

## Voyages of Columbus

1. What country did Christopher Columbus sail for?  
PAGE 67
2. What was the objective of Christopher Columbus? (What was his plan?) PAGE 67
3. What were the names of Christopher Columbus' three ships?  
PAGE 67
4. Why did Christopher Columbus call the Tainos "Indians?" PAGE 67
5. How many total voyages did Columbus make? PAGE 68
6. What is a colony and what was the name of Spain's first colony in the Americas? PAGE 68
7. Should Christopher be remembered as a hero or a villain?  
Identify and explain at least two reasons for what you think.  
There is no right or wrong answer. Support your ideas. (PAGES 68 & 70)

### THE COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE

VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE O.A.T. PAGE 69

8. What was the Columbian Exchange? (PAGE 69)
9. What was the "most terrible" item in the Columbian Exchange?  
(PAGE 69)
10. Identify and explain two effects of the Columbian Exchange.  
(PAGE 69)

Kilwa prospered from trade with other ports along the Indian Ocean. Gold from Zimbabwe, a powerful inland state, made its way to the coastal city of Sofala. From there, ships carried the gold up the African coast as well as to India.

**Portuguese slave trade.** In 1441, the Portuguese raided an African village. They captured about a dozen Africans and sold them as slaves in Europe. By 1460, about 1,000 Africans were sold each year in Portugal. As the trade in slaves increased, Africans from kingdoms along the coast made raids into the interior seeking captives to sell to the Portuguese.

The Portuguese did not introduce slavery. Since ancient times, Europeans, Africans, Arabs, and Asians in many different regions had enslaved and sold people. However, the trade along the West African coast marked a turning point. Over the next 400 years, as many as 11 million Africans would be enslaved and sent across the Atlantic to the Americas.

### Voyages of Columbus

As the Portuguese sailed east toward Asia, the Spanish watched with envy. They, too, wanted a share of the rich Asian trade. In 1492, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella agreed to finance a voyage by Christopher Columbus, a bold Italian sea captain. Columbus planned to reach the East Indies, off the coast of Asia, by sailing west across the Atlantic.



**Ivory Carving From West Africa** West African artists produced many fine carvings. This ivory salt cellar was probably carved to order for a European merchant. **Culture** What objects did the artist include to show that the man in the carving is European?

**The voyage west.** In August 1492, Columbus set sail with three vessels and a crew of 90 sailors. As captain, he commanded the largest ship, the *Santa María*. The other ships were the *Niña* and the *Pinta*.

Fair winds sped the ships along. The crew saw no land for a month. Some of the less experienced sailors began to grumble. They had never been beyond the sight of land for so long. Still, Columbus sailed on.

On October 7, sailors saw flocks of birds flying southwest. Columbus changed course to follow the birds. A few days later, crew members spotted tree branches and flowers floating in the water. On the night of October 11, the moon shone brightly. At 2 A.M. on October 12, the lookout on the *Pinta* spotted white cliffs shining in the moonlight. "Tierra! Tierra!" he shouted. "Land! Land!"

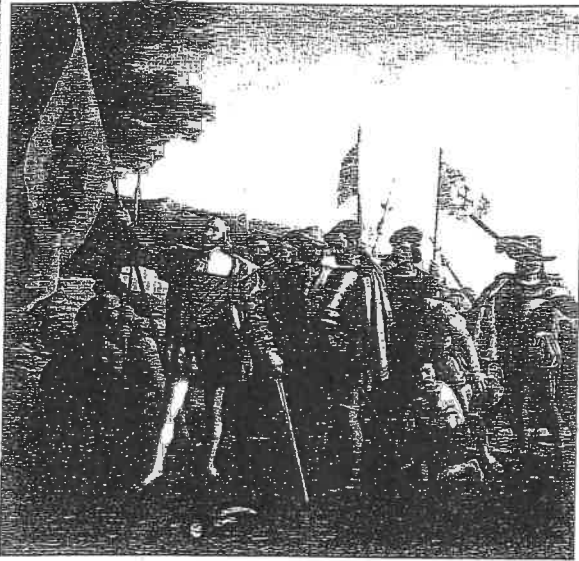
At dawn, Columbus rowed ashore. He planted the banner of Spain in what he believed was the East Indies. In fact, as you have read in Chapter 2, he had reached the island home of the Taínos, in what are now known as the West Indies. Convinced he had reached the East Indies, Columbus called the Taínos Indians.

