

# A Visit to Hagia Sophia—Student Field Journal

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Part One: Constantine's City

### Questions

**Instructions:** Answer the questions below. Write in full sentences where appropriate.

1. Name some reasons why the Roman empire might have needed to change its capital.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

2. What were the two big changes that Constantine made in the Roman empire during his reign?

A.

B.

3. Why might Constantine have decided to make Christianity legal?

4. How were the processes by which the cities of Byzantium and Constantinople got their names similar?

5. Constantine ordered the construction of many churches in Constantinople. Why didn't earlier emperors order churches to be built in Rome and other older cities of the empire?

6. If you were an emperor or empress building a new capital city, what would you want it to be like? What kind of buildings would you build? What messages might you try to send to visitors through these buildings?

7. If you were the emperor or empress, why might you choose to build many churches in your new capital city? What message would you send to the people who live in the city by building churches? Would this message be the same for visitors to the city as for residents, or would it be different? Why? What message would building a large number of churches send about you personally?

**Part Two: Hagia Sophia—an Istanbul Landmark**

**My Top Ten Places to Visit in Istanbul**

(Place)

(Date)

#1 \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting

fact: \_\_\_\_\_

#2 \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting

fact: \_\_\_\_\_

#3 \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting

fact: \_\_\_\_\_

#4 \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting

fact: \_\_\_\_\_

#5 \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting

fact: \_\_\_\_\_

#6 \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting

fact: \_\_\_\_\_

#7 \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting

fact: \_\_\_\_\_

#8 \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting

fact: \_\_\_\_\_

#9 \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting

fact: \_\_\_\_\_

#10 \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting

fact: \_\_\_\_\_

### Historical Eras of Origin for Tourist Attractions in Istanbul

<b>Date Built/Discovered</b>	<b>Historical Era</b>	<b>Istanbul Places Built During this Era</b>
<b>669 – 129 BCE</b>	<b>Greeks</b>	

<b>129 BCE - 476 CE</b>	<b>Roman Empire</b>	
<b>476 - 1453 CE</b>	<b>Later Roman/ Byzantine Empire</b>	
<b>1453-1922</b>	<b>Ottoman Empire</b>	
<b>1922-present</b>	<b>Modern Turkey</b>	

Questions

8. Which historical era produced the most places you would like to visit in Istanbul?
  
9. Why do you think you have the most places from this historical era on your list? (Do the places from this historical era have anything in common that made them seem interesting for you to include on your list?)
  
10. Which era produced the fewest places you would like to visit in Istanbul?
  
11. Why do you think you have the least places from this historical era on your list?
  
12. Were the places from this historical era just less interesting to you, or is there another reason why you might have fewer places from certain eras on your list? (Hint: Look back at the questions in the first paragraph of this packet.)
  
13. Was Hagia Sophia on your Top Ten list of places to visit in Istanbul? (The answer is probably "Yes" for about 99% of the people who visit Istanbul.)
14. Which historical era does the Hagia Sophia date from?
  
15. Is Hagia Sophia older or newer than most places you want to visit in Istanbul?

**Exterior**

\_\_\_\_\_’S FIELD JOURNAL

LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

OBSERVATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 16. How are the terms “minaret,” “mosque,” and “muezzin” connected to each other?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 17. What difference do you notice between this picture and your first view of the Hagia Sophia?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 18. What important change in the use of the Hagia Sophia does this indicate?

**Part Three: Touring Hagia Sophia**

Write “First floor” and “Second floor” in the proper spaces below.

**Giris Kat** = \_\_\_\_\_      **Ust Kat** = \_\_\_\_\_

**Stop #1**

Using the currency converter at [http://coinmill.com/ TRY\\_calculator.html](http://coinmill.com/TRY_calculator.html), we can calculate that our ticket cost us about \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. dollars.

What other kinds of buildings are near Hagia Sophia? Do they seem newer or older? What season do you think it is? Why? What kinds of materials were used to construct the exterior of the building?

### FIELD JOURNAL

LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

OBSERVATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

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19. Why might a Muslim think it important to wash her/ his hands, head, and feet before entering a mosque?

