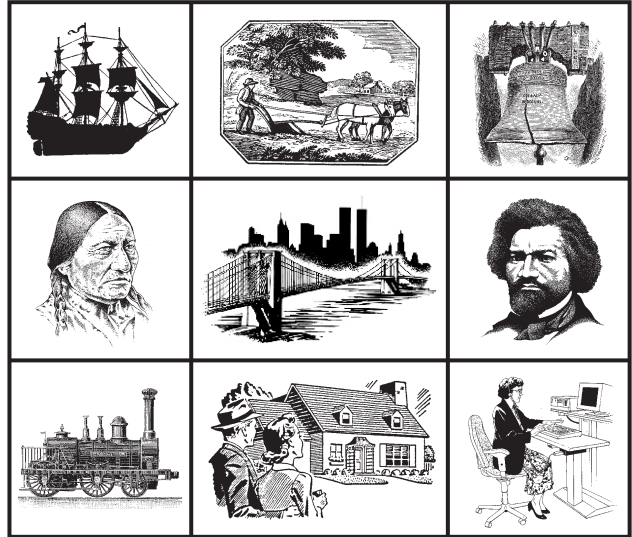

Fasttrack to America's Past

Age of Discovery to Present 7th Edition



An interactive learning guide for students of U.S. History

by David Burns

Section 1: Discovery and Exploration 1400 - 1600

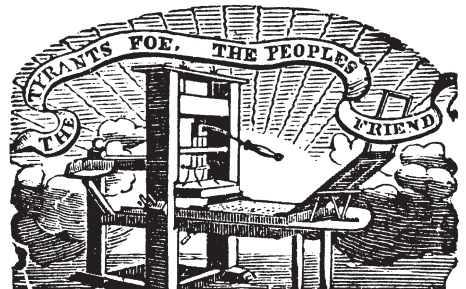


The Teacher Key and additional resources to
use with these pages are at:

www.fasttrackteaching.com/ftap7

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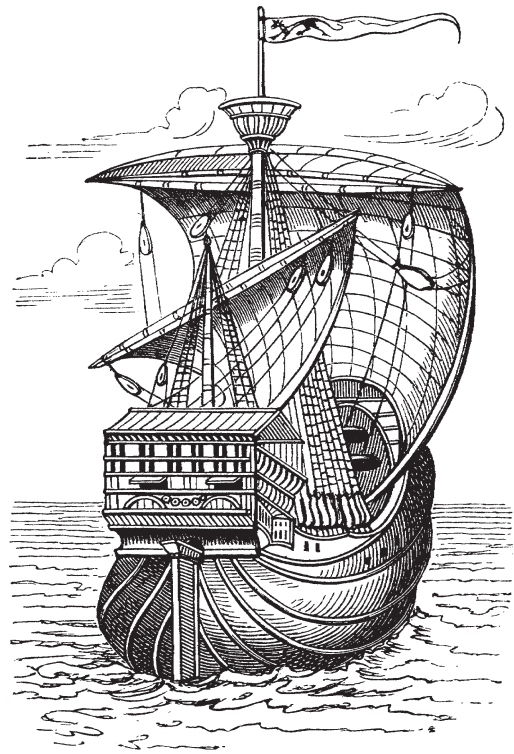
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Discovery and Exploration: 1400 - 1600



“I have always read that the world, both land and water, was spherical, as the authority and researches of Ptolemy and all the others who have written on this subject demonstrate and prove, as do the eclipses of the moon and other experiments that are made from east to west, and the elevation of the North Star from north to south.”

“At two hours after midnight appeared the land, at a distance of two leagues. They handed all sails and set the treo, which is the mainsail without bonnets, and lay-to waiting for daylight Friday, when they arrived at an island of the Bahamas that was called in the Indians’ tongue Guanahani.”



“One of the chief trees or posts at the right side of the entrance had the bark taken off, and five feet from the ground in fair capital letters was graven CROATOAN, without any cross or sign of distress.”

Study Checklist

When you have completed this section, you should be able to:



Identify and explain the context of the **Famous Quotes** shown on the Section Title Page.



Identify and explain the importance of the **Famous Names and Terms** listed on the topic summary pages in this section.



Identify on a map and explain the importance of the **Famous Places** shown on the maps in this section.



Explain the general sequence of events in this period and tell from memory the **Famous Years**:

- Columbus discovered the New World (**1492**).
- Magellan left on his world voyage (**1519**).
- The Aztecs were overthrown (**1521**).
- The Lost Colony was started (**1587**).

Take a Practice Test!



A multiple-choice practice test for this section can be found on the Internet support site.

Textbook Page References:



Discuss or write briefly on such questions and topics as these:

1. *Explain why Spain and Portugal took the lead in the search for a sea route to the Far East in the 1400s.*

2. *What new approach did Columbus take to try to reach the Far East? What were his beliefs about the shape and size of the Earth? Describe the path his ships sailed on his first expedition in 1492.*

3. *Describe the leading theory about the origin of Native Americans. Compare and contrast the culture and lifestyle of at least one Indian group with that of Europeans in the early 1500s.*

4. *What were the main reasons the Spanish were so eager to conquer the land and people of the New World? Which reason seemed to motivate them the most?*

5. *Describe the impact of the Spanish conquest on native populations. What moral or philosophical issues did contact with the Indians raise for Europeans?*

6. *Explain how the geographic patterns of exploration and conquest by Spain, Portugal, and France are still visible today in North and South America.*

Timeline 1400 - 1600

As you study the timeline, fill in the blanks using the word bank at the bottom of the page.