For three months, Columbus explored the West Indies. To his delight, he found signs of gold on the islands. Eager to report his success, he returned home.

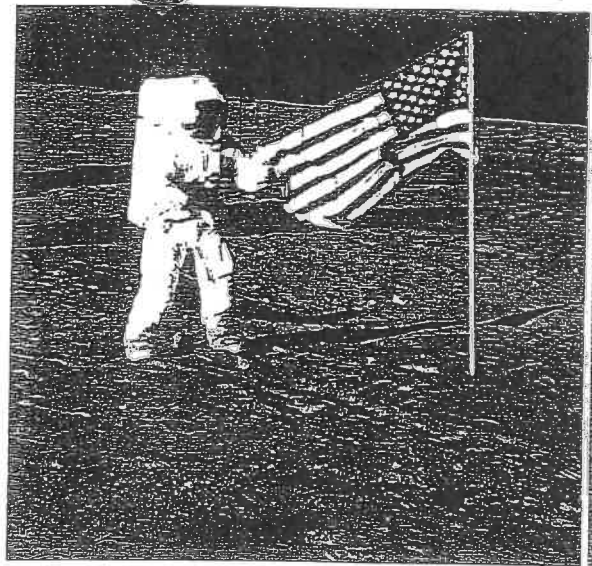
**From fame to disgrace.** In Spain, Columbus presented King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella with gifts of pink pearls and brilliantly colored parrots. The royal couple listened intently to his descriptions of tobacco leaves, pineapples, and hammocks used for sleeping. Impressed, they agreed to finance future voyages.

## LINKING PAST AND PRESENT

PAST



PRESENT



**New Frontiers** Throughout history, people have explored the unknown. In the 1400s, Europeans dared to sail the world's uncharted oceans. At left, Christopher Columbus lands on the "New World" in 1492. Nearly 500 years later, Americans ventured into the uncharted seas of space. At right, an astronaut lands on another new world—the moon. • What qualities do you think Columbus and the astronaut had in common?

Columbus made three more voyages to the West Indies. On his second voyage, in 1493, he founded the first Spanish colony in the Americas, on an island he called Hispaniola. A **COLONY** is a group of people who settle in a distant land and are ruled by the government of their native land.

Columbus proved to be a better explorer than a governor. During his third expedition, settlers at Hispaniola complained of his harsh rule. When Isabella sent an official to investigate, the official sent Columbus back to Spain in chains.

In the end, Isabella pardoned Columbus. He died in 1506, still convinced that he had reached Asia.

### Columbus: Hero or Villain?

For years, Columbus has been remembered as the bold sea captain who "discovered America." In one sense, he deserves that honor. Europeans knew nothing of the Americas before Columbus brought them news of this "new world." Today, we recognize that other people "discovered" America long before Columbus. Still, his daring journey brought the peoples of Europe, Africa, and the Americas into lasting contact for the first time in history.

Native Americans, however, paid heavily for Columbus's voyage. Columbus and the Europeans who came after him forced

# Connections

ARTS

SCIENCES

GEOGRAPHY

WORLD

ECONOMICS

CIVICS

## Columbian Exchange

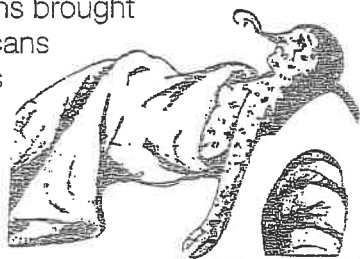
Before 1492, a typical Aztec meal consisted of corn porridge, tortillas, beans, and tomato or pepper sauce. On the other side of the ocean, Europeans dined on dark bread, cabbage or turnip soup, and cheese. Neither knew the other existed. Neither imagined how their diet—and their entire world—would change after they met.

Then, Christopher Columbus arrived in the West Indies. His visit began an exchange of goods and ideas that transformed the world. Because it began with Columbus, this transfer is called the Columbian Exchange.

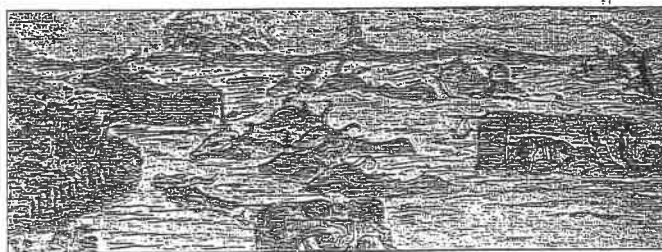
The Columbian Exchange involved hundreds of items. Besides foods, these items included peoples, plants, and animals. They also included diseases.