\_\_\_\_\_ = exit

#### **Stop #3**

What kinds of building materials have been used here inside? What are the floors like? What kind of ceiling is there—is it flat? Curved? Why does that guard keep looking at us like that?

## FIELD JOURNAL

PLACE: \_\_\_\_\_

OBSERVATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Stop #4** How is this hallway different from the last one? Size? Construction materials? Why might this hallway have a different appearance from the last one?

## FIELD JOURNAL

PLACE: \_\_\_\_\_

OBSERVATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

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20. Can you read the Turkish word under the sign on the wall? What does it say? What English word does it resemble?

### Questions

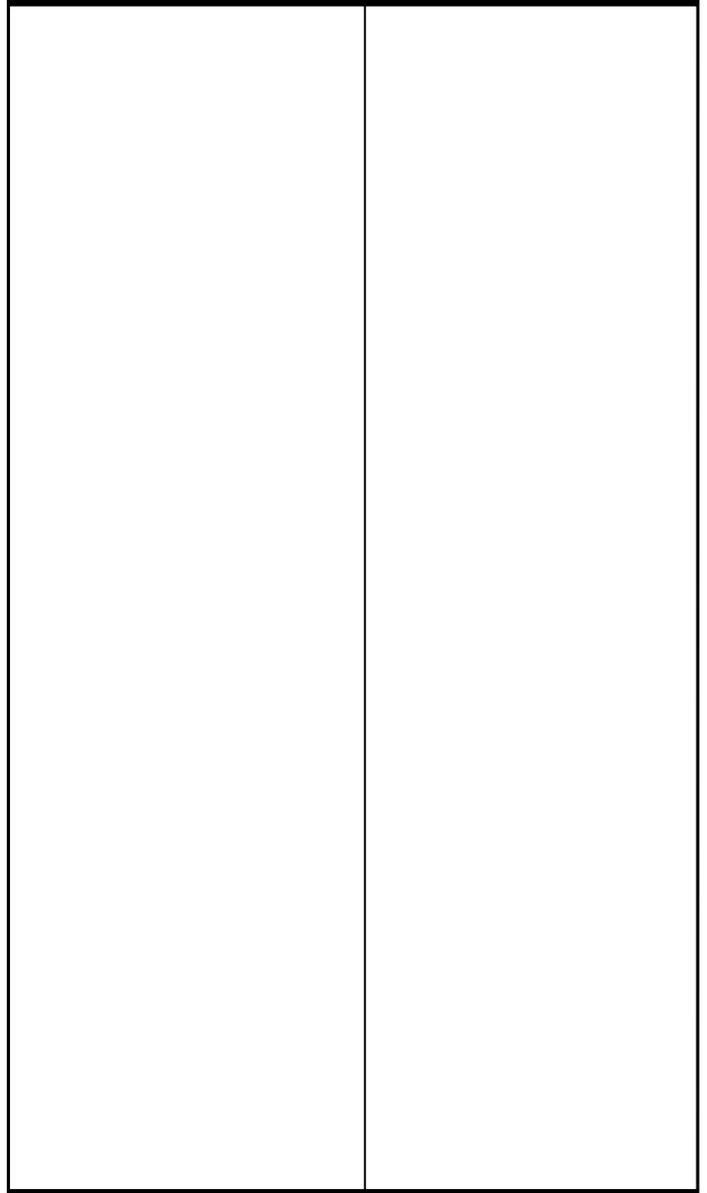
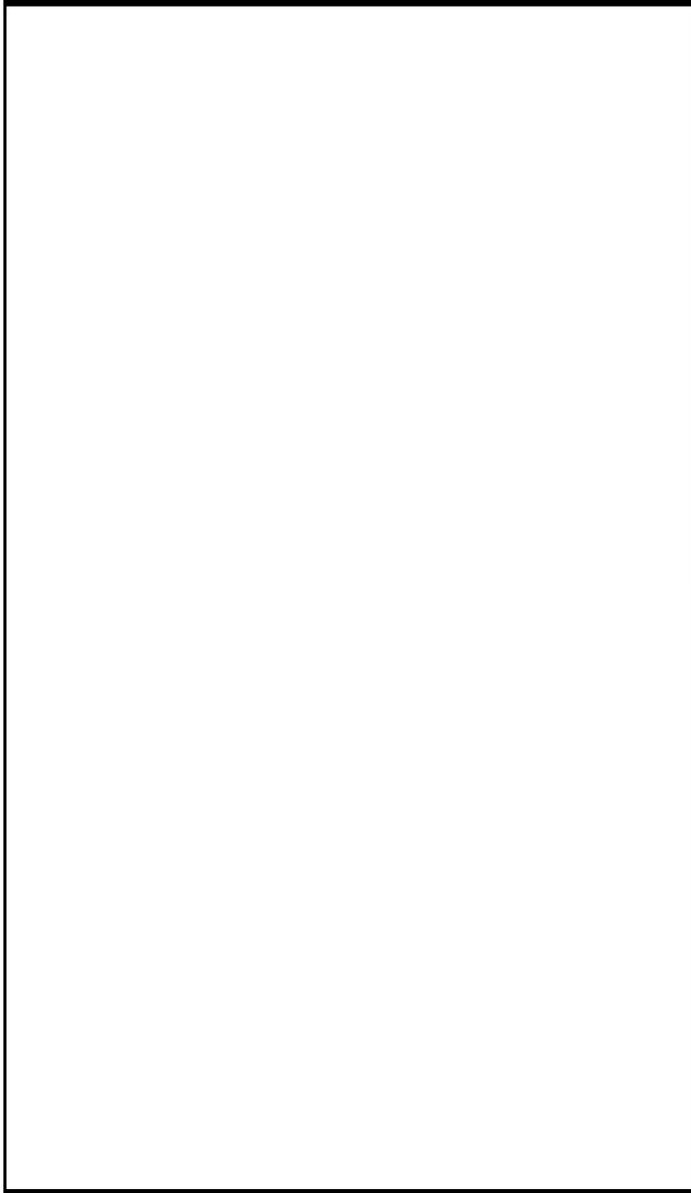
21. If you were creating a mosaic of clouds on the ceiling of your classroom, what size pieces of tile or glass would you use and why?
22. How might your choice be different if you were creating a life-sized mosaic of a favorite pet?
23. Describe the appearance and purpose of the mosaic located over the Imperial Gate of the Hagia Sophia.