Portuguese begin explorations - Prince Henry the Navigator began organizing voyages for _____ of the Atlantic.

Printing press invented - It helped spread _____ about the world.

Dias rounds Africa - Sailing for Portugal, Bartholomew Dias proved that ships could sail around the southern _____ of Africa and on to the Orient.

1st voyage of Columbus - Christopher Columbus thought he had reached the islands of the Far _____ by sailing west in a Spanish expedition.

Cabot reaches North America - Sailing for England, John Cabot was the _____ explorer of this era to reach the mainland of North America.

Vespucci explores Brazil - A map maker used Vespucci's first name, _____, to call the new land America.

Magellan begins world voyage - Ferdinand Magellan himself was _____ in the Philippines, but one of his five ships made it back to Spain.

Cortes conquers the Aztecs - Hernando Cortes, a Spaniard, defeated the Aztec ruler _____ in what is now Mexico City.

Pizarro conquers the Incas - Francisco Pizarro, like Cortes, was fighting for _____.

Cartier explores Canada - Sailing for _____, Jacques Cartier explored the area that is now eastern Canada.

de Soto finds the Mississippi - Hernando de Soto explored the _____ region of what is now the United States.

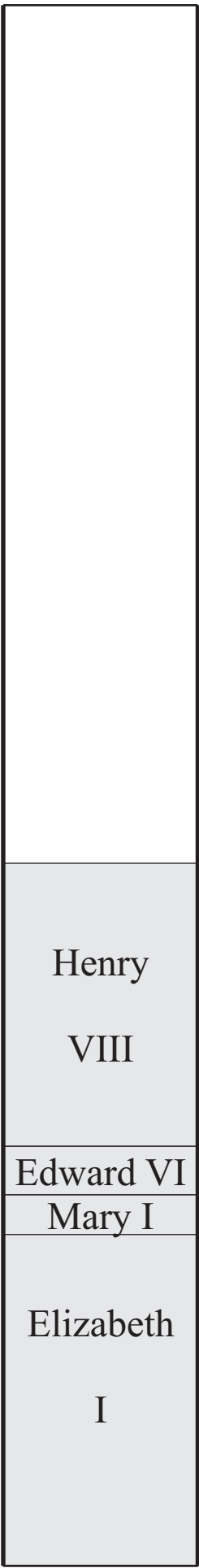
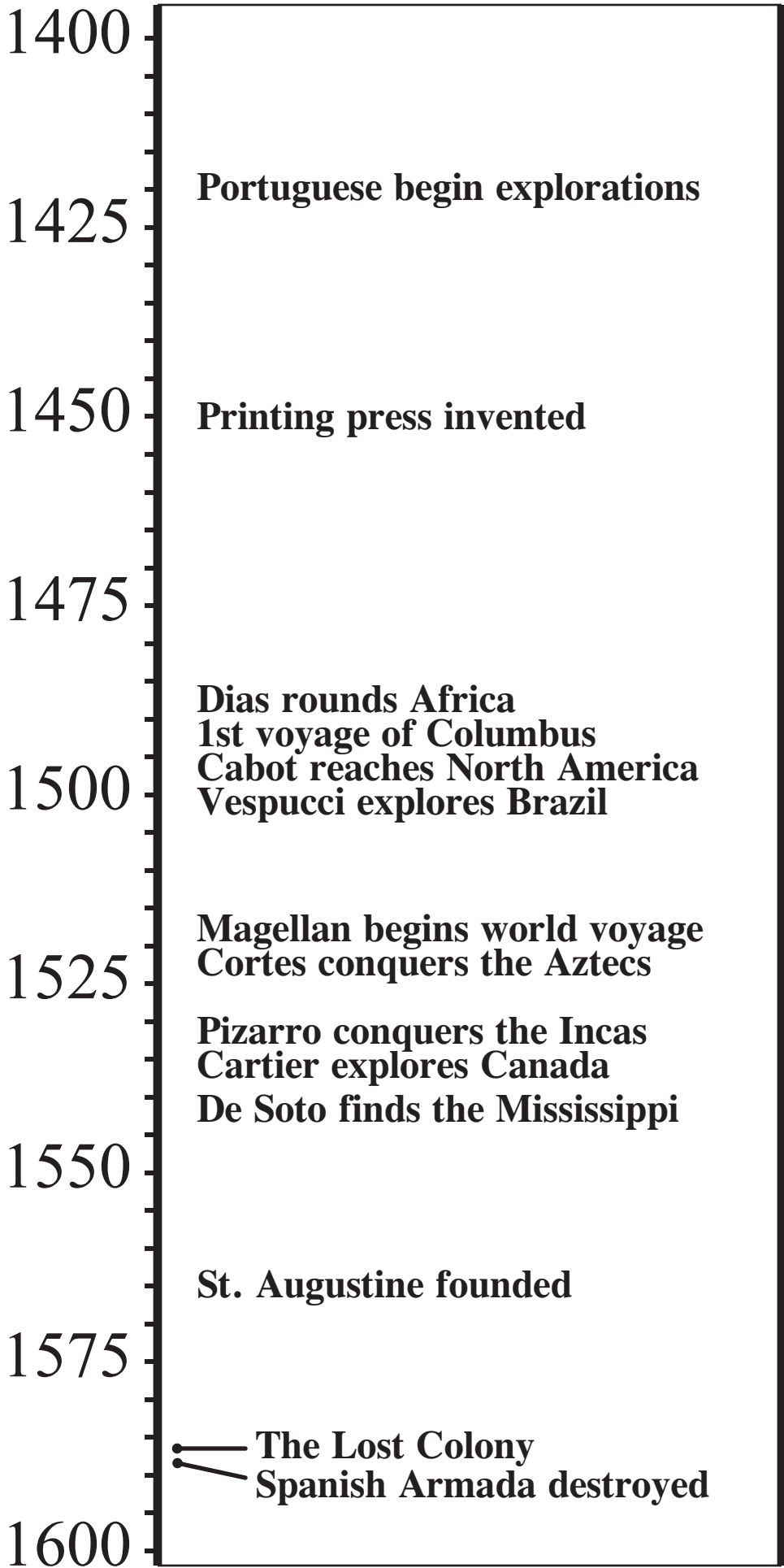
St. Augustine founded - It was a Spanish _____ that became the oldest continuous settlement by Europeans in what is now the United States.

