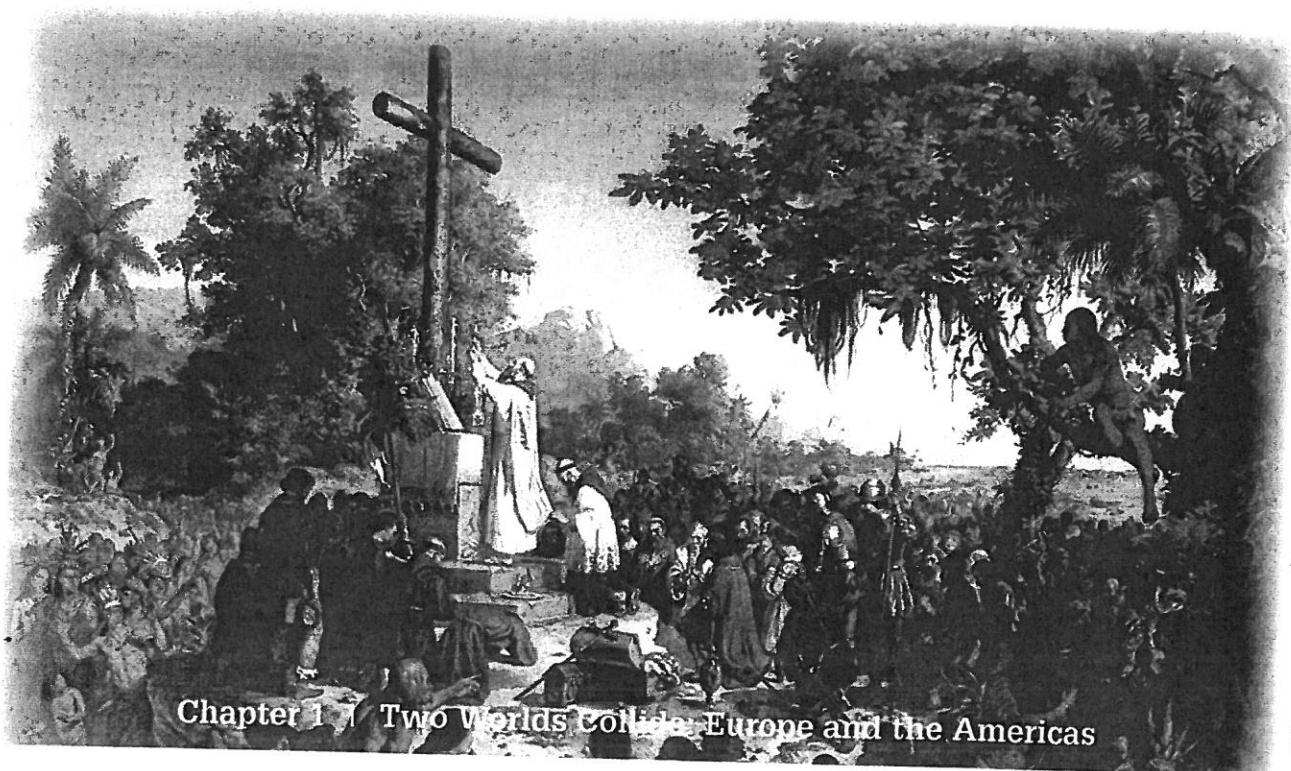




CHAPTER 1 Two Worlds Collide: Europe and the Americas

SS.6.A.2.1 Compare the relationships among the British, French, Spanish, and Dutch in their struggle for colonization of North America.

SS.6.A.2.5 Discuss the impact of colonial settlement on Native American populations.