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## Arts of the Hagia Sophia

**Mosaic**

**Marble Panels**



**Stop #5**

**FIELD JOURNAL**

PLACE: \_\_\_\_\_

OBJECT SKETCHED: \_\_\_\_\_

**Stop #6**

**FIELD JOURNAL**

PLACE: \_\_\_\_\_

OBSERVATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

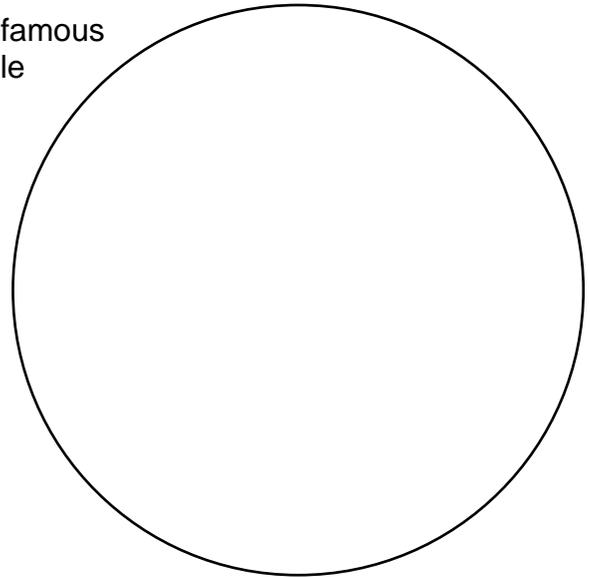
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

24. First, is it light or dark in here? Where does the light come from? Why would this source of light have been important when the Hagia Sophia was built? (**Hint**—how have lighting methods changed since the building’s construction?)

25. If you were going to display people's names in a famous building like the Hagia Sophia, what kind of people would you choose? Whom do you think the Muslims who made these medallions chose? Write your answers below. Then copy one of the medallions in the circle at right.