The Lost Colony - The fate of the people of this English colony is still a _____.

Spanish Armada destroyed - The attempt by Spain to invade England failed, clearing the way for the English to start _____ colonies in North America.

Word bank to fill in the blanks: Amerigo, city, East, exploration, first, France, killed, knowledge, Montezuma, mystery, new, southeastern, Spain, tip

TIMELINE: DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION



NEW WORLDS DISCOVERED

Renaissance, Spice Islands, Christopher Columbus, Ferdinand Magellan, conquistadors, Aztec, Inca, Hernando de Soto, Columbian Exchange, smallpox, Lost Colony



By the year 1400 Europe was growing out of the Middle Ages, and was entering a period of cultural rebirth and world discovery called the Renaissance. This development was caused in part by growing trade, both within Europe itself and with more distant lands. For example, after about 1100 the Crusades brought contacts with the Muslim Arabs, who had developed a rich civilization in the Middle East. The travels of Marco Polo started a brief period of direct contact with China in the distant land of Asia around 1300. Spices, silk, and other rare products from Asia, India, and the Spice Islands were especially valued by the nobility and the new merchant class growing in Europe.

The journey to the lands of the Orient was extremely difficult. Developments in China and in the Muslim world gradually made the trip all but impossible for Europeans. Some trade continued along the almost forgotten paths.

Most of the profits went to the Arabs controlling the middle of the trade routes, however, and merchants from Italian trading cities that controlled the European end.

Around 1420 the Portuguese, led by Prince Henry the Navigator, began an organized effort to explore the Atlantic. They carefully created new maps, and developed a new type of ship called a caravel to search further and further down the coast of Africa. They hoped eventually to find a way around it to the lands of India and the Far East.

Christopher Columbus convinced Spain to bankroll a more daring plan. He would get to the Far East by sailing west! Instead, he hit the islands off North America in 1492. Like most people who studied navigation or astronomy, Columbus knew the Earth is shaped like a ball. But he badly underestimated the size of the globe, and therefore, the distance to Asia. Even after four voyages, he apparently still believed the new land was either part of Asia or very close to it. Only later, in 1519, did Ferdinand Magellan lead a Spanish expedition that circled the globe.



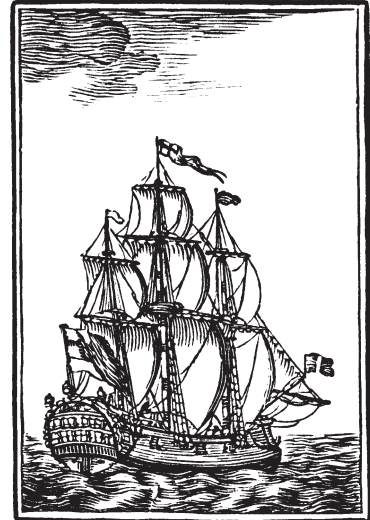
Spain took an early lead in colonizing the New World. The conquistadors (conquerors) were driven by greed for gold to explore Central and South America. They also wanted to convert natives to the religion of Christianity. Very quickly, the great civilizations of the Aztecs (in what is now Mexico) and the Incas (in what is now

Peru) were overthrown. Not long after, Hernando de Soto led a small army through much of what is now the southeastern United States in search of gold and glory. He discovered the Mississippi River in 1541, but found no easy treasures.

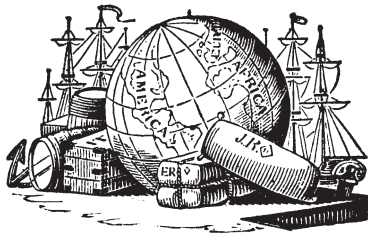
Guns and horses gave the Spanish an advantage in all their conquests, together with help from native groups who opposed the ruling tribes. In addition, European diseases like smallpox, to which the natives had no immunity, killed millions of people.

The Portuguese also started colonies in the Americas. But early treaties that divided areas of exploration left Portugal only a small piece of the New World – the land that is now Brazil. Much of their interest remained on trade down the African coast and eastward to India.

The French got into the exploring act as well, mostly in North America. At first, they hoped to find a “Northwest Passage” or water route through the new land and on to Asia. They didn't find one. But their explorations of the Great Lakes area (and later the Mississippi River) led to profitable fur-trading settlements. The French language is often still heard in the Canadian province of Quebec. In fact, many American cities along the Mississippi River, like New Orleans, still have their original French names.