Terms and Names You Should Know

Eastern Hemisphere

Silk Road

Western Hemisphere

Americas

Descendants

Encounter

Columbian Exchange

Colonies

Catholic Church

Pope

Martin Luther

Protestants

Netherlands

Northwest Passage

New France

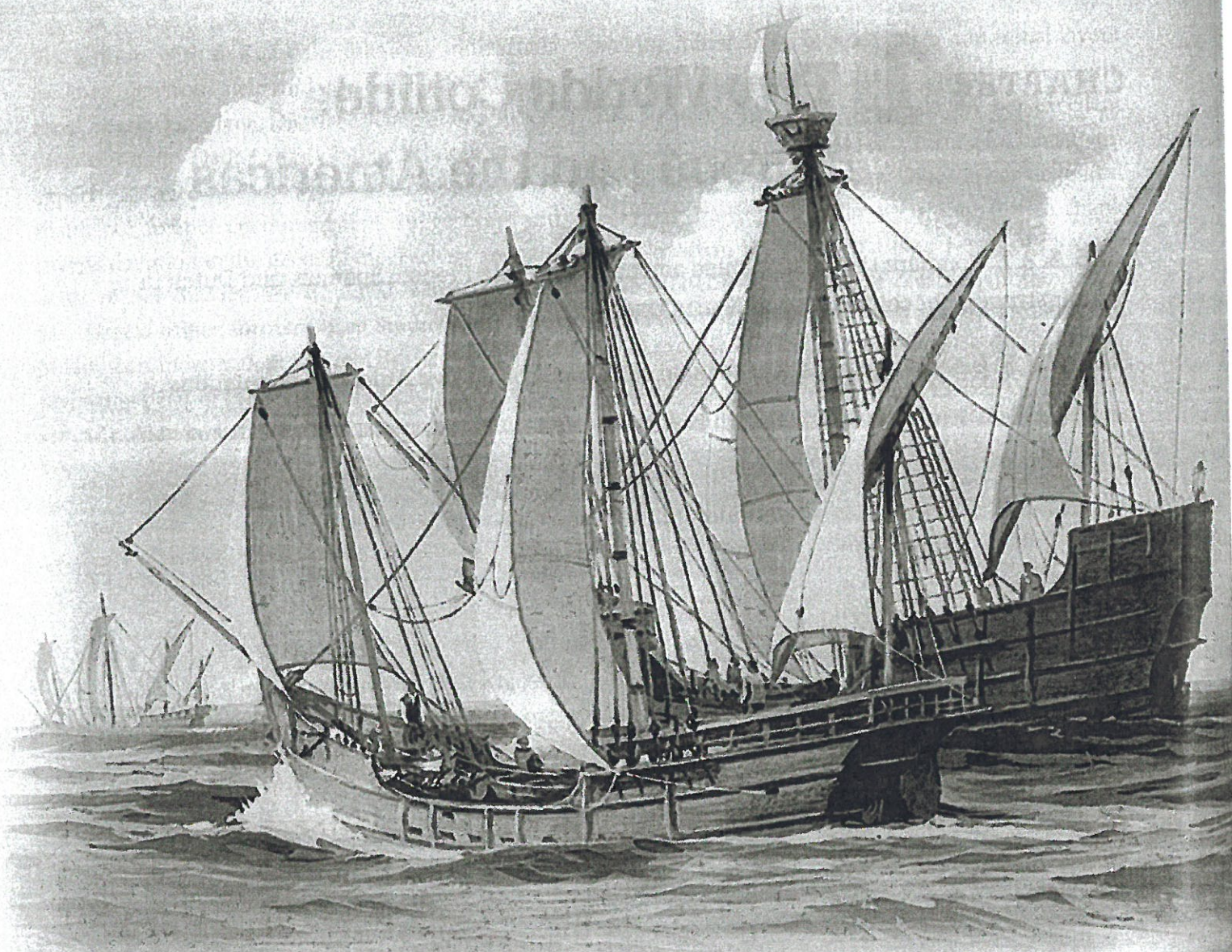
Competition

Religious Competition

Political Competition

Economic Competition

Cultural Competition



Florida "Keys" to Learning

1. Five hundred years ago, the peoples of the Eastern and Western Hemispheres had no knowledge of one another.
2. Europeans used a trade route known as the "Silk Road" to trade with Asia. Europeans were fond of Asian spices, silks and porcelains.
3. European explorers tried to find new routes to East Asia, especially after the Ottoman Turks conquered Constantinople.
4. Christopher Columbus believed he could reach Asia by sailing west. With the support of Queen Isabella of Spain, Columbus sailed west across the Atlantic and landed in the Americas in 1492. He thought he had landed in Asia.
5. Columbus' voyage led to an exchange of plants, animals, technology, culture and diseases known as the Columbian Exchange. Europeans brought the first horses, dogs, sheep, chickens, wheat, rice and other crops to the Americas. Native Americans introduced Europeans to corn, tomatoes, potatoes, squash, chocolate, tobacco and other crops. Europeans also brought new technologies and new diseases. Native Americans had no immunity to smallpox, measles and other European diseases. Many died in epidemics.
6. Spain set up colonies in the Americas, starting in the Caribbean Islands. Hernán Cortés conquered the Aztecs in 1521. Spanish soldiers enslaved the Indians and built themselves large estates.
7. In 1530, Francisco Pizarro conquered the Inca Empire of Peru. Mexico and Peru provided large amounts of gold to Spain.
8. Disagreements between Catholics and Protestants led to religious wars in Europe. Other European rulers worried about Spain's riches from the Americas. They began to send their own explorers to make their own claims.
9. French explorer Samuel Champlain started the French settlement at Quebec in 1608. Champlain was also the first European to reach the Great Lakes.
10. Fifty years after Champlain, French explorer Robert de La Salle sailed down the Mississippi River and claimed the territory around it for France. He named it Louisiana after French King Louis XIV. French settlements in the New World never attracted large numbers of colonists and mainly served as fur trading outposts.
11. The Netherlands hired English navigator Henry Hudson to explore the Americas. In 1609, Hudson entered New York Harbor and sailed up the Hudson River. Later he was the first European to reach Hudson Bay. His explorations became the basis for the Dutch claims in the New World.
12. The Dutch established a colony, which they called New Netherland. Control over the colony was given to the Dutch West India Company. The Dutch encouraged settlers and welcomed all people from all parts of the world leading to great diversity of religious beliefs.

Two Worlds Apart

What was it like to live 500 years ago?

