**Writing Journal Entry #1:** Label your entry "Chang' an, April 5, 200, Dawn." You are ready to head west from Chang'an, the easternmost city on The Silk Road. You look over the map to get a sense of what lies ahead of you. You will be taking the main Silk Road route, towards Dunhuang. What difficulties do you think you will face? Why are you taking the trip? What do you hope to gain? Who is going with you? What else are you thinking as you wait to leave?

**Writing Journal Entry #2:** Label your entry "Dunhuang, June 1, 200, Evening." You have traveled more than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ miles with the caravan. Around the campfire at Dunhuang, you listen to fellow travelers discussing the teachings of Buddhism, Hinduism, and Confucianism. You sit down to record your thoughts about Dunhuang, the conversation around the campfire, and your visit to a cave shrine. What effect do you think the Silk Road has had on the spread of religion and ideas?

**Writing Journal Entry #3:** Label your entry "Taklimakan Desert, June 12, 200, Midday." You have been traveling all day through the desert. The relentless sun and heat have made you sleepy as you trudge on. You have heard that travelers through the desert sometimes faint and, as a result, are accidentally left behind by the caravan. To stay alert, you decide to write in your journal. What are your thoughts as you make your way through the Taklimakan Desert? What is your impression of this land and the terrain/climate?

**Writing Journal Entry #4:** Label your journal entry "Marakanda, September 23, 200. Afternoon." You arrived in the thriving city of Marakanda this morning. Once you leave, you will be on the long journey to Antioch, the western end of the Silk Road. What is your impression of Marakanda? How do you plan to spend your time there? Review the map of the Silk Road in Document A. What do you expect from the rest of your journey? Take a few moments to write your thoughts and concerns in your journal.

**Writing Journal Entry #5:** Label your journal entry "Antioch, April 22, 201, Evening," The caravan has reached its final destination - Antioch, the western end of the Silk Road. You are one of the few people to travel the entire length of the route! Reflect on this once-in-a-lifetime achievement. Also, review the ledger, which lists some of the trade transactions that took place during your journey. Has the journey turned out the way you hoped? Was the long journey worth the difficulties you endured? How do you feel about the return journey? Record your thoughts in your journal.