The Age of Discovery
~Exploration

IMPORTANT CONCEPTS:

- The expanding economies of European states stimulated increased trade with markets in Asia.
- With the loss of Constantinople in 1453, European nations fronting the Atlantic sought new maritime routes for trade.
- This is known as the *Age of Exploration* or the *Age of Discovery*

Exploration

Factors Contributing to Exploration

I. Factors for exploration:

- Demand for gold, spices, and natural resources in Europe
  *(European demand for resources ↑)*
- Support for the diffusion of Christianity
  *(Spread of Christianity ↑)*
- Political and economic competition between European empires
  *(European political and economic competition ↑)*
- Innovations in navigational arts (European and Islamic origins)
  *(Technology ↑)*
- Pioneering role of Prince Henry the Navigator
  *(Prince Henry the Navigator ↑)*
II. Gold, Glory, and God

Gold:

- Europeans wanted to get rich
  1. Getting gold
  2. Trading spices
  3. Finding natural resources

Glory:

- Europeans competed to be richest and biggest

God:

- Europeans wanted diffusion of Christianity

III. The Explorers

- Prince Henry the Navigator
  Portugal
  Brought experts together to study navigation
  Paid for exploration

- Vasco Da Gama
  Portugal
  sailed around tip of Africa to India
  1st water route to Asia

- Christopher Columbus
  Spain
  Sailed west to Asia but landed in Bahamas
1st European to find “New World”

Spain wanted to be in India but Chris landed in the Americas

- **Ferdinand Magellan**
  - Spain
  - Captained the crew - 1st to circumnavigate the world
  - He named the Pacific

- **Hernando Cortez**
  - Spain
  - Conquered the Aztecs & took over Mexico

- **Francisco Pizarro**
  - Spain
  - Conquered Incas
  - Took over Peru & Chile

- **Francis Drake**
  - England
  - 1st Englishman to circumnavigate the globe

- **Jacques Cartier**
  - France
  - Claimed Eastern Canada (Quebec) for France
IV. Global Connection

- **Commercial Revolution:**
  European maritime nations competed for overseas markets, colonies, and resources
  A new economic system emerged
  New money and banking systems were created
  Economic practices such as mercantilism evolved
  Colonial economies were limited by the economic needs of the mother country

- **Mercantilism:**
  An economic practice adopted by European colonial powers in an effort to become self-sufficient; based on the theory that colonies existed for the benefit of the mother country
  - European economic system
  - Goal: self sufficiency (do not need outside help)
  - Mother country has colonies to supply resources

**The Americas:**
European expansion into the Americas
Demise of Aztec, Maya, and Inca Empires
Legacy of a rigid class system and dictatorial rule in Latin America
Forced migration of some Africans into slavery
Colonies’ imitation of the culture and social patterns of their parent country
Africa:
European trading posts along the coast
Trade in slaves, gold, and other products

Asia:
Colonization by small groups of merchants (India, the Indies, China)
Influence of trading companies (Portuguese, Dutch, British)

Precious metals:
Gold and silver exported from Americas to Europe and Asia

- **The Columbian Exchange:**
  - Draw symbols in the chart to help you remember the facts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From the Americas:</th>
<th>From Europe:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>horses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>cattle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes</td>
<td>Christianity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bullion/gold</td>
<td>diseases like smallpox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“New World” to “Old World”</td>
<td>“Old World” to “New World”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

People of the Americas decimated (killed off) ↓
Spain’s power and wealth ↑
International trade ↑
- **Triangular Trade**

**Linked Europe, Africa, and the Americas**

**Slaves, sugar, and rum were traded**

First leg of the triangle-

European merchants purchased African slaves with commodities manufactured in Europe or imported from European colonies in Asia

Second leg-

They then sold the slaves in the Caribbean and purchased such easily transportable commodities as sugar, cotton, and tobacco

Third leg-

Finally, the merchants would then sell these goods in Europe and North America

The profits from these sales were used to purchase more goods to trade in Africa, continuing the trading cycle

➤ **Label the Triangular Trade triangle below using the information provided:**
1. **Which of the following factors contributed to the discovery of lands in the Western Hemisphere?**
   A Economic competition between European empires
   B Support for the spread of Islam
   C Spanish desire for prison colonies
   D Asian demand for tobacco

2. **Which explorer was from Portugal?**
   A Jacques Cartier
   B Vasco da Gama
   C Hernando Cortez
   D Francis Drake

3. **European migration to the Americas resulted in**
   A the demise of the Aztec, Maya, and Inca empires.
   B the establishment of democratic rule in Latin America.
   C the diffusion of the American culture back to Europe.
   D Asian trading posts along the Americas.

4. **The impact of the Columbian Exchange included**
   A the death of many American Indians from smallpox.
   B the introduction of small farm animals from the Americas to Europe.
   C the exchange of products such as porcelain and silk.
   D an improvement in the environment in the Caribbean as a result of the plantation system.

5. **Ferdinand Magellan explored for**
   A Portugal.
   B Spain.
   C England.
   D France.
6. Which explorer received credit for establishing the first permanent colonies in the Americas?
   A Cortez
   B Pizarro
   C Columbus
   D Magellan

7. The second person to circumnavigate the globe was
   A Cartier
   B da Gama
   C Cortez
   D Drake

8. Where were the majority of seventeenth-century African slaves sent?
   A Caribbean Islands
   B Brazil
   C Mexico
   D Canada

9. The global transfer of plants, animals, disease, and food, between the Eastern and Western hemispheres during the colonization of the Americas is called the
   A Middle Passage.
   B Columbian Exchange.
   C Triangular Trade.
   D Inter-hemisphere Exchange.

10. All of the following were reasons for exploration EXCEPT
    A God.
    B gold.
    C glory.
    D grain.