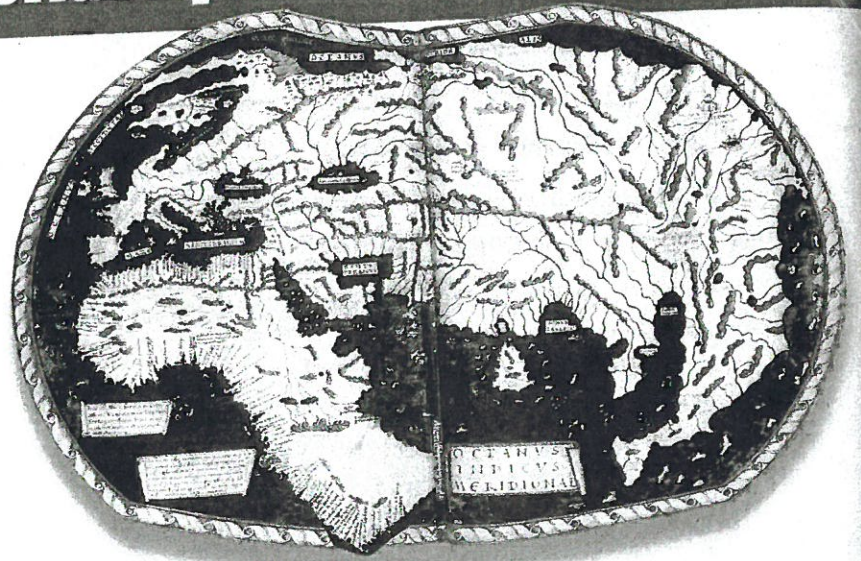
Travel was slow compared to today. There were no airplanes, cars, or even trains. To travel on land, people could only walk, ride on a horse or donkey, or sit in a horse-drawn cart or carriage. To travel by water, they had to sail on wooden ships. Ships were powered by oars or the wind. Travel was so difficult that most people spent their entire lives in their own village without ever going anywhere at all.

While travel was limited, people in Europe, Asia, and Africa used the resources they had to create complex lifestyles. They developed mathematics, science, religion, philosophy, medicine, and the arts. They learned to grow different crops, such as wheat and rice. They raised pigs, cattle, and sheep. Although most people lived in the countryside, many lived in towns and cities. These became centers of craftsmanship and trade. People developed skills, such as making metal armor, that were useful in war. Builders were able to construct large structures, from the pyramids of ancient Egypt to the towering stone Gothic cathedrals of medieval Europe.

The Eastern Hemisphere

By 1492, Europe was divided into separate kingdoms. To the east, powerful emperors ruled China. The Middle East was united under the Ottoman Turks. South of the Sahara Desert, Africans were divided into kingdoms and tribes.

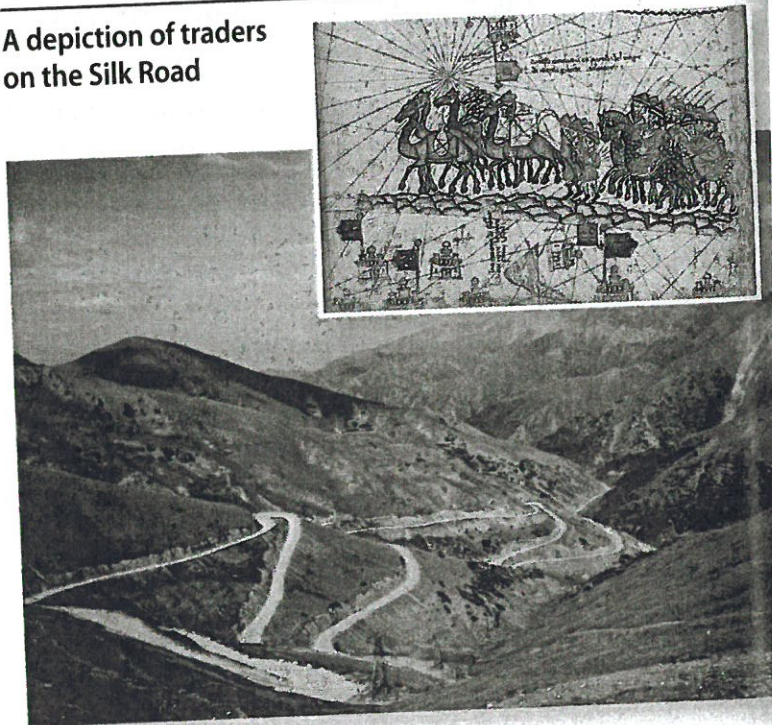
Europeans, Africans, and Asians shared a few giant land masses. The people of the **Eastern Hemisphere** traded goods and ideas with one another. Europeans loved the spices, silks,



The World as it was understood in 1490:
Europe, Africa, and Asia

and porcelains of East Asia. These goods were traded along the “Silk Road”—an overland route across Central Asia that has existed since Roman times. After the Turkish capture of the city of Constantinople in 1453, it became more difficult for Europeans to reach the Silk Road.

A depiction of traders
on the Silk Road



Sometimes trade and other contacts between peoples led to trouble. In the 1340s, merchant ships from Asia brought the Black Death to Europe. This disease killed as much as one third of Europe's population.

The Western Hemisphere— The Americas

Unknown to the people of the Eastern Hemisphere, millions of people also lived on the other side of the Earth—in the **Western Hemisphere**. More than fifteen thousand years ago, hunters and their families crossed a land bridge that once connected northeastern Asia and Alaska. From there, their **descendants** (*children and later generations*) had spread across the Americas. They discovered how to plant corn and other crops. In some places, such as central Mexico, they built large cities.



