Lesson 7-1 Homework Questions, part 3

Part 1: Read pages 215 through 218 to identify the following.
1. ___________________________ We brought Buddhism to Japan in the late 500’s.
2. ___________________________ Wendi built the Great Wall to keep us out.
3. ___________________________ This is the highest goal a person can reach.
4. ___________________________ I was the capital of the Sui and Tang Dynasties (map).
5. ___________________________ Peasants labored five years to build me.
6. ___________________________ I am the number of years Tang Dynasty ruled.
7. ___________________________ A new dynasty claims to have me.

Part 2: The Woman Emperor
Wu Zhao was a Chinese sovereign who ruled unofficially as empress during the brief Zhou dynasty, which interrupted the Tang dynasty. Wu was the only Empress regnant of China in more than four thousand years. Wu Zhao was ruthless, persecuting members of the royal family as well as any of her own relatives who got in her way. She appointed competent scholar-officials and took power away from the Tang aristocracy, thus helping to secure the stability and unity for which Tang China became famous.

1. Who was Wu Zhao? How is she unique to Chinese history?
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2. Although she was ruthless as a ruler, what is she remembered to have accomplished?
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Part 3: The Buddha in Art
The earliest sculptures of the Buddha were copies of Indian and Central Asian statues. By the early sixth century, Buddhist sculpture took on Chinese characteristics: a thin figure with a mysterious smile dressed in loose robes. The faces of Buddha statues frequently show little emotion but have a distant look and smile as if in meditation. On top of the Buddha’s head is a bump that signifies wisdom and enlightenment.

1. Identify the changes the occur in the sculptures of the Buddha in the early sixth century.
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2. Critical Thinking: In your opinion why did the Chinese change the characteristics of the Buddha.
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Part 4: Writing Prompt
Examine the Cycles of Chinese Dynasties pattern on page 218. What lessons from history can be learned from the chart? Identify at least two issues that are parallels in history.
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