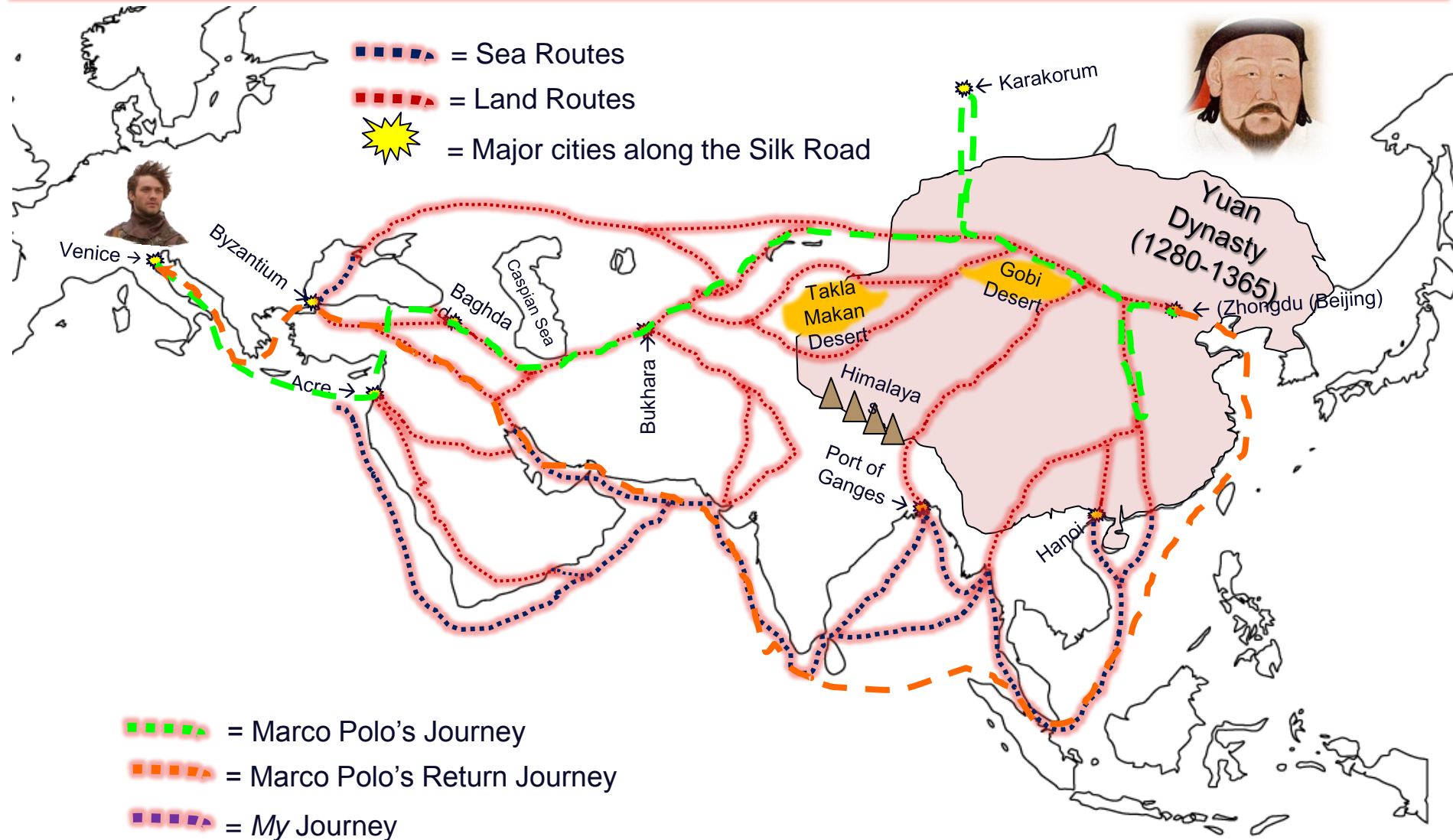
Marco Polo & the Silk Road Map Activity

Step 18: Decide whether you would start in Asia or Europe and trace out your own journey on the Silk Road...