Native Americans taught Europeans to eat corn and potatoes. Easy to grow, these foods became staples in European, African, and Asian diets. At the same time, the introduction of livestock, wheat, bananas, and citrus fruit from Europe, Africa, and Asia changed the way Native Americans ate.

Sugar cane also traveled to the Americas from Europe, carried by Columbus on his second voyage. Soon, sugar was a thriving industry on the Caribbean islands. Europeans brought in millions of Africans to work as slaves in the sugar plantations.



Smallpox victim



Cattle and horses

Perhaps the most terrible item in the Columbian Exchange arrived as an invisible passenger on European ships. Native Americans had no resistance to “European” diseases such as measles, smallpox, or even the common cold. Scholars estimate that between 50 percent and 90 percent of Native Americans died of diseases introduced from Europe.

What were three effects of the Columbian Exchange?



Potato plant

### ACTIVITY

Make a map of the world that illustrates the flow of items in the Columbian Exchange.

native peoples to work in mines or on farms raising sugar cane and cotton. Over the next 50 years, hundreds of thousands of Caribbean Indians died from harsh working conditions and European diseases.

"Discovery" also cost Native Americans their lands. Starting with Columbus, Europeans justified seizing Indian lands. Some believed they had the right to take the lands because Indians were not Christians.

For better or worse, the rise of powerful nations in Europe signaled a new era for the Americas. Curious Europeans wanted to know more about the lands across the Atlantic. They saw the Americas as a place where they could trade and grow rich. Once Columbus reached the Americas, nothing could stop the flood of explorers and settlers who followed him.

## SECTION 1 REVIEW

- 1. Locate:** (a) Europe, (b) Middle East, (c) Asia, (d) East Indies, (e) Mali, (f) West Indies.
- 2. Identify:** (a) Middle Ages, (b) Crusades, (c) Renaissance, (d) Johannes Gutenberg, (e) Mansa Musa, (f) Queen Isabella.
- 3. Define:** (a) feudalism, (b) manor, (c) serf, (d) magnetic compass, (e) astrolabe, (f) caravel, (g) colony.
- 4.** What changes did the Crusades bring to Europe?
- 5.** How did exploration help to expand Portugal's trade?
- 6.** (a) Where did Columbus think he landed in 1492? (b) Where did he actually land?
- 7. CRITICAL THINKING Analyzing Information**  
(a) How did Europeans view their arrival in the Americas? (b) How does this compare with the Native American view that you read about in Chapter 2?

### **ACTIVITY** Writing to Learn

Should Americans celebrate Columbus's birthday? Write an editorial expressing your opinion.

## 2

### Spain's Empire in the Americas

#### FIND OUT

- How did Spain conquer Native American empires?
- How did Spain rule its empire in the Americas?
- Why did the Spanish bring Africans as slaves to the Americas?
- How did Spanish and Indian ways help shape the culture of New Spain?

**VOCABULARY** conquistador, pueblo, presidio, mission, peninsulare, creole, mestizo, encomienda, plantation

"What a troublesome thing it is to discover new lands. The risks we took, it is hardly possible to exaggerate." So spoke Bernal Díaz del Castillo, one of the Spanish conquistadors (kahn KEES tuh dorz), or conquerors, who marched into the Americas. When asked why conquistadors traveled to the Americas, Díaz responded, "We came here to serve God and the king and also to get rich."

In their search for glory and gold, the conquistadors made Spain one of the richest nations in Europe. Before long, Spanish colonists had created a vast new empire in the Americas. But the arrival of Europeans meant suffering and even death for Aztecs, Incas, and other Native Americans.

### Beyond the Caribbean

After Columbus reached the West Indies, the Spanish explored and settled other islands in the Caribbean Sea. By 1511, they