People suffering from the Black Death

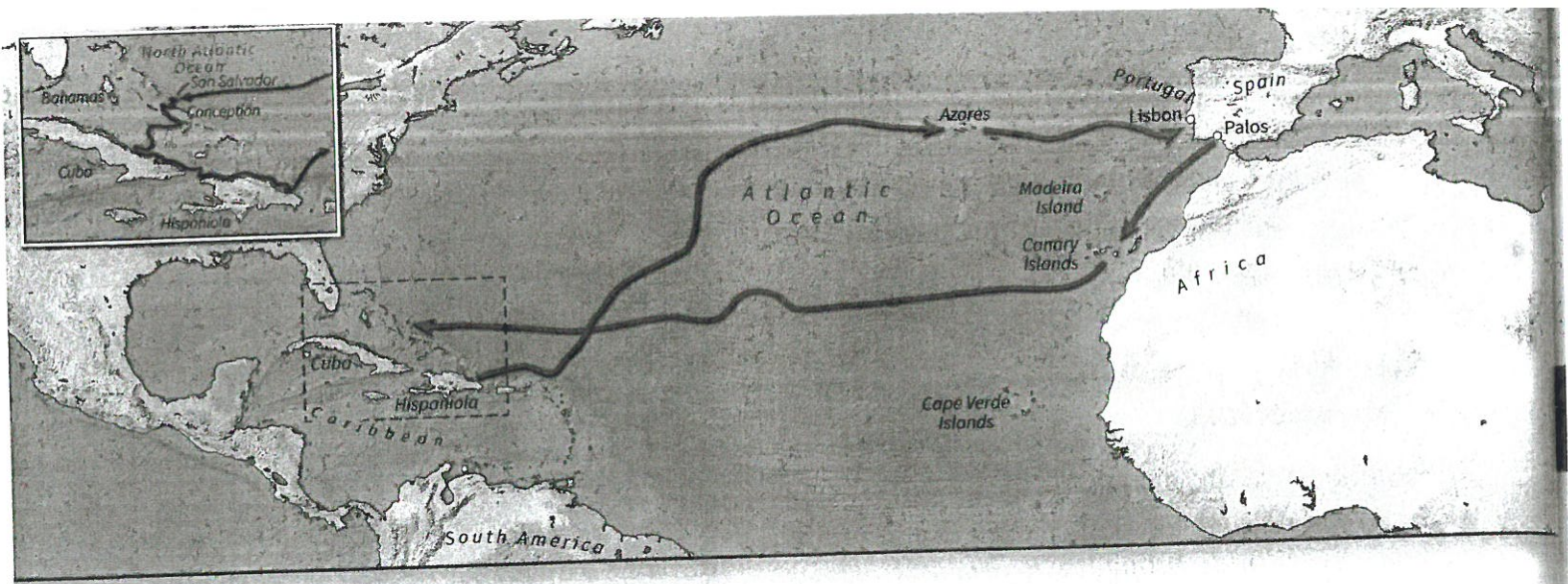
The peoples of the Eastern Hemisphere (Europe, Africa, and Asia) and of the Western Hemisphere (the Americas) lived completely apart for thousands of years. Separated by the oceans, they had no idea at all of each other's existence. But that was about to change.

Columbus and the Great Encounter

The Voyages of Columbus

Christopher Columbus was an experienced sailor from the Italian city of Genoa. Most Europeans already knew that the world was round. Columbus mistakenly believed it was smaller than it actually is. By using the trade winds, he thought he could reach Asia by sailing west. Travel to the east by land had become more difficult after the Turkish conquest of Constantinople, making Asian spices and other goods even more valuable. New inventions, such as the magnetic compass and ships with moveable rudders, seemed to make such a voyage possible. However, Columbus lacked the money he





Columbus' Route to Western Hemisphere: the First Voyage

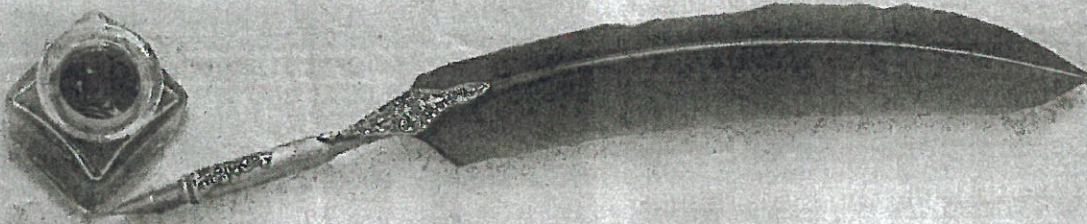
needed to make this journey. He needed ships, men, and supplies.

Columbus tried to persuade the King of Portugal to support his expedition. He failed. Finally, Queen Isabella of Spain agreed to help.

Columbus set sail from Spain with three ships in early August 1492. He stopped at the Canary Islands in September. Then he sailed west into the open ocean for five weeks before reaching land in early October. Columbus landed on the

The Historian's Apprentice

Imagine that you are Christopher Columbus. Write a letter to Ferdinand and Isabella describing your voyage and discoveries. You can use the paragraph frame below or write your own letter.



Your Majesties,

Thanks to your great generosity, I was able to hire _____ ships. We set sail on _____

The weather was _____. First we stopped at _____. Then we were on the open sea with no sight of land for many weeks. I became afraid that _____.

The crew _____. Finally, we arrived on land. Your Majesties have never seen such a beautiful place. _____.

The people of Asia are very strange and not at all what I expected. _____.