Marco Polo & the Silk Road Map Activity

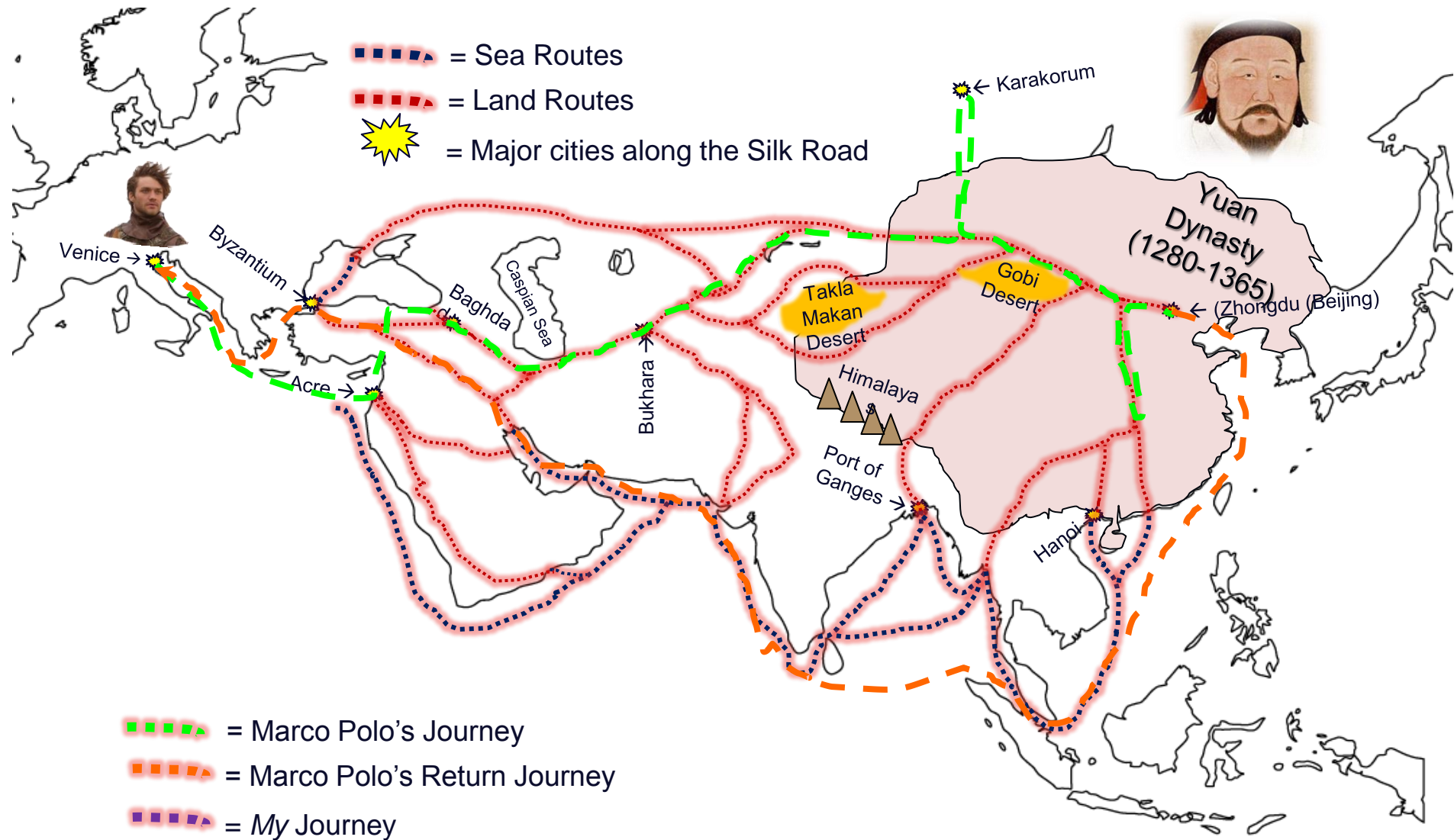
Step 19: Put these geographic features on your map. This is why it was so hard to travel between Europe to Asia. This is why China was so isolated from other cultures for thousands of years.