The English had bad luck at first. The Lost Colony was planted on Roanoke Island, in what is now North Carolina, in 1587. A war with Spain delayed the departure of re-supply ships. Three years later, the only clue left of the colonists' fate was the word Croatoan – the name of a nearby island – carved on the trunk of a tree. The colonists were never found. But about twenty years later, success finally came at Jamestown, Virginia. Other settlements up and down the coast quickly followed during the 1600s. The English colonies were ultimately the most successful in North America, mainly because settlers viewed the new land as a place to stay and raise families.



The Age of Discovery opened fabulous opportunities to Europeans. Gold and silver flowed back to the Old World, along with previously unknown plants like corn and the potato. The contact also introduced many European plants and animals to the New World, including the horse and cow. This two-way transfer is called the Columbian Exchange. It had a tremendous impact on both sides of the globe for centuries to come.

But overall, contact with Europeans was a disaster for the native groups. Some entire populations were wiped out by smallpox. Even for survivors, traditional culture and ways of life disappeared. Many were forced into slavery or near-slavery in mines and large farms. Only the French colonists enjoyed generally good relations with Native Americans after the first contacts.

MAP - TRADE ROUTES BEFORE COLUMBUS

Finish labeling and coloring the map to show the places and items listed in bold. Fill in the blanks using the word bank below.

GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

Mediterranean Sea **Black Sea**
Caspian Sea **Red Sea**
Persian Gulf **Himalayas**
Indian Ocean



MAJOR TRADING ROUTES AROUND 1450

Use different colors to show these routes that carried silk, spices, and other valuable products of the Orient to Europe. Fill in the blanks using the word bank below.

Northern Route - From Beijing and elsewhere in China, caravans of merchants traveled overland to meet traders in central Asia. The goods continued on to the city of Constantinople. Italian traders carried the products by _____ to Europe. Venice and Genoa were the wealthiest and most famous of the Italian trading cities.

Middle Route - From China, the Spice Islands, and Ceylon, boats carried products to Calicut in India. Arab traders carried

the goods on boats up the Persian Gulf, then overland to towns on the shore of the _____ Sea. Italian traders carried the products to Europe.

Southern Route - Branching off the Middle Route at India, Arab traders carried products from the Orient on boats up the Red Sea, then overland to the city of _____ in Egypt. Italian traders made their purchases, and took the goods for sale to Europeans.

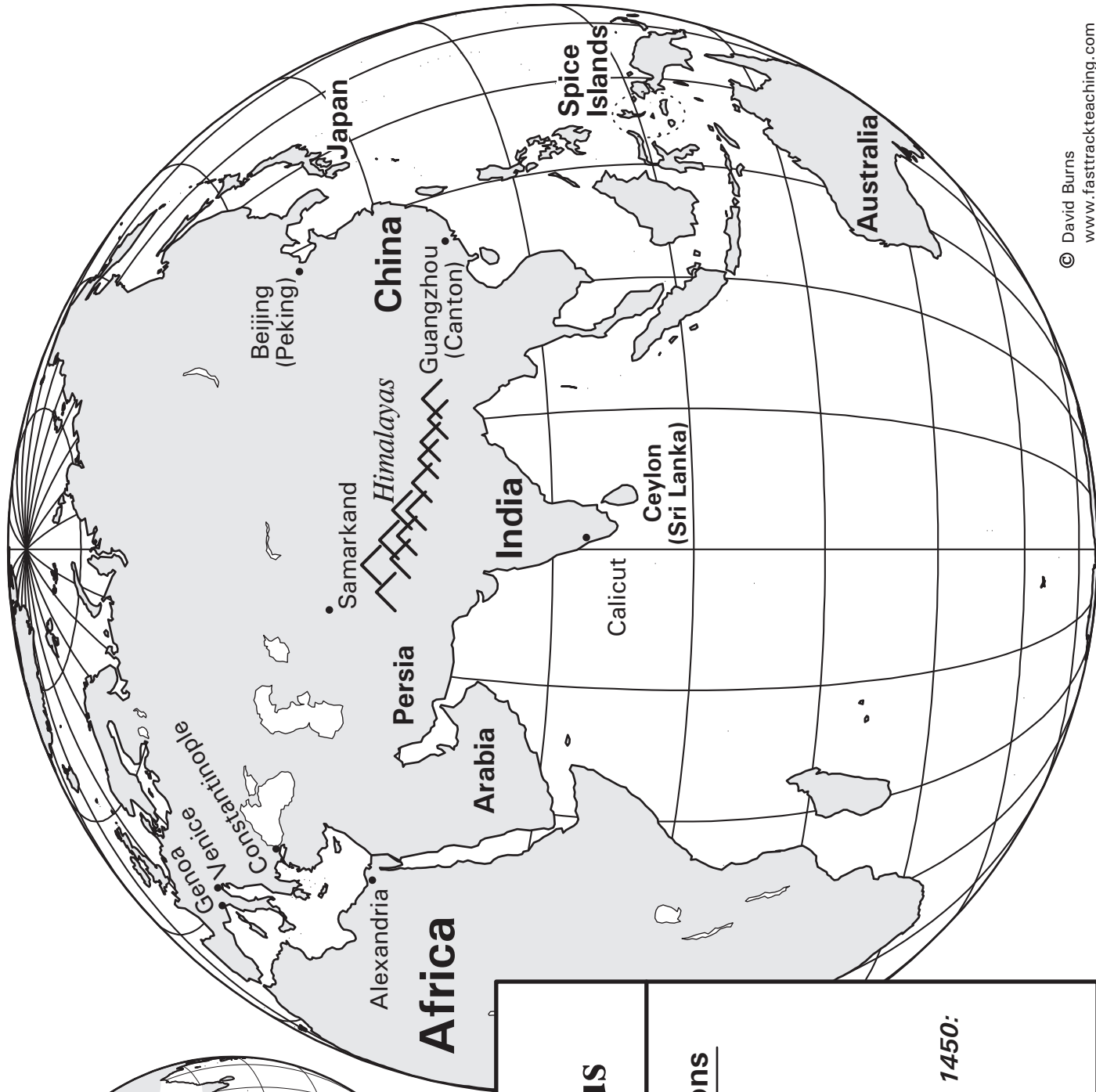
CHRISTIAN AND MUSLIM AREAS OF CONTROL IN 1450

