 Directions: Answer the questions below as you follow along with the video. (Start with episode #2 beginning at 56:19)

1. Describe the infamous “Star Fleet” which set sail under the command of the Ming Dynasty emperor Yongle in 1405?

2. Who was Zheng He? What was his background?

3. Why is it tough for modern historians to piece together the story of Zheng He?

4. Who is Gavin Menzies? How does he capitalize on the ancient story of Zheng He? (What is Menzie’s major argument?)

5. Who was Nicolo da Conti? What commercial description does he provide modern historians in the pages of his travel logs?

6. How is da Conti’s travel logs provide additional information that could possibly support Menzies’ theory?

7. Who was Fra Mauro? Why would he have come into contact with da Conti?

8. What did da Conti provide Mauro which is used as additional support for Menzies’ theory? What is so unique about this item?

9. What is the “green island”? found on Mauro primary document?

10. What is the Pizzigano Chart? How does Menzies use this chart to further validate his theory?

11. What discovery does Menzies believe he will find after landing on the North American island of Bimini?

12. What was the Bimini Road? How does this discovery aid in solidifying Menzies theory?
13. Who is Gabriel Noveaux? What theory does he introduce which conveniently coincides with Menzies about the Chinese and early North American peoples?

14. How did additional evidence, such as the *Newport Tower* in Rhode Island, possibly confirm Menzies theory?

15. How does Menzies also suggest that the concept of longitude was indirectly established?

**Revisiting the evidence (1:1:20)**

16. The account of Nicolo da Conti is crucial to Menzies theory. How does da Conti’s journal seem to contradict the travels of the Ming fleet?

17. What is the issue with Fra Mauro’s map that Menzies so desperately wishes to use as evidence for his Chinese theory? How does the map fail to support his story?

18. As Professors reexamines Menzies primary source the Pizzigano chart, how do they critique Menzies' interpretation of the source?

19. After archeologists for National Geographic also stumbled on the grounds of Bimini Road, what shocking discovery did they find concerning the site?

20. How does Benedict Arnold, and his will make his way into the storylines of Menzies’ Chinese theory? What evidence is provided in the wording of the will.

21. Who is Giovianni de Veranzo? What does Menzies claim Veranzo provides in a primary source letter to the king of France in 1524? How is this piece of evidence even refuted?

22. Menzies also inserts Christopher Columbus in his theory as evidence. Explain how Menzies uses Columbus travel log admissions to support his theory?

23. What other evidence does Menzies provide to support the Ming fleet’s successful expeditions around the world? How many places in total did the Ming visit? How many did Menzies believe?