Marco Polo & the Silk Road Map Activity

Step 20: On the back of your map, answer one of the following two questions...

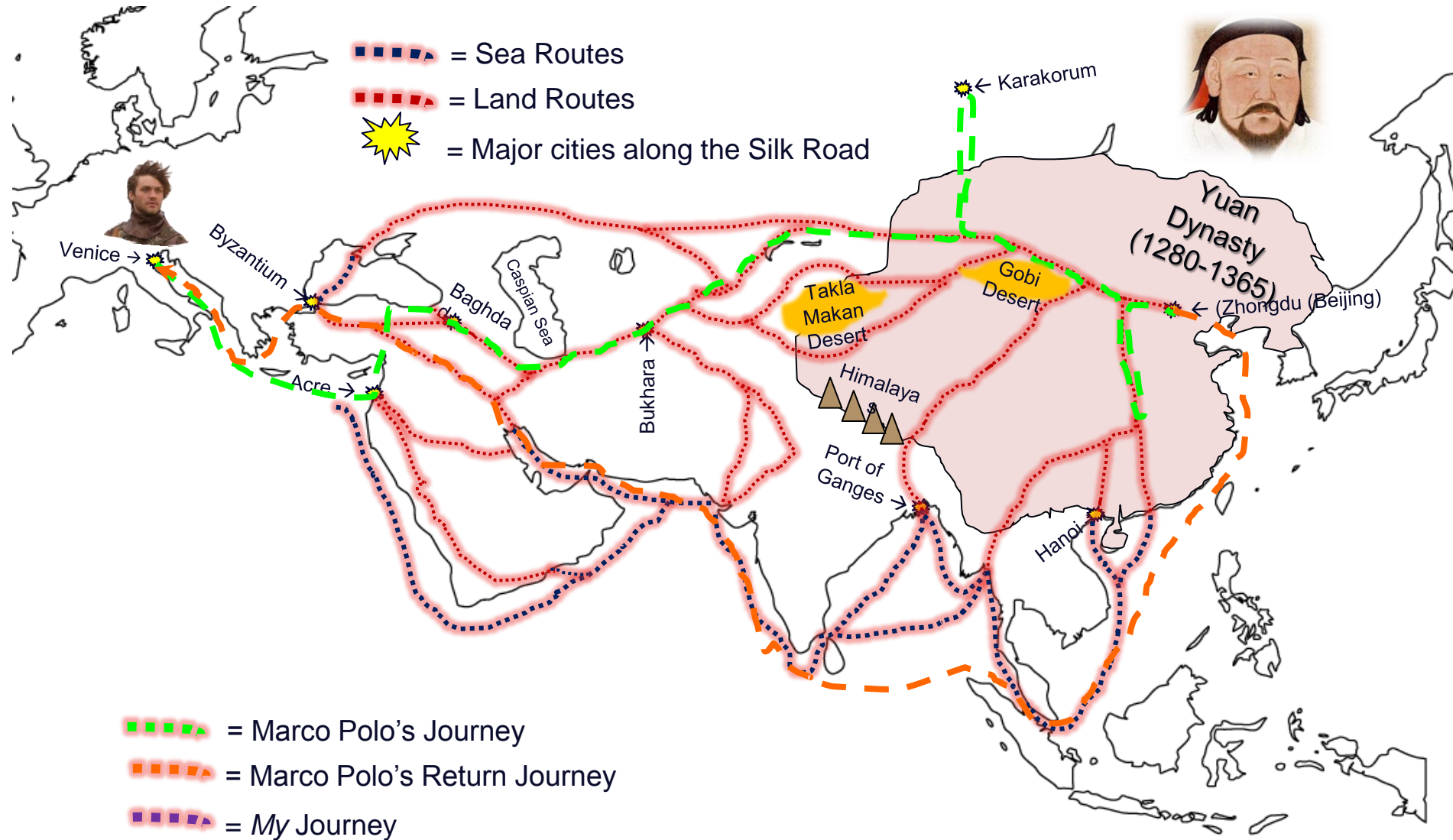
If someone told you "the Silk Road is just a long dirt road", politely enlighten them in 2-3 sentences...