Color the small globe map and complete the key to show these areas of control in the year 1450. The shading of the map will help guide you.

Christian Europe - A large area, but the hodge-podge of kingdoms and small principalities was united only by the loose ties of the _____ Church. Italian trading cities had an effective lock on the European end of the trade routes.

The Muslim World - The Islamic lands stretched from North Africa through the Middle East and across to India. The Muslims controlled the _____ sections of the ancient trade routes, and even gained Constantinople in 1453.

Word bank to fill in the blanks: *Alexandria, boat, Catholic, Mediterranean, middle*



Trade Routes Before Columbus

Key to Routes and Regions

Main Trade Routes from Asia:

Northern Route

Middle Route

Southern Route

Approximate Areas of Control in 1450:

Christian Europe

The Muslim World

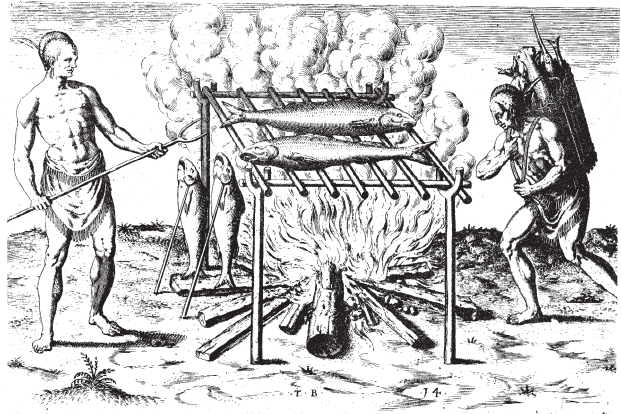
MAP - NATIVE AMERICAN ORIGINS AND LANDS

Fill in the blanks using the word bank below, then label and color the map to show these:

Migration Route From Asia - The earliest ancestors of the Indians crossed to North America from northern Asia between 11,000 and 40,000 years ago.

Today the Bering Strait separates the continents. During the last Ice Age, however, when the level of the sea was _____, Asia and North America were connected by a strip of land.

(Show the route from Asia on the small North Polar Projection map also.)



Pacific Ocean

Atlantic Ocean

Route of Columbus in 1492

Label the map to show these selected Native American groups and places:

Aztec - The great civilization centered at what is now Mexico City, called by the Aztecs **Tenochtitlan**. They developed an accurate calendar and a form of writing with pictures. Their religion demanded human sacrifice to the _____, which the Aztecs considered to be a god.

Inca - The largest of the New World empires, with _____ that stretched thousands of miles in South America. The Inca set up their capital at **Cuzco** in the 12th century.

Maya - A large civilization that rose on the Yucatan Peninsula in _____ America, but faded after 900 A.D.

Pueblo - A group of Indian tribes in what is now the southwest U.S. Descended from the prehistoric Anasazi Indians, they built multistory houses from sun-dried bricks called _____.