**Medallion with Islamic calligraphy  
showing the name of \_\_\_\_\_**

26. How would you describe the overall condition of the Hagia Sophia's interior? Good as new? Falling to pieces? Somewhere in between? What evidence do you see to support your answer?

#### Questions

27. What is calligraphy, and why did it become an important Islamic art form?
28. Why are the names of Ali, Hussein, Hassan and Usman displayed on the large medallions in the Hagia Sophia?
29. Which of the two main challenges to the restoration of the Hagia Sophia do you think is the most significant: 1) the large amount of work that needs to be done on the building and its cost, or 2) decisions about which Islamic and Christian works of art and other elements of the building should be kept, restored or removed. Support your answer with evidence from your tour.

**Stop #7**

**FIELD JOURNAL**

PLACE: \_\_\_\_\_

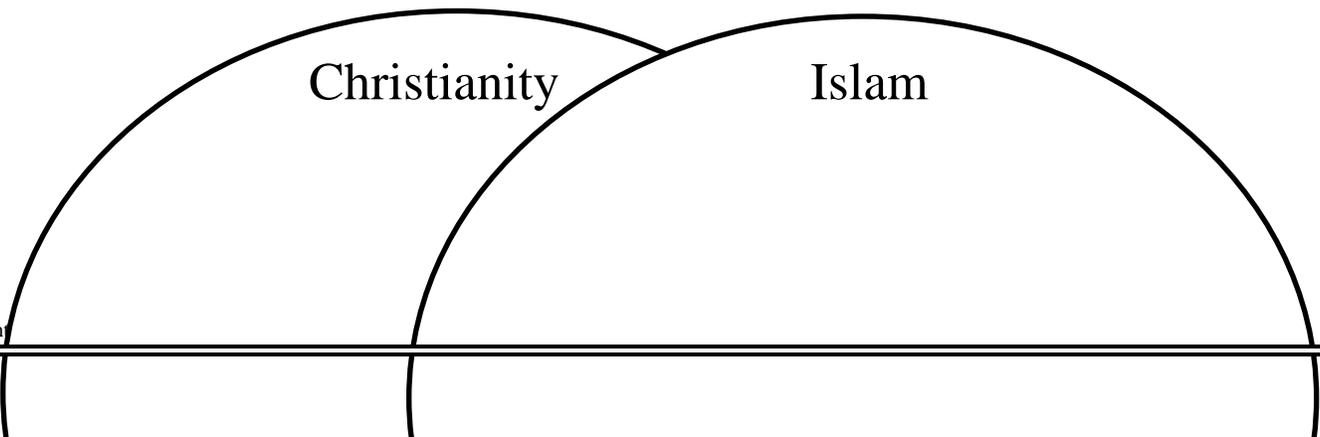
OBSERVATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you remember from earlier what a caliph is? Write the definition below:

caliph - \_\_\_\_\_

Record the information you have learned about Christianity and Islam in the Venn diagram below.

**Christianity and Islam—similarities and differences**



**Stop #8**

Questions

- 30. What is an icon?
- 31. What is an iconostasis?
- 32. How were the views of Byzantine iconoclasts similar to those of Muslims? How were their views different, if at all?
- 33. Why do you think members of these two different religions shared similar views about icons?
- 34. Use books and/or online sources to complete the chart below.

**Sources of the Great Schism—Differences between the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches**

<b>Roman Catholic Church</b>		<b>Eastern Orthodox Church</b>
	Church leadership	
	Use of icons	

	Priests and marriage	
	Bread used in Eucharist	
	Mary's birth and death	
	The "filioque" clause	

35. Compare Gustave Dore's engraving "The Entry of the Crusaders into Constantinople" with Benjamin Constant's painting "The entry of Mahomet II into Constantinople." Do you think these are realistic portrayals of these events? How are the images similar? How are they different?
36. How was the way that Christian crusaders treated Hagia Sophia when they conquered Constantinople in 1204 similar to or different from the way that the Muslim Ottomans treated the building when they conquered the city? Which do you think is the better way to treat a house of worship from a religion different than your own? Support your answer with evidence from the tour.
37. If the priest who is said to have disappeared were to come back to Hagia Sophia today, what would still be most familiar to him? What would seem the most different to him?