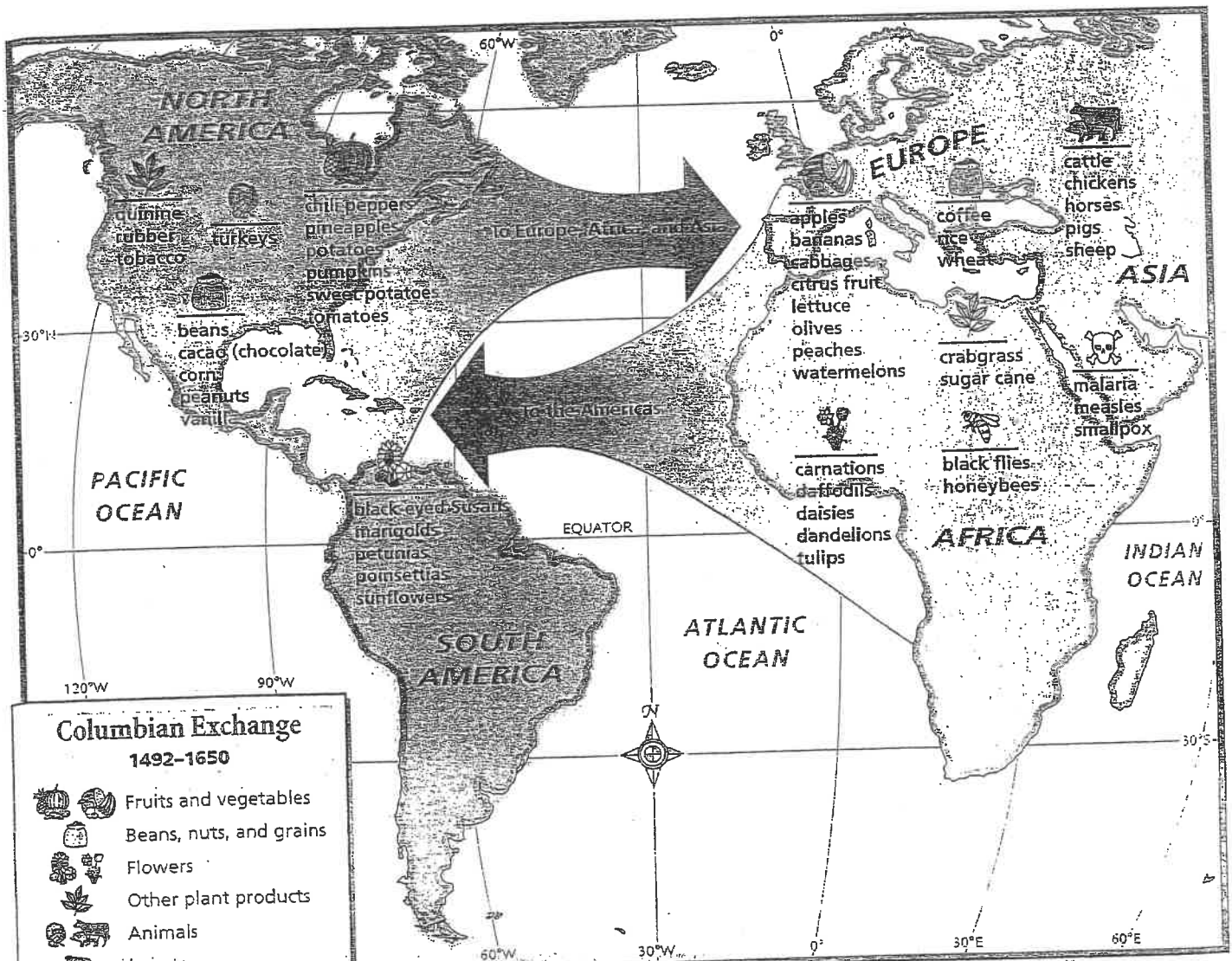
# Three Worlds Meet

European colonization of the Americas changed the lives of millions of people throughout the world. When Europeans and Africans came to the Americas, three separate "worlds," or cultures, were brought together.

- European ships carried plants and animals across the Atlantic Ocean in both directions. People on both sides of the Atlantic encountered goods that they had never seen before.
- As Europeans settled in the Americas, they often forced Native Americans to work for them. Millions of Native Americans died from overwork or disease.
- As the Native American population declined, Europeans began capturing, enslaving, and bringing Africans to the Americas to work as slaves.



**A** Diseases brought from Europe, such as smallpox and measles, killed millions of Native Americans who had no resistance to them. This drawing shows Native Americans dying of smallpox.



**Columbian Exchange**  
1492-1650

- Fruits and vegetables
- Beans, nuts, and grains
- Flowers
- Other plant products
- Animals
- Insects
- Diseases

Colors show hemisphere of origin.

**B** Before Columbus established lasting European contact with the Americas, only Native Americans raised corn. Today corn is grown throughout the world. Name three foods that are not originally from the Americas.