### Document 1

**Saladin, Sultan of Egypt, from a speech to his army before the attack on the Crusaders holding Jerusalem in 1187 C.E.**

If God blesses us by enabling us to drive His enemies out of Jerusalem, how fortunate and happy we would be! For Jerusalem has been controlled by the enemy for ninety-one years, during which time God has received nothing from us here in the way of adoration. At the same time, the zeal of the Muslim rulers to deliver it languished. Time passed, and so did many [in different] generations, while the Franks succeeded in rooting themselves strongly there. Now God has reserved the merit of its recovery for one house, the house of the sons of Ayyub [Saladin's family], in order to unite all hearts in appreciation of its members.

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Document 2

al-Zahrawi, doctor in Cordoba, Spain, from his encyclopedia of surgery, the *Al-Tasrif*, completed ca. 1000 C.E.

Whatever I know, I owe solely to my assiduous reading of books of the ancients [Greeks and Hindu], to my desire to understand them and to appropriate this science; then I have added the observation and experience of my whole life.

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Ibrahim al-Khutabi, a 10th-century Baghdad resident and scholar, from his biographical dictionary of important residents of Baghdad.

Every household was plentifully supplied with water by the numerous aqueducts which intersected the town; and the streets, gardens and parks were regularly swept and watered, and no refuse was allowed to remain within the walls. An immense square in front of the imperial palace was used for reviews, military inspections, tournaments and races; at night the square and the streets were lighted by lamps.
An unknown Muslim soldier, under the command of Abdul Rahman, whose army of Muslim warriors attacked Tours, France, in 732 C.E.

So [Abdul Rahman] and his army attacked Tours to gain still more spoil, and they fought against it so fiercely that they stormed the city almost before the eyes of the army that came to save it; and the fury and the cruelty of the Moslems towards the inhabitants of the city were like the fury and cruelty of raging tigers. It was manifest that God's chastisement was sure to follow such excesses; and fortune thereupon turned her back upon the Moslems.
Islamic Golden Age
Document Analysis Practice (Group Activity)

Document 5

Ibn Sina, Persian Muslim medical doctor and scientist from his hook *The Canon of Medicine*, ca. 1000 C.E.