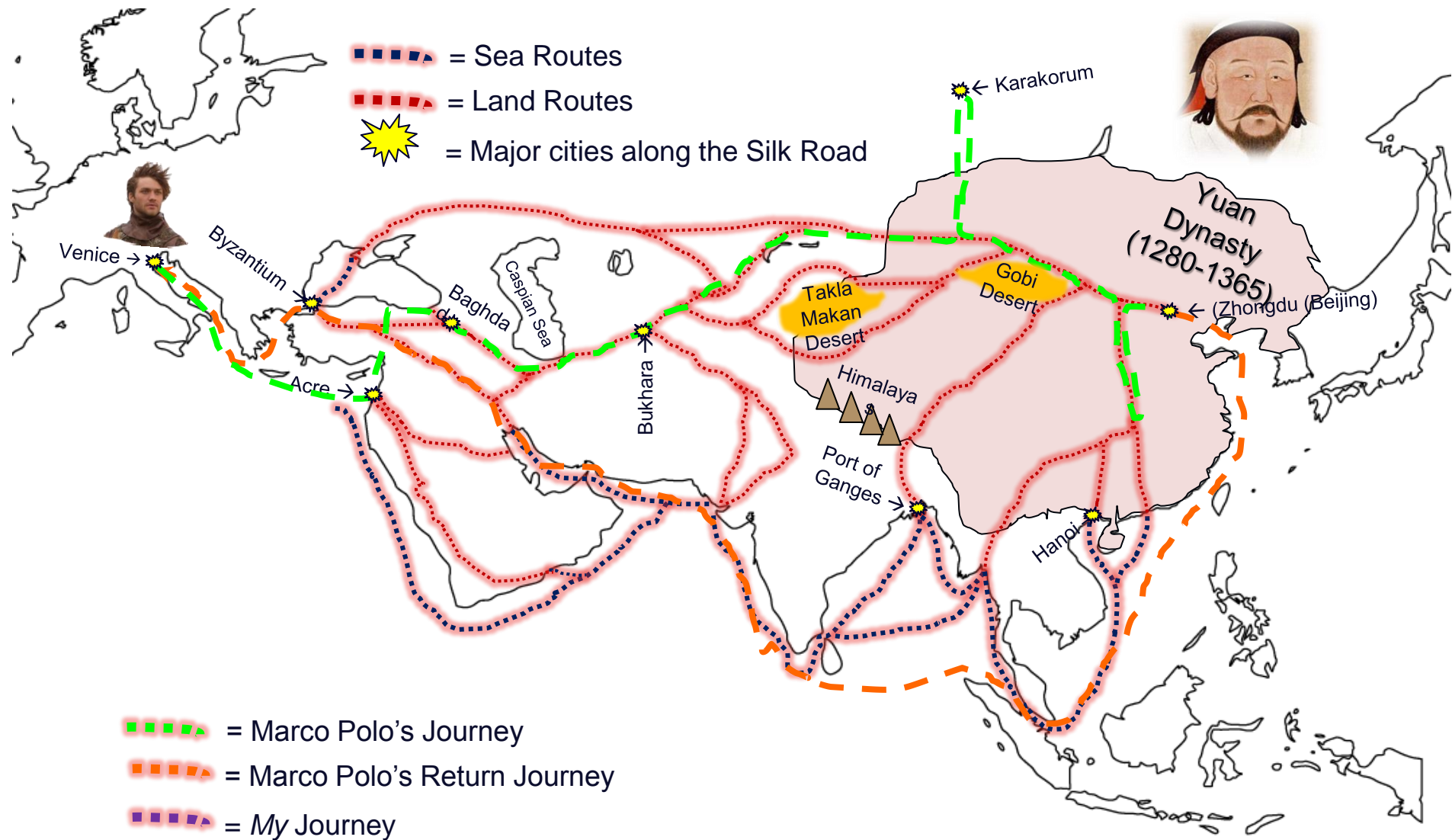
Marco Polo & the Silk Road Map Activity

Step 20: On the back of your map, answer one of the following two questions...