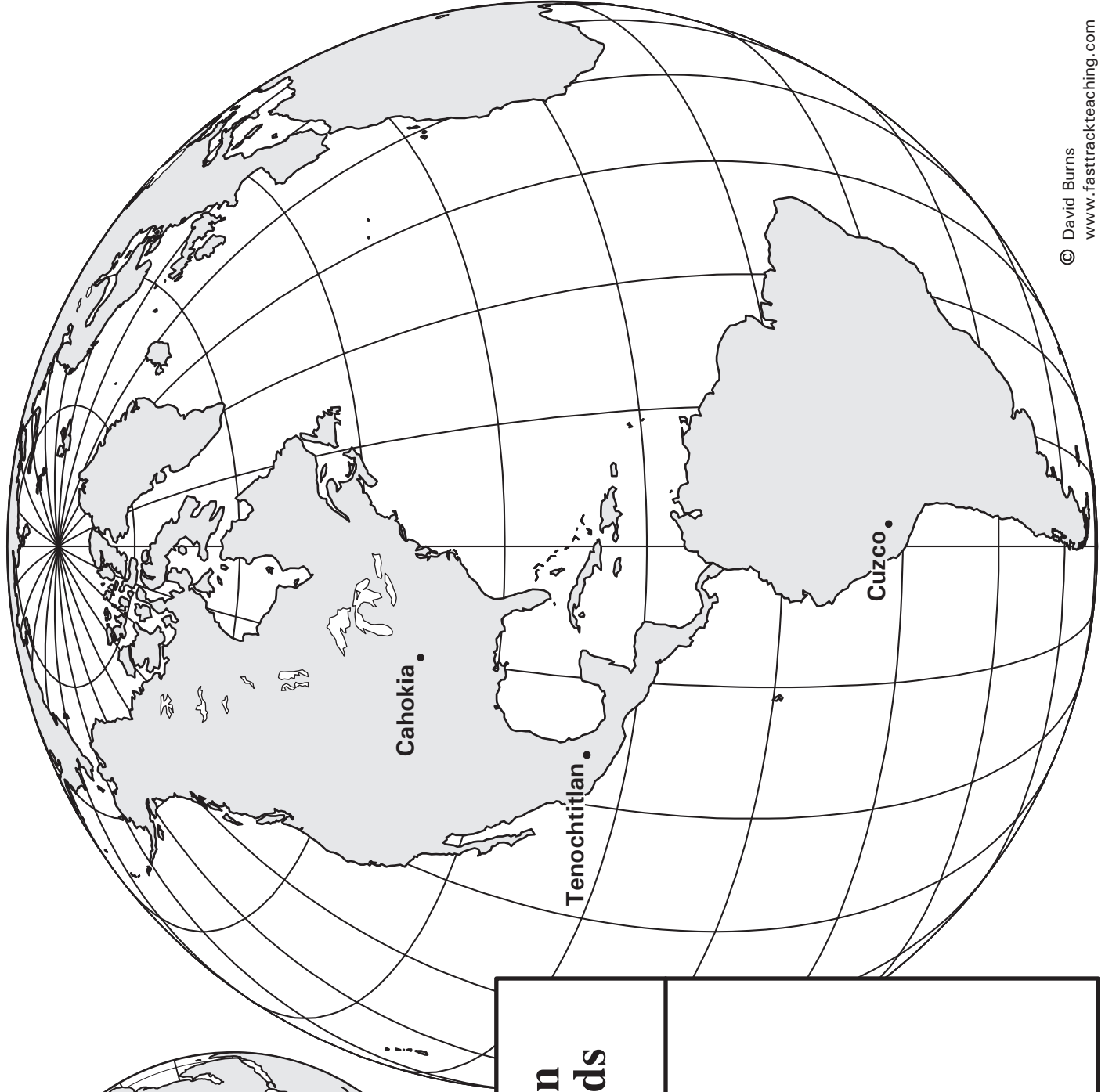
Cahokia - The most important city of the Mississippian civilization, famous for building huge earth mounds topped by religious _____. The civilization collapsed by 1500 A.D.

Creek - A group of several tribes in what is now the southeastern part of the U.S. The Creeks lived in about 50 permanent towns, and played the game now called _____. Creek women raised maize (corn), squash, and other crops.

Iroquois - A confederation, or alliance, of five (later six) Native American groups living in the woodlands of what is now upper _____. The Iroquois are famous for their “long houses,” well-kept villages, and system of government.

Inuit - Also known as _____, they adapted in creative ways to the cold and harsh environment of the far North.

Word bank to fill in the blanks: *adobe, Central, Eskimos, lacrosse, lower, New York, roads, sun, temples*



Native American Origins and Lands

Selected groups only shown

Origins and Exploration

Migration Route From Asia

Route of Columbus in 1492

Population Estimates

Aztec: 5 - 6 million
140,000 in Tenochtitlan

Inca: 12 million
100,000 in Cuzco

MAP - EARLY VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY

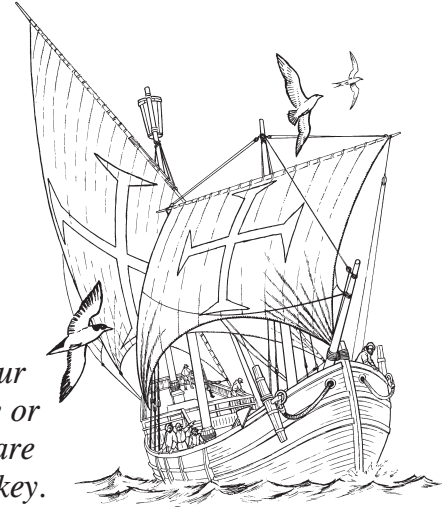
Finish labeling and drawing the large map on the next page to show these:

GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

Atlantic Ocean Pacific Ocean

EARLY VOYAGES AND SPONSORING NATIONS

Choose one color for each country listed below. Color the four countries on the map, then carefully draw the selected voyage or voyages that each country sponsored. The explorers' names are already labeled on the map, but be sure to complete the map key.



Portugal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bartholomew Dias 1487 - 1488 • Vasco da Gama 1497 - 1499
Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christopher Columbus 1492 - 1493 • Ferdinand Magellan 1519 - 1522 <i>(Magellan was killed in the Philippines in 1521)</i>
England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Cabot 1497
France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacques Cartier 1534