Your very devoted subject,
Christopher Columbus

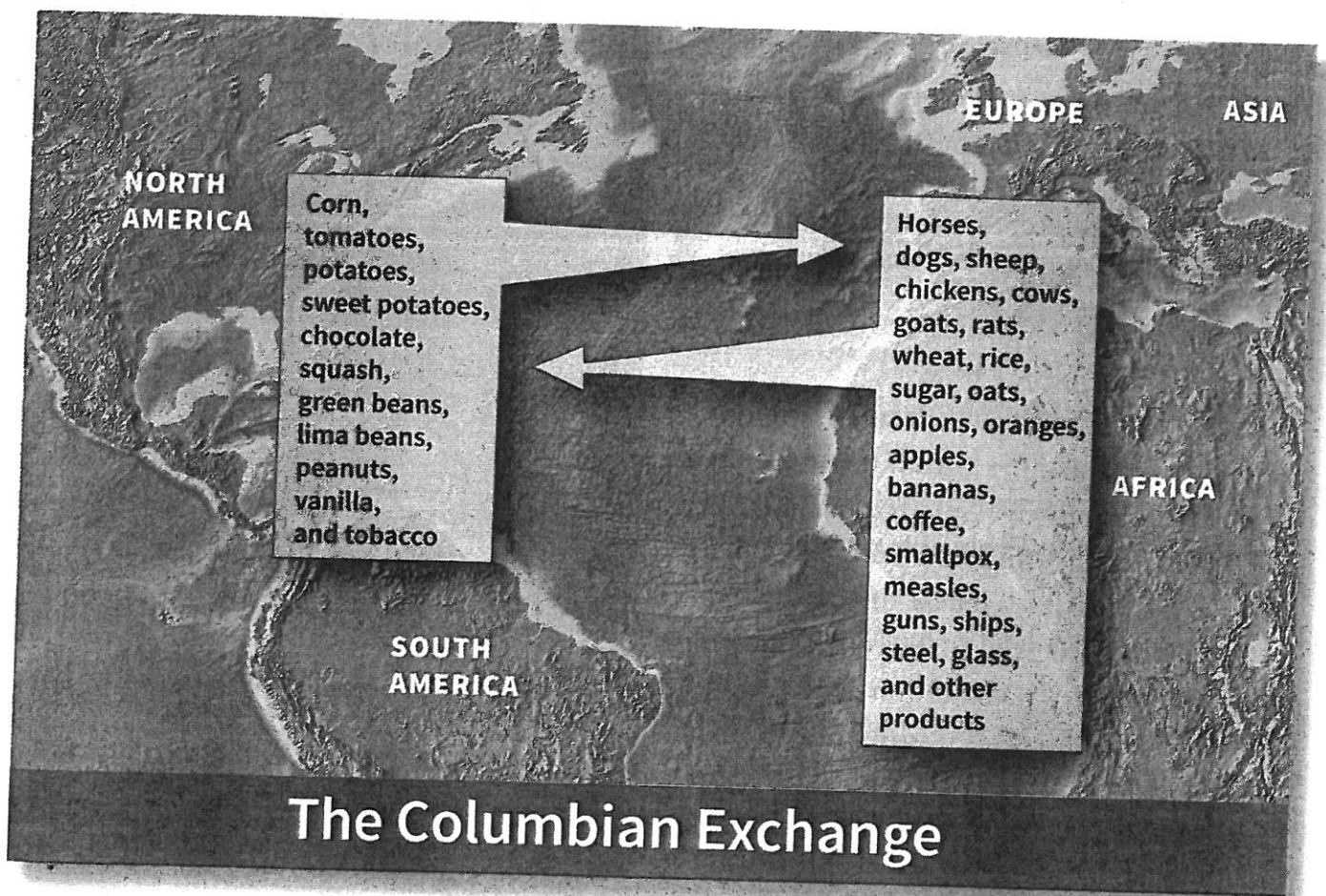
island of San Salvador. He thought, however, that he had landed in Japan. He then sailed to Cuba and the island of Hispaniola (Haiti and the Dominican Republic). Columbus made three other voyages to the Americas. He forced

native peoples to search for gold and was later accused of treating them cruelly. But he was still a great explorer. Because of Columbus, the two worlds of the Eastern and Western Hemispheres finally came into contact with one another.

The Columbian Exchange

The **encounter** (*meeting*) between the Old and New Worlds brought new plants and animals to each hemisphere. This is known as the **Columbian Exchange**. Native Americans grew corn, tomatoes, potatoes, sweet potatoes, chocolate, squash, green beans, lima beans, peanuts, vanilla, and tobacco. These crops were all unknown in Europe at the time. European explorers brought with them horses, dogs, sheep,

chickens, cows, goats, rats, wheat, rice, sugar, oats, onions, oranges, apples, bananas, and coffee. None of these had ever been seen in the Americas until the explorers arrived. Europeans also brought new products that they made, such as large ships, cannons, glass, and steel. Finally, the Columbian Exchange brought new diseases to the Americas. Native American peoples had no **immunity** against these diseases.



The Columbian Exchange

Europeans called the Americas the “New World.” Of course this area wasn’t really new at all. It had existed for millions of years. Native Americans had been living there for thousands of years. But for Europeans, the lands discovered by Columbus were new. The idea that there was a whole other previously unknown continent came as a great surprise.

Europeans Divide the New World

Soon after Columbus’ first voyage, the **Pope** (*the head of the Catholic Church*) divided the Americas between Spain and Portugal. The Pope gave Portugal the territory of present-day Brazil,

where people still speak Portuguese. He gave the rest of the New World to Spain. France, Holland, and Great Britain—all countries on the Atlantic—did not accept this division. They sent new explorers across the Atlantic Ocean to make their own claims on the lands of the New World.

Europeans looked down on the native peoples of the Americas. They saw them as savage and uncivilized. They thought of the Americas as their own. European rulers competed to make claims in the New World. They hoped to gain new territories, obtain enormous riches, and convert the peoples of the Americas to Christianity.

The Spanish Conquest of Mexico and Peru

The Conquest of Mexico

The Spanish set up their first **colonies** in the Caribbean Islands.

A **colony** is a settlement that a country makes in a different place. It sends colonists who bring their own language, traditions and ways of doing things.

