

3. Critical Thinking: Synthesis Mercantilism ultimately was the greatest contributor to its own decline. From your understanding of the reading, provide at least two examples to support this statement.

ACTIVITY

The tables below contain data regarding the weight in grams of silver and gold imported by Spain from its colonies in America. Under mercantilism, Spain paid no more than the cost of extraction and shipment for these valuable materials. Today, gold and silver are traded in world markets. Calculate the approximate value of these Spanish imports on today's market, filling in the chart with this information as you go. Currently, the price of gold is about \$15 per gram, and the price of silver is about \$0.25 per gram.

Period	Silver	Current Value
1521–1530	148,739	
1531–1540	86,193,876	
1541–1550	177,573,164	
1551–1560	303,121,174	
1591–1600	2,707,626,528	
1621–1630	2,145,339,043	
1651–1660	443,256,546	

Period	Gold	Current Value
1521–1530	4,889,050	
1531–1540	14,466,360	
1541–1550	24,957,130	
1551–1560	42,620,080	
1591–1600	19,451,420	
1621–1630	3,889,760	
1651–1660	469,430	