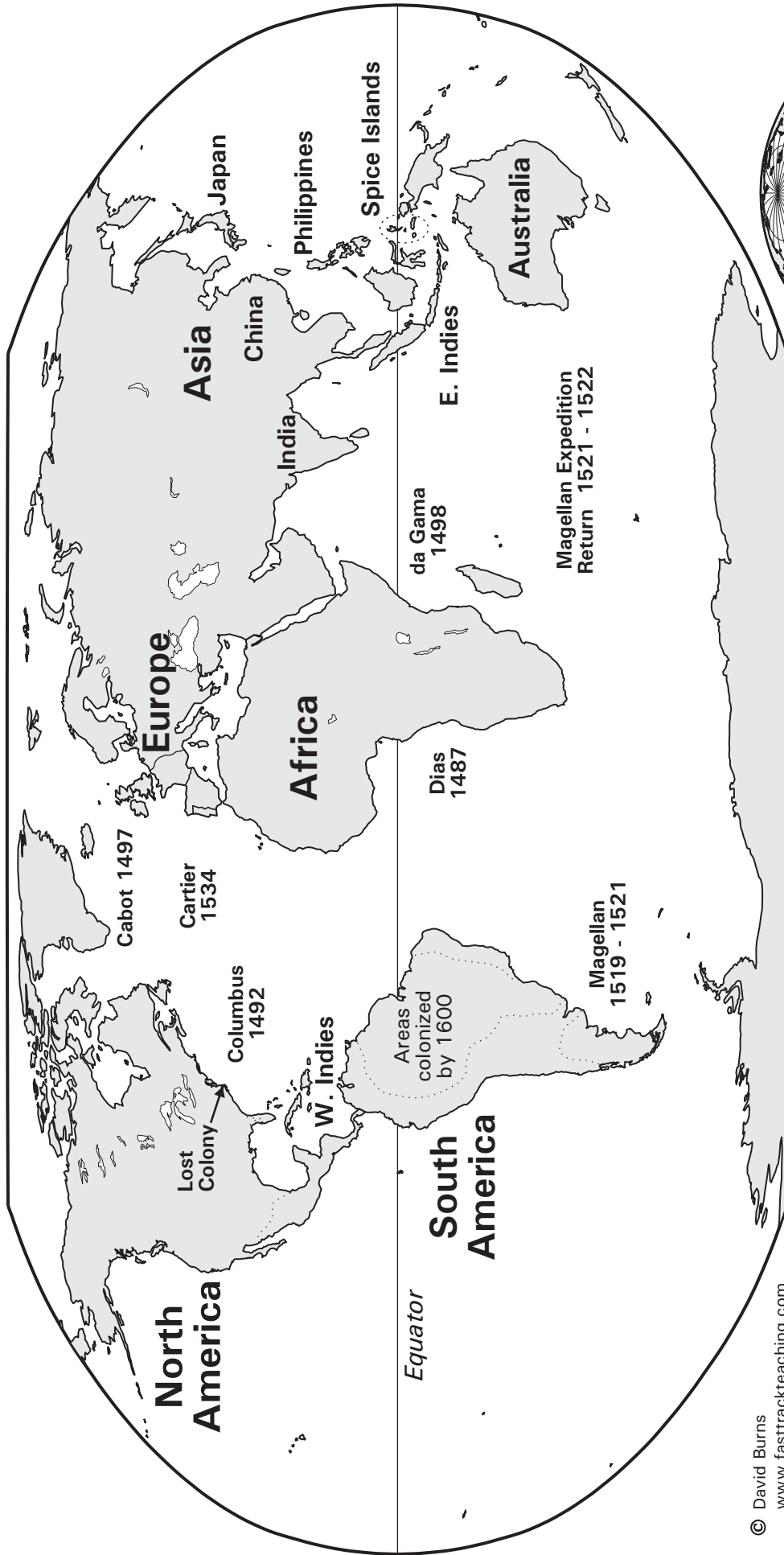
NEW WORLD AREAS COLONIZED BY 1600

Use the same colors to show where these countries had colonized the New World by 1600. The dotted lines will help guide you.

Portugal	Brazil, along the eastern coast of South America.
Spain	Much of South America, the West Indies, Central America, Mexico, and Florida.
England	No successful permanent colonies before 1600. <i>(East coast of North America after 1600.)</i>
France	No successful permanent colonies before 1600. <i>(Areas in North America after 1600.)</i>

THE LOST COLONY

The map shows the location of the famous English colony that disappeared around 1590. A map showing the area in more detail can be found later in this section.



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Sponsoring Nations, Voyages, and Colonies

Portugal	<input type="text"/>	England	<input type="text"/>
Spain	<input type="text"/>	France	<input type="text"/>

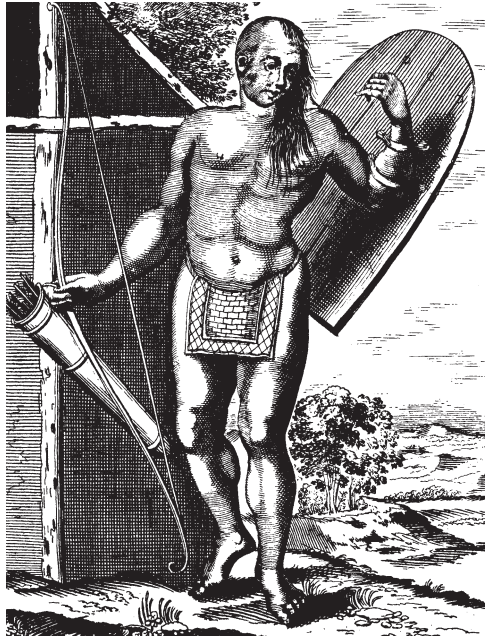
Paths of voyages simplified - not all landings shown

Early Voyages of Discovery

Selected voyages only shown

WHEN CULTURES COLLIDED

plantation, exploitation, Bartolome de Las Casas, Catholic Church, missions/missionaries



Think of tasty potatoes, pumpkins at Halloween, corn on the cob, ripe red tomatoes, and a turkey on the table at Thanksgiving. These are just a few of the plants and animals completely unknown to Europeans before the meeting of the Old World and New World in 1492. The meeting of the worlds was not, however, one of peaceful exchange of these treasures for Europe's horses and cows. Instead, it was often a violent and tragic collision of cultures.