From the Caribbean, Spanish explorers went to the mainland. **Hernán Cortés** landed with a force of only five hundred men in Mexico. He burned his ships and marched into the interior. He became a guest of the powerful Aztec Emperor in his capital city of Tenochtitlan. This large city was built on many islands. Impressed by its riches, Cortés made plans to conquer the Aztecs. Cortés actually took Emperor Montezuma as his prisoner while still in the capital. Later, Montezuma was killed and



Hernán Cortés

the Spaniards fled. They allied with enemies of the Aztecs. Then they returned and conquered the Aztec capital in 1521. Cortés and his men

The Historian's Apprentice

How did a handful of Spaniards conquer the entire Aztec empire? Write a paragraph explaining how this happened in your journal or on a separate sheet of paper. Illustrate your paragraph with your own picture.

An Aztec temple: Human sacrifices to the sun god were once made at the top of the temple.



had cannons, horses, dogs, and Indian allies. The Aztecs were suffering from an epidemic of smallpox at the time of the attack.

Mexico under Spanish Rule

The Spanish conquerors tore down the giant Aztec temple used for human sacrifices and for worshipping the sun. They used its stones to build a great Catholic cathedral, which still stands in the center of Mexico City today. The Spanish also set up a new government. A **vice-roy** (*deputy*) of the King of Spain became the governor of Mexico. Spanish became Mexico's official language. The Catholic Church started converting the Indians to Christianity.

Mexico had vast amounts of gold and silver. These were seized by the Spanish conquerors and sent back to Europe. Indians were forced to work in Mexico's gold and silver mines. The King of Spain received one-fifth of all the gold and silver that was taken.

Cortés rewarded his soldiers with large pieces of land in Mexico. Indians were handed over to Spanish landowners to work in their mines and on their farms. Millions of Indians

died from overwork and from the spread of smallpox, measles, and other diseases that the Spanish had brought from the Old World.

The Conquest of Peru

Francisco Pizarro, a second "**conquistador**" (*conqueror*), was the mayor of the capital of the Spanish colony of Panama. Learning of Cortés' success, Pizarro dreamed of conquering the **Inca Empire** in Peru. In 1530, he received the support of the King of Spain for his plans. Pizarro sailed to Peru. With just two hundred men and four can-



nons, Pizarro faced an army of several thousand Inca warriors. The Inca Emperor Atahualpa went to greet Pizarro with only unarmed nobles. Pizarro surprised the Incas by attacking and capturing their Emperor. Pizarro then demanded that an entire room be filled with gold and silver for Atahualpa's release. Even though the Incas provided the gold and silver that Pizarro

demanded, Pizarro had Atahualpa killed anyway. Pizarro next conquered the Inca capital of

Cuzco. He turned Peru into a Spanish colony and founded its new capital at Lima.

Religious Conflict in Europe

While Spaniards were conquering the Americas, the people of Western Europe fell into a sharp disagreement. For centuries, they had been united by the **Catholic Church**. The Catholic Church was led by the Pope in Rome. Some Christians now openly questioned the Pope's authority. It all began when **Martin Luther**, a German monk, nailed a list of 95 complaints onto his church door. Luther believed that people should read the Bible for themselves. Luther and his followers no longer accepted the Pope as God's representative on Earth. Because Luther and other reformers protested against the Catholic Church, they became known as **Protestants**.

These disagreements over religion led to a series of bloody wars. For more than a hundred years, Protestants and Catholics fought one another. The rulers of Spain used much of their wealth from the Americas to pay soldiers to fight in these wars.

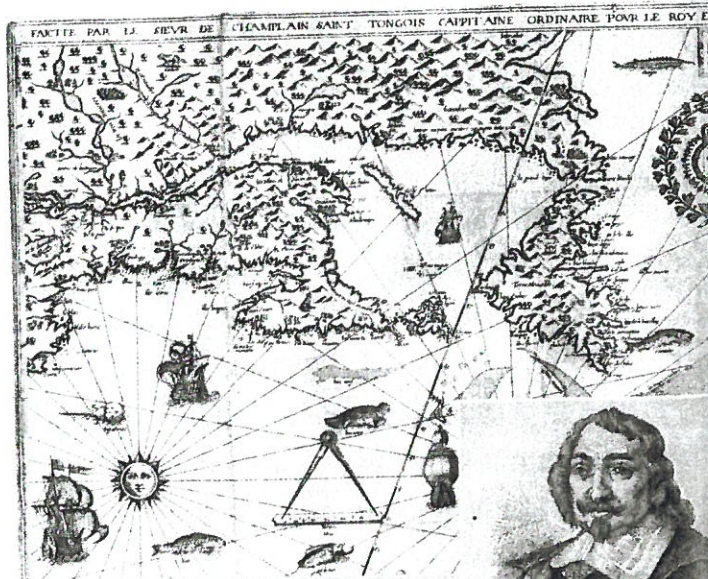
Both England and the **Netherlands** (Holland) became Protestant. Their leaders feared the growing power of Spain. They especially did not want to see all the riches of the New World go to this Catholic country. France remained Catholic, but its rulers also feared the power of Spain. Each of these other countries therefore decided to establish its own colony in the Americas.

New France

The French sent explorers to find a **Northwest Passage**—a way to reach Asia by sailing north of the American land mass. In fact, there is no practical water route above North America, but no one knew that at the time.

