



Name: _____ Date: _____

Exploring the Americas Assignment

Vocabulary

20 Points - 2 Each

Define each of the following terms with a concise sentence or two.

1. circumnavigate

2. *encomienda*

3. strait

4. line of demarcation

5. technology

6. plantation

7. mission

Continue on next page.

8. Northwest Passage

9. conquistador

10. hardtack

Determining Cause and Effect 10 Points

When determining cause and effect, look for an event (the **cause**) that makes something else happen (the **effect**). For example, when European settlers came to the Americas, they unknowingly exposed the Native Americans to diseases. The arrival of the Europeans was the *cause* that resulted in the *effect* of the deaths of many Native Americans. After each cause, write the letter of its effect from the Fact Bank.

Fact Bank

- A. They look for different options to the overland route through the Middle East.
- B. Europeans thought about themselves and the world in a dramatically different way.
- C. Timbuktu became an important center of Islamic art and learning.
- D. People became interested in India, China, and the rest of Asia.
- E. Sailors could determine their latitude at sea.
- F. They studied Greek and Roman classical works with new interest.
- G. Many West Africans became Muslims.
- H. Sailors could sail into the wind.
- I. The people of Ghana prospered.
- J. Marco Polo's *Travels* was read by many people in Europe.

1. **Cause:** Exotic goods from the East appeared in European marketplaces.

Effect: _____

2. **Cause:** Italians wanted to improve their knowledge of people and the world.

Effect: _____

Continue on next page.

3. **Cause:** The spirit of the Renaissance spread in Europe.

Effect: _____

5. **Cause:** Movable type and the printing press were invented.

Effect: _____

7. **Cause:** The stern rudder and the triangular sail were invented.

Effect: _____

9. **Cause:** Muslim traders from North Africa came to Ghana.

Effect: _____

4. **Cause:** Merchants and bankers in Europe wanted to increase trade profits.

Effect: _____

6. **Cause:** The astrolabe, which measures the position of the stars, was invented.

Effect: _____

8. **Cause:** The kings of Ghana imposed taxes on trade.

Effect: _____

10. **Cause:** Mansa Musa had great mosques built in the capital of Mali.

Effect: _____

Completion

15 Points

In the space provided, write the word or phrase from the Word Bank that best completes each sentence.

Word Bank

Africans

Atuahualpa

Hernán Cortés

Montezuma

guns and cannons

fountain of youth

Hernando de Soto

plantations

Francisco Pizarro

Juan Ponce de León

settlements

Fransisco Vásquez de Coronado

diseases

slaves

class

- _____ 1.
- _____ 2.
- _____ 3.
- _____ 4.
- _____ 5.
- _____ 6.
- _____ 7.

Spanish Conquistadors

Spanish conquistadors received grants from Spanish rulers to explore (1) ___ in the Americas. In 1519, (2)___ landed on the east coast of Mexico. He was welcomed into the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlán by the Aztec emperor, (3)___, whom he then took prisoner. In 1532, (4) ___ captured the Inca ruler, (5) ___, and destroyed much of the Incan army. The conquistadors conquered the Aztecs and the Incas partly because the Spanish had weapons such as (6) ___. The Europeans unknowingly brought (7) ___ to which Native Americans had no immunity.

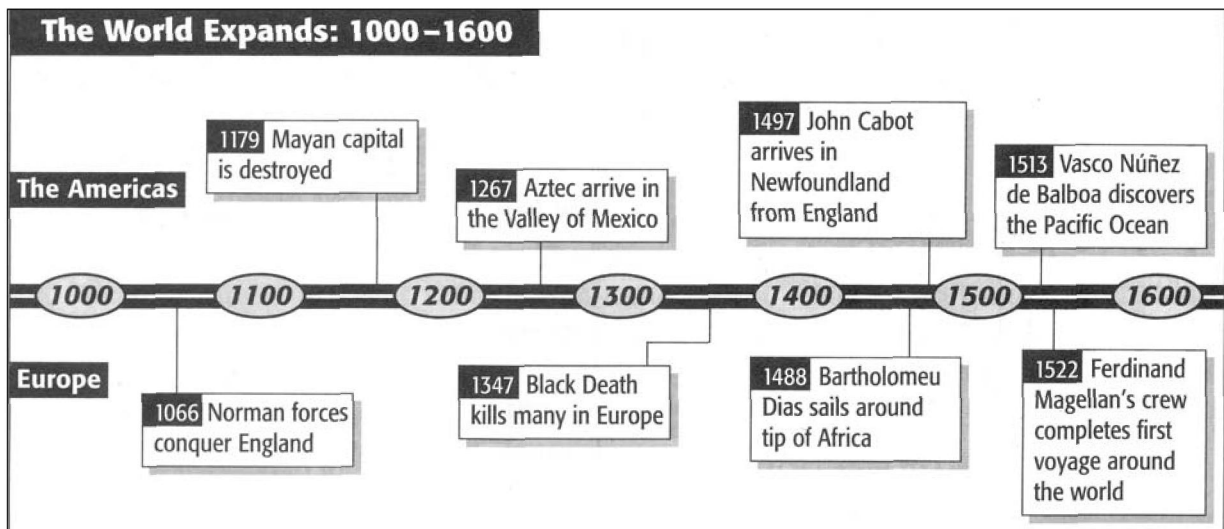
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- _____ 8. **Spain in North America**
 (8) ____, the first Spaniard to land on the
 _____ 9. mainland of North America, was searching for
 gold and the (9) _____. Tales of the seven cities of
 _____ 10. gold told by Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca in
 1536 inspired the explorations of (10) ____ and
 _____ 11. (11) _____.
- _____ 12. **Spanish Rule**
 The Spanish developed a complex
 _____ 13. (12) ____ system in the Americas. The Spanish
 government granted each conquistador the right
 _____ 14. to demand taxes or labor from the Native
 Americans, which turned the Native Americans
 _____ 15. into (13) _____. Bartolomé de Las Casas helped
 improve conditions for Native Americans. By
 the mid-1500s, however, the Spanish had forced
 (14) ____ to work as slaves on the Spanish
 tobacco and sugarcane (15) _____.

Reading and Analyzing a Time Line

9 Points

A time line lists events that occurred over a period of time. The number of years covered is called a time span, and the segments are called time intervals. A time line can show events in more than one place. Use the time line to answer the questions that follow.



Continue on next page.

1. What is the time span covered by this time line? (1 point)

2. How far apart is each interval. (1 point)

3. Where did the events above the time line take place? (1 point)

4. Where did the events below the time line take place? (1 point)

5. How many years after the Mayan capital was destroyed did the Aztec arrive in the Valley of Mexico? (1 point)

6. Did John Cabot sail to Newfoundland before or after Bartholomeu Dias sailed around the tip of Africa? (1 point)

7. What happened in the Americas in the year 1513? (1 point)

8. Answer this more fully: Why was the year 1537 a difficult year in Europe? (2 points)