

WORLD HISTORY STUDY GUIDE – THE AGE OF EXPLORATION (SSWH10)

Explain the roles of explorers and conquistadors; include Zheng He, Vasco da Gama, Christopher Columbus, Ferdinand Magellan, James Cook, and Samuel de Champlain. (SSWH10a)

For each of the following explorers, explain a) which country they sailed for, b) which country they explored and c) what makes them historically significant.

1. Zheng Ge
2. Vasco de Gama
3. Christopher Columbus
4. Ferdinand Magellan
5. James Cook
6. Samuel de Champlain

→ For questions 1-6, look at the unit vocabulary.

7. What is a conquistador?

Spanish soldiers who came to New World to conquer

8. What language is spoken in most of Central and South America today?

Spanish

9. What is the importance of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain to the Age of Exploration?

Paid for the voyages of Columbus and Magellan

10. How did the Renaissance contribute to the Age of Exploration?

Advances in technology made exploration possible

11. What were the three main motivations for European exploration?

Gold, glory, and God

12. Of these three, what was the biggest motivation for exploration?

Gold

13. Explain the importance of Portugal in the Age of Exploration.

They led the advancement of navigation and explored east towards India

14. Explain why some people believe Christopher Columbus should not be celebrated as hero.

He sold people - including children - into slavery

15. What does circumnavigation mean?

Sail around the world

Define the Columbian Exchange and its global economic and cultural impact (SSWH10b)

16. What was the Columbian Exchange?

The transfer of plants, animals, and diseases between the old world and the new world

17. Which two continents made up the New World?

North and South America

18. Which two continents made up the Old World?

Europe and Africa

19. Give examples of things that were brought from the Old World to the New World.

Small pox, corn, coffee, yellow fever, slavery

20. Give examples of things that were brought from the New World to the Old World.

Potatoes, syphilis, gold, raw materials

21. Explain how the Columbian Exchange affected Native Americans.

Many were taken into slavery, but most were killed by diseases

22. Describe the area(s) which were conquered by Spain.

The Bahamas, Haiti, Mexico, much of South America, Florida

23. Describe the area(s) which were conquered by Portugal.

India and modern-day Brazil

24. What was the Triangle Trade?

Trade network between Europe, Africa, and the Americas

25. What was the Middle Passage?

The route between Africa and the Americas - slaves packed into ships as cargo

26. Describe what the Middle Passage was like for slaves.

Overcrowded ships, underfed, beaten, diseased, no sanitation, many died.

27. Where did most slaves that were taken to the New World come from?

West Africa

28. What type of work did slaves do in the New World?

Work on plantations - mostly farming sugarcane

c. Explain the role of improved technology in European exploration; include the astrolabe (SSWH10c)

29. Explain the importance of Prince Henry the Navigator to the Age of Exploration.

Without his advancements in navigation, Europe would not have been able to explore

30. Explain why Europeans did not explore much before the 1400s.

They did not have ships able to make long voyages and would have gotten lost

31. Explain the importance of the astrolabe to the Age of Exploration.

Gave explorers a way of figuring out where they were on the globe (north and south)

32. Explain the importance of the caravel to the Age of Exploration.

Ship could sail against the wind and hold enough supplies for long voyages

33. Explain the importance of the compass to the Age of Exploration.

Gave sailors the ability to know which direction they were travelling

34. What did the invention of the printing press make more widely available?

Books, information, and maps

35. How did the invention of the printing press impact literacy in Europe?

More people have access to books = more people could read.