Champlain

One of these explorers, **Samuel Champlain**, landed in Canada in 1608. Champlain sailed up the **St. Lawrence River**. He started a French settlement at **Quebec**. Champlain was also the first European to reach the Great Lakes. Champlain was appointed Governor of "New France" and promoted the fur trade with the Indians. French traders gave European goods to the Indians, including guns, to obtain furs they could sell in Europe.



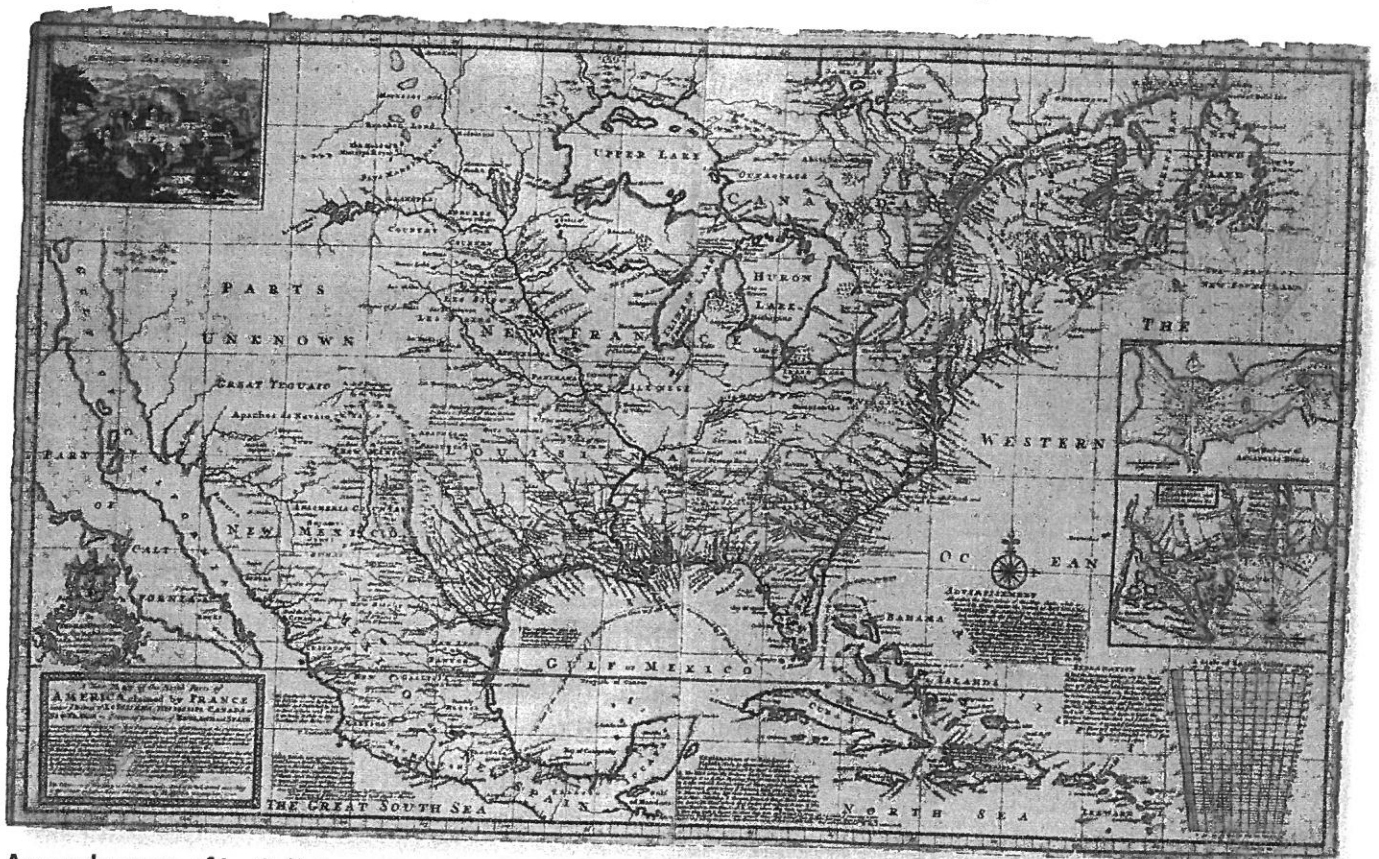
Samuel Champlain and his original map of the entrance to the St. Lawrence River

La Salle

Fifty years after Champlain's voyages, **Robert de La Salle** sailed south from Canada. He became the first European to enter the Ohio River. La Salle sailed down the Mississippi River and claimed all the lands surrounding it for France. He named the territory "**Louisiana**" after the French King Louis XIV. On another expedition, La Salle tried to find the mouth of the Mississippi River. He landed instead on the coast of Texas. La Salle lost a ship to pirates and two others to storms. He was eventually killed by his own men.

Based on the "discoveries" of these explorers, France claimed control of the very center of the North American continent. French claims stretched from the St. Lawrence River to the Great Lakes, and down the Mississippi River to where it enters the Gulf of Mexico.

French settlements in North America never attracted many colonists. They mainly served as trading posts for the valuable fur trade. Furs, especially beaver pelts, were highly prized in Europe for making hats.