What is the safest way to get from Europe to Asia or vice versa? Defend your answer in 2-3 sentences.



Marco Polo & the Silk Road Map Activity

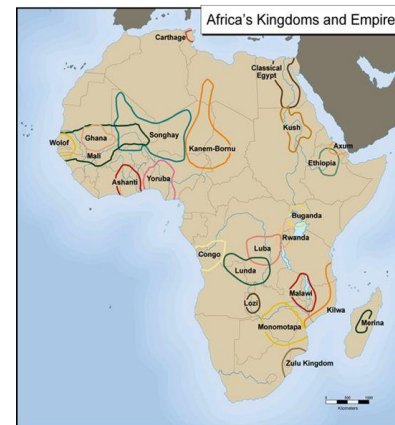


African Trade

Kush and Axum

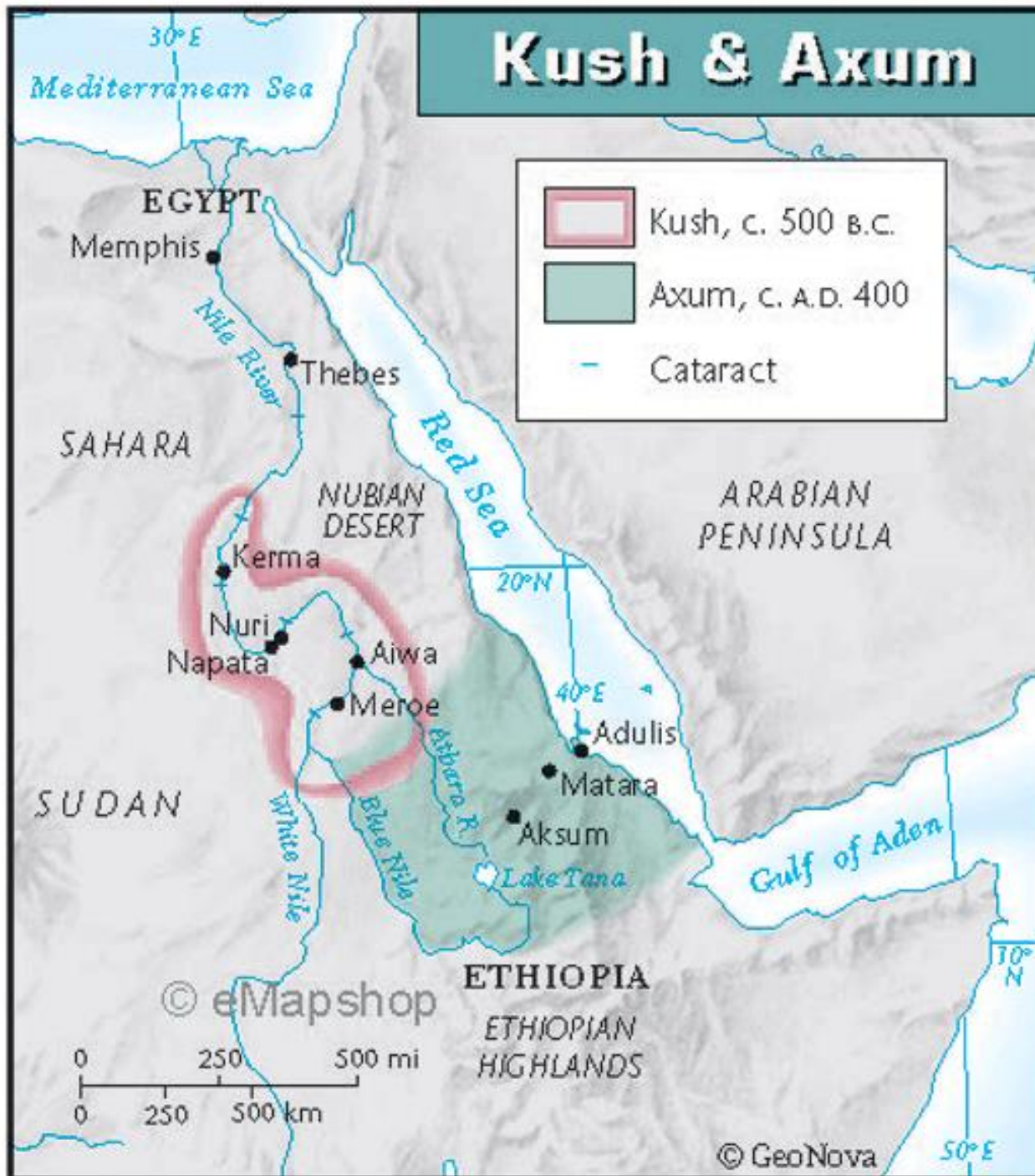
- Kush was one of the earliest kingdoms to prosper.
- The Kush settled along the Nile River, and became wealthy from trading and ironworking.
 - **Kush had a lot of gold and ivory, and traded as far as Ancient Egypt** (because they lived along the Nile).
- Eventually, Kush was defeated and taken over by Axum.
- Axum was also successful with trade.
 - **Most trade items entering and leaving Africa usually passed through Axum.**
- Axum was one of the **first places in Africa** that accepted Christianity as a religion.

