Chapter 18, Section 2: Cultural Blending

- Common places where cultural blending happen are borders and trading routes
- **Cultural blending**: the mixing of cultures that produces a new pattern of behavior
- Four main causes of cultural blending:
  1. Migration
  2. Pursuit of religious freedom
  3. Trade
  4. Conquest

Changes that may come from cultural blending (memorize Ex)

- Language
  - Ex: Chinese characters used in the Japanese language
- Religion
  - Ex: Islam in Kuwait is practiced differently from Islam in Pakistan
  - Ex: Buddhism in Tibet is different from Zen Buddhism in Japan
- Styles of government
  - Democracy started in Greece and it spread around the world, same basic principles but the democracy in Kuwait is not the same as the one in America
- Racial or ethnic blending
  - Ex: Mexicans today are a mix of Spanish Europeans and Native Americans
- Arts and architecture
  - Chinese art can be found in the tiles and carpets of the Safavid Empire

Abbas the Great

- Military reforms:
  - Limited military powers by creating 2 armies loyal only to him
    - One was an army of Persians
    - The other one was an army of Christians modeled after the Janissaries
    - Equipped both with modern weapons
- Government reforms
  - Punished corruption
    - Only promoted people that were actually good and loyal
    - Highered foreigners to fill positions
- He brought members from the Christian order to the empire
  - To show Europeans that he accepted them
  - Caused cultural blending between Europeans and Safavids
- Made a new capital called **Esfahan**