*Merchants in Venice and other northern Italian cities built large Fleets to carry crusaders to the holy land. They used those fleets to open new markets in the crusaders’ states. Even after the Muslims had recaptured the city of Acre, Italian merchants kept these trade routes open. Our words sugar, cotton, rice, and muslin, which were borrowed from Arabic, show the range trade goods involved.*

*In addition to the feudal states that the crusaders set up along the Syrian and Palestinian coasts, which managed to survive for about two centuries before the Muslims reconquered them, the crusaders left in the Middle East two legacies that continue to resonate. First, the ling struggle between Islam and Christendom and the example of persecution set by Christian kings and prelates (bishops) left and inheritance of deep European merchants, Primarily Italians, had established communities in the crusaders states. After those kingdom collapsed, Muslim Rulers still encouraged trade with European businessmen.Commerce with the west benefited both Muslims and Europeans, and it continued to flourish.*

*Although the crusades failed to free the holy Land, they had a lasting effect on the way Europeans lived. When crusaders returned to Europe, They bought back such things as spices, sugar, and silk, Spices were used to keep food from spoiling. Silk replaces wool in the clothing of many lords and ladies. Noble and merchants enjoyed the new luxuries and wanted more of them.*

1. The Crusades were military expeditions undertaken by European Christians in the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries to recover the Holy Land from the Muslims. ***Explain*** two economic consequences of the crusades.