## FIELD JOURNAL

PLACE: \_\_\_\_\_

OBSERVATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Did you notice that the niche in the apse doesn't line up evenly with the windows above it?

38. Why do you think this is? Do you think this fact is important?

### Stop #10

## FIELD JOURNAL

PLACE: \_\_\_\_\_

THINGS I'VE SEEN BEFORE	THINGS THAT ARE NEW TO ME

### Stop #11

Think about how this treatment of the building's mosaics compares with their treatment at other times in its history. Complete the table below and answer the question that follows.

### Treatment of Hagia Sophia's mosaics

During the periods of iconoclasm	During the Sack of Constantinople	Under Ottoman rule
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39. Which group treated Hagia Sophia's mosaics the best—the Christian **iconoclasts**, that is supporters of iconoclasm, the Roman Catholic crusaders, or the Muslim Ottomans? Which group treated the mosaics the worst? Use evidence from the tour to support both your answers.

40. In the space below, list some people whom the Byzantines might have shown on their mosaics.

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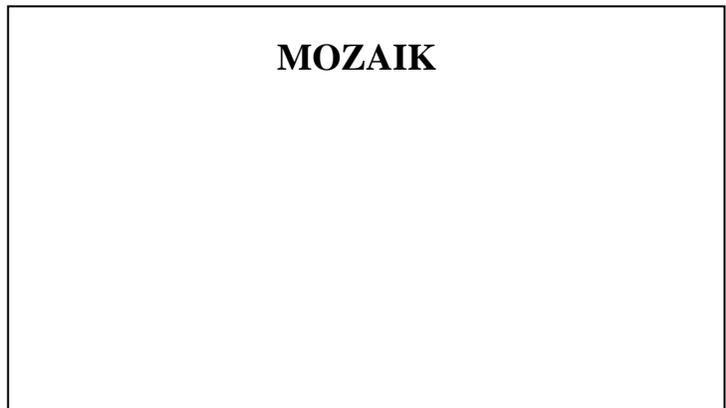
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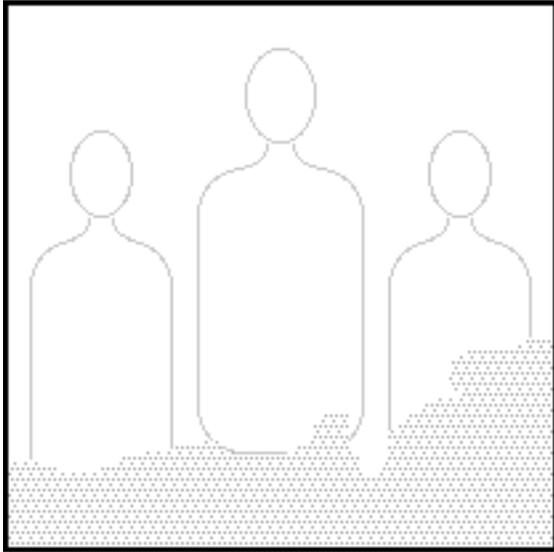
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**Stop #12**

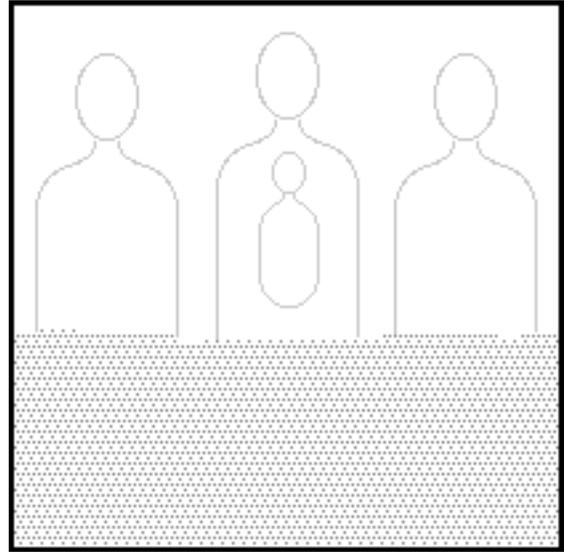


**Stop #13**



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Stop #13**

41. What, or whom, does this mosaic show?