An early map of La Salle's exploration from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico

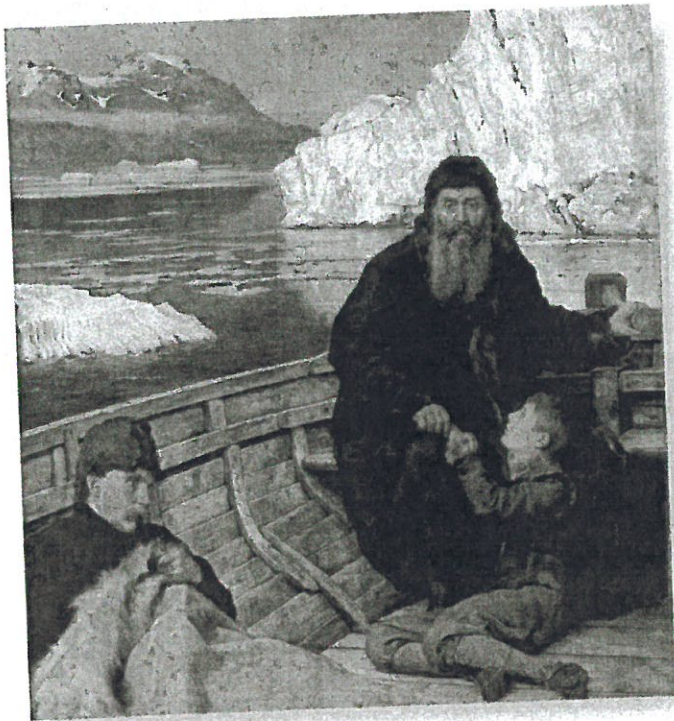
New Netherland

The **Netherlands** (or Holland) is a small country in Western Europe. It is next to the Atlantic Ocean just north of France. At one time, the Netherlands had been ruled by Catholic Spain.

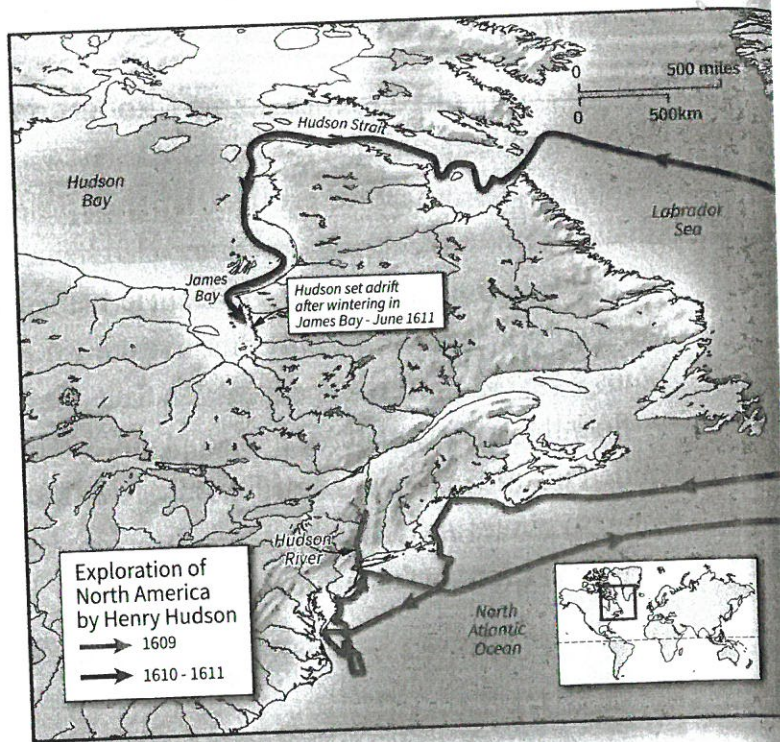
When the **Dutch** (*the people of the Netherlands*) became Protestants, they successfully fought for their independence.

Henry Hudson

For centuries, the Dutch were known for their skills at sea and successful trade. Dutch merchants hoped to be the first to find the Northwest Passage. They hired an English sea captain named **Henry Hudson** to explore for them. In 1609, Hudson crossed the Atlantic and entered New York Harbor. He sailed up the **Hudson River** (named after him). On another voyage, he discovered Hudson Bay. His crew members finally tired of his exploring and rebelled. They put Hudson and his son on a small boat in the middle of Hudson Bay in freezing weather. No one ever heard from them again.



Hudson's voyages became the basis for Dutch claims in the New World. The Dutch established a colony in present-day New York. They called it **New Netherland**. Control over the colony



Henry Hudson's voyages in 1609 and 1610

was given to the **Dutch West India Company**, a company of Dutch merchants. The company established two towns—Fort Orange on the Hudson River and **New Amsterdam**, where the Hudson River empties into the Atlantic Ocean. To encourage settlement of the colony, the Dutch West India Company offered land to any rich investor, known as a **patroon**, who could bring fifty new settlers to the colony.

The Dutch welcomed people from all parts of the world to their colony, including those of different faiths. There was greater **diversity** (*differences*) of religious beliefs in New Netherland than in any other colony in North America. The Dutch were also active in the slave trade. They brought African captives to New Netherland as early as 1625.

The Historian's Apprentice

Countries **compete** when they try to win an advantage over one another. It is like trying to win a contest. Competition between European powers took several forms:

- ◆ Competition between the European powers was political: Each country hoped to increase its power and influence.
- ◆ Competition between the European powers was religious: Catholic and Protestant countries were at war with each other. Each hoped to spread its religious beliefs.
- ◆ Competition between the European powers was economic: Each power hoped to gain riches from the New World—either from gold or trade.
- ◆ Competition between the European powers was cultural: Each power hoped to spread its language and way of life.

Choose one of the forms of competition above. Then make your own poster, chart, or cartoon to illustrate it. Use information you learned in this chapter to help make your illustration.

Find where these words are used in the chapter. Then make one sentence of your own using each word.

	Page number	Your sentence
continent		
descendants		
colony		
immunity		
conquest		
diversity		