The cultures of the New World were as varied as those of the Old. The Anasazi, the ancestors of the Pueblo Indians, built stable peaceful societies we might well envy. But the Aztecs, in what is now Mexico City, conquered and oppressed the neighboring tribes. Columbus was surprised by the friendliness and generosity of the natives he met when he first landed.

A nearby tribe, however, ate human flesh, which horrified the Europeans. Near the Great Lakes in North America, the tribes of the Iroquois Confederacy had developed an impressive political system to keep peace and settle disputes. Yet some Native American tribes tortured to death captives from other tribes with ferocious cruelty.

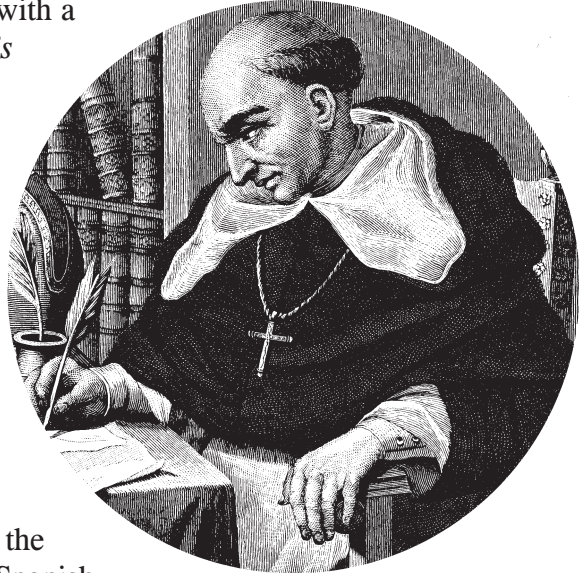
From the Indian perspective, the Europeans were equally strange. The best of them, the missionaries, talked of a new God who was to be worshiped in odd new ways. The worst Europeans were savagely cruel, and had much better weapons to force the natives into slavery on sugar plantations or in gold mines. Good or evil, the newcomers unknowingly carried the germs of Old World diseases like smallpox that killed millions of natives. Overwork or outright massacres by Europeans killed many others. For the native groups, old ways of life soon disappeared forever.

One important cultural difference helps explain the success of the Europeans as their colonies grew. To most Indians, land was something owned by the tribe as a whole, not by individuals. Europeans, however, had developed elaborate social and economic practices centered on individual ownership of land. Wealth and status were largely determined by land ownership. This fact, of land considered as one's own personal wealth, put a powerful drive behind the European conquest.



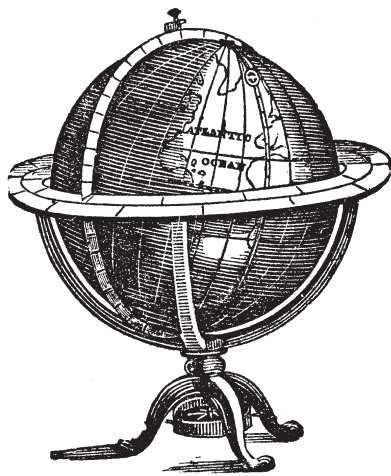
The collision of cultures confronted Europeans with a question that echoes to this day: *Are all the world's people equally human?*

Christianity, the religion of most Europeans, teaches that all men are brothers, as descendants of the same parents, Adam and Eve. But the discovery of such vastly different cultures made it easy for greedy colonists to argue that Indians were separate peoples who should work as slaves until they were “civilized.”



A Spaniard named Bartolome de Las Casas, who took part himself in the bloody conquest of Cuba, later came to see many European actions in the New World as morally wrong. For example, the Spanish practice of awarding settlers control over a group of natives and their land often led to brutal treatment of the Indians as laborers. Las Casas became a missionary priest, and pressed the Catholic Church and the Spanish king to proclaim the basic humanity of the Indians. Both did so, and an order was issued from Spain in 1542 to end the enslavement and abuse of Indians.

The exploitation of the native population did not end, however. The lure of gold and silver was a far more powerful force than religion or law on many European colonists. In fact, the scramble for wealth in the colonies soon pulled a third group into the cultural collision: African slaves. Slavery had long existed in African societies. But it took a far more harsh form in the New World, starting with the sugar plantations of the Portuguese and the Spanish in South America and the West Indies.



The debate launched by Bartolome de Las Casas, however, advanced a vitally important principle in European thought: the common humanity of all groups of mankind. Picked up and spread by countless others, it eventually grew into a powerful idea shaping the history of the world.

Five centuries have passed since 1492. Great empires – Spanish, Portuguese, French, and English – have grown, flourished, and then disappeared in the New World. New systems of government have risen, and new definitions of human rights. Yet even today, the descendants of the three cultures that collided during the Age of Discovery still struggle to work out the real meaning of human equality.

THE ENGLISH MEET THE NATIVE AMERICANS

*In 1585 an English scientist named Thomas Harriot was aboard a ship exploring the coastal area of what is now North Carolina. These are condensed selections from his book, **A Brief and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia.***

They are a people clothed with loose mantles [cloaks] made of deerskins, and aprons of the same round about their middles, all else naked. They have no edge tools or weapons of iron to offend us with, neither know they how to make any. Those weapons that they have are only bows made of witch hazel, and arrows of reeds.

Their towns are but small, some containing but ