

# The Age of Exploration

Global History and Geography I

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

There were many reasons for the European Age of Exploration. A spirit of inquiry encouraged by the Renaissance and the conquest of the Byzantine Empire by the Ottoman Turks in 1453 which temporarily cut Europe off from trade with East Asia encouraged Europeans to search for new trade routes to Asia. In addition, monarchs created incentives for explorers to find all-water passages to Asia. Believing that by controlling trade with Asia a nation became powerful, monarchs invested time and money in exploration. Ever since the Crusades and Marco Polo's reports of Asian delicacies, European interest in Asian goods like spices, perfumes, and silks had greatly increased. Of course, better navigation skills and instruments, like the compass and the moveable rudder, allowed Europeans to sail farther than ever before. Finally, Christian rulers in Europe wanted to spread their religion through overseas exploration. All of these motives led to an explosion of exploration. Ultimately, the Age of Exploration led to increased global interactions as Europeans encountered the peoples of the world, particularly the Americas, and global cultural diffusion increased.

Questions:

- 1- How did the Renaissance contribute to the European Age of Exploration?

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- 2- How did the Ottoman conquest of the Byzantine Empire encourage exploration?

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- 3- Why did monarchs encourage exploration?

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- 4- What historical events increased the European appetite for goods from Asia? Why?

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5- What technological advances encouraged exploration? Why?

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6- How did exploration affect the world's cultures?

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Spain and Portugal led the way in looking for an all-water route to East Asia. Both countries were located on the Atlantic Ocean and had the resources needed to finance costly overseas exploration. Spain's rulers hoped to spread Catholicism and to glorify their country through overseas exploration. Starting in the late 1400s, European monarchs competed with one another in sending out explorers to find new trade routes and seek new lands.

Christopher Columbus convinced Queen Isabella of Spain to finance his voyage. On August 3, 1492, Columbus, his officers, and his crew sailed from Spain in three ships. After several months of travel, a crew member sighted land on October 12, 1492. Columbus thought that he had reached the islands of the East Indies, so he called the people he met "Indians". While Columbus believed that by traveling west he would arrive in the east, he had miscalculated the size of the earth. Had he not accidentally landed in the Americas, his crew would have perished. After his initial voyage, Columbus made three additional voyages. In 1506 when he died, Columbus still believed that he had discovered a new route to Asia.

After Columbus' journey, Spain asked the pope what non-Christian areas it might claim. In 1493, the pope drew a line down a map and divided the world into two parts. Spain could control all new land discovered west of the line or the Americas. Portugal could control all new land east of the line or Africa and India. Portugal did not like this decision. So in 1494, officials from Spain and Portugal met to settle the problem. They agreed to move the line farther west. This let Portugal control Brazil in the Americas.

Questions:

7: Why did Spanish monarchs encourage exploration?

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8: Why did Columbus travel west?

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9: How did Spain and Portugal agree to divide the world?

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# The Columbian Exchange

## The Columbian Biological Exchange

<i>Forms of Biological Life Going From:</i>		
	<b>Old World to New World:</b>	<b>New World to Old World:</b>
<b>Diseases:</b>	Smallpox Measles Chicken Pox Malaria Yellow Fever Influenza The Common Cold	Syphilis
<b>Animals:</b>	Horses Cattle Pigs Sheep Goats Chickens	Turkeys Llamas Alpacas Guinea Pigs
<b>Plants:</b>	Rice Wheat Barley Oats Coffee Sugarcane Bananas Melons Olives Dandelions Daisies Clover Ragweed Kentucky Bluegrass	Corn (Maize) Potatoes (White & Sweet Varieties) Beans (Snap, Kidney, & Lima Varieties) Tobacco Peanuts Squash Peppers Tomatoes Pumpkins Pineapples Cacao (Source of Chocolate) Chicle (Source of Chewing Gum) Papayas Manioc (Tapioca) Guavas Avocados

### Questions:

10- Examine the chart. Using your knowledge of Social Studies and the chart, define the Columbian Exchange:

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11- In addition to the exchange of products, there was a movement of people during this period. Explain the movement of people due to exploration.

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Which was a result of the Commercial Revolution

1. decline in population growth in Europe
2. shift of power from Western Europe to Eastern Europe
3. spread of feudalism throughout Western Europe
4. expansion of European influence overseas

Which was an immediate result of the European Age of Exploration?

1. Islamic culture spread across Africa and Asia
2. European influence spread to the Western hemisphere
3. independence movements developed in Asia and Africa
4. military dictatorships were established throughout Europe

A major result of the Age of Exploration was

1. a long period of peace and prosperity for the nations of Western Europe
2. extensive migration of people from the Western Hemisphere to Europe and Asia
3. the fall of European national monarchies and the end of the power of the Catholic Church
4. the end of regional isolation and the beginning of a period of European global domination

The Commercial Revolution in Western Europe led directly to the

1. development of a socialist economy
2. establishment of the Guild System
3. weakening of the power of the middle class
4. expansion of world trade

Which of these events during the Age of Exploration was a cause of the other three?

1. Europeans brought food, animals, and ideas from one continent to another
2. European diseases had an adverse effect on the native populations of new territories
3. warfare increased as European nations competed for land and power
4. advances in learning and technology made long ocean voyages possible

In Latin America during the early period of Spanish colonialism, the deaths of large numbers of the native people led to

1. a decline in Spanish immigration to the Americas
2. the removal of most Spanish troops from the Americas
3. the importation of slaves from Africa
4. improved health care in the colonies