African Empires



- **East:** Egypt, Kush, Axum
- **North:** Carthage
- **West:** Ghana, Mali, Songhai
- **South:** Great Zimbabwe (area of Monomotapa)

Kush & Axum



Swahili

- *How would you feel if you had to learn 8-9 languages to do your job?*
- As more trade was developing in Africa, more languages were being spoken between nomads and other foreigners.
 - It became very frustrating having to learn all of the languages in order to communicate.
- In order to perform business transactions, nomads agreed to learn a “trade language” – one common language that traders used to do business.
- **Swahili** actually means, “*people of the shore*” in the Arabic language.
- Swahili was formed from a mixture of the languages from all of the languages of the nomads.
- Swahili not only became a language, it became a culture. Swahili is still spoken in many parts of Africa today. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5iRe55Cktnk>

- There were many different empires in Africa involved in trading.
- Trading made these empires very rich and powerful, which sometimes resulted in wars and power struggles.
- **Ghana = gold (24K; highest quality gold on Earth) in exchange for salt**
 - Because Ghana made traders pay taxes on their items, Ghana became very rich.
- **Mali = when Ghana fell to North African invaders, Mali took over Ghana's old trade system over gold and salt.**
 - **Mansa Musa was the most famous ruler of Mali and helped increase Mali's wealth, as well as one of the main Muslim trade centers.**
- **Songhai = when Mali lost power, Songhai took over Mali's trade business.**

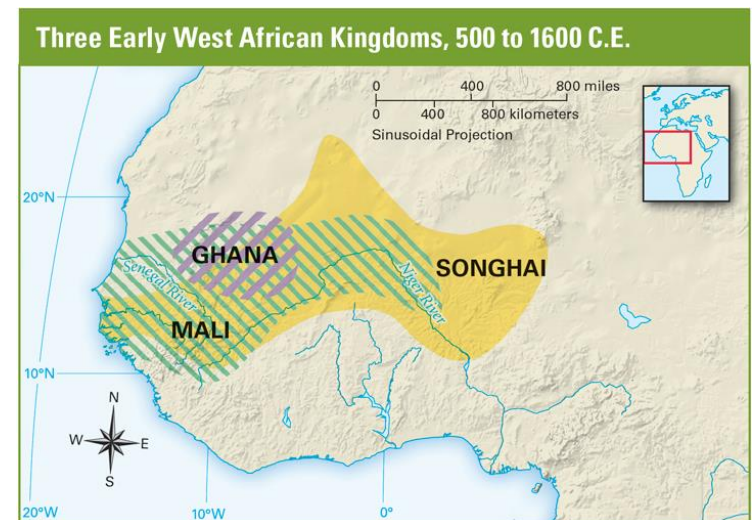
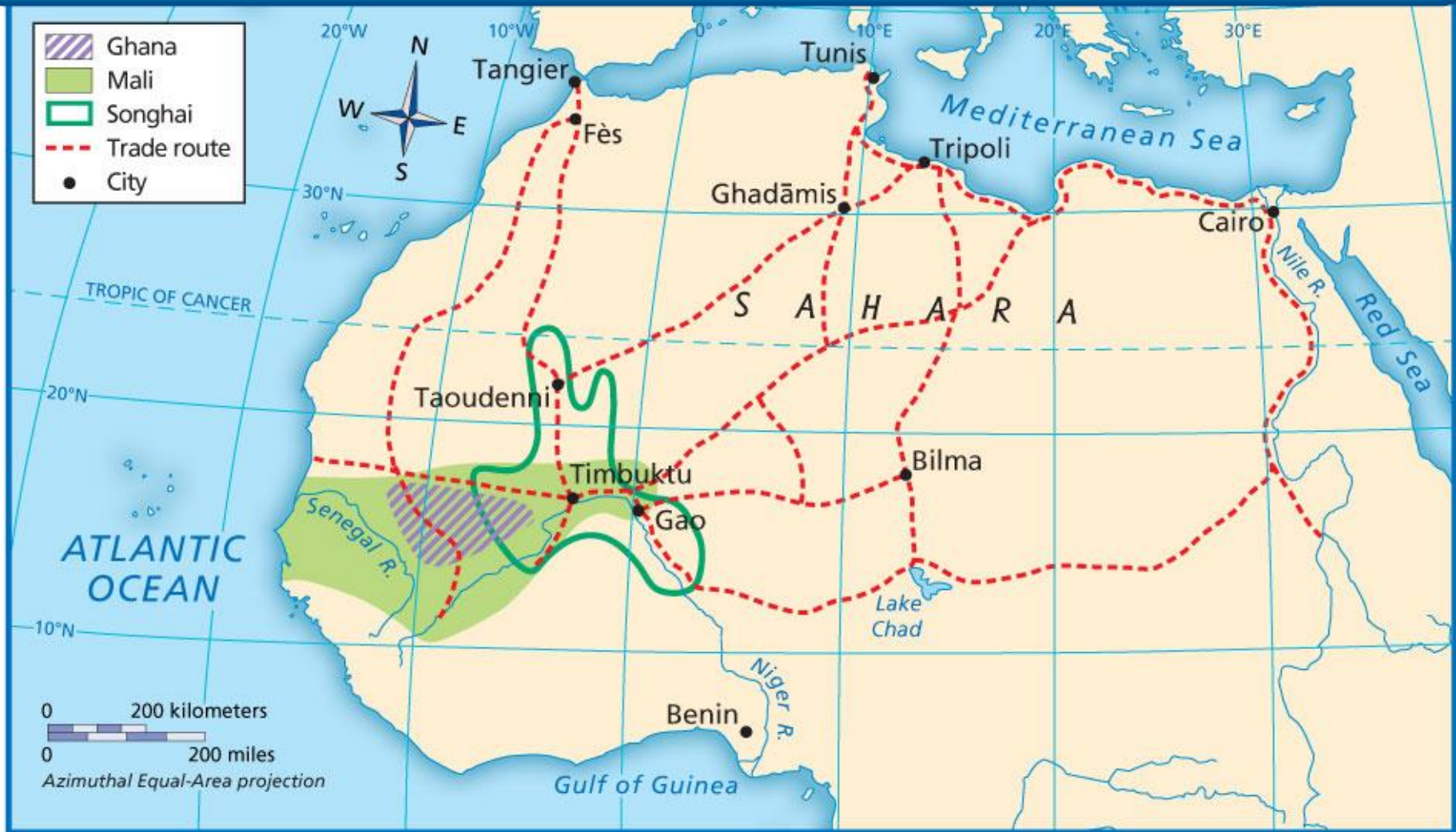


Figure 1 The Trading Empires of West Africa



The Vikings

Who were the Vikings?

- A culture originating in the northern part of Europe in **Norway, Finland, Denmark and Sweden.**
- **The Vikings were fierce conquerors, brave explorers, and skilled craftspeople;** they invaded and settled countries throughout Western Europe.
- **They were the first Europeans to discover America (in about AD 1000), almost 500 years before Columbus.**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QxKw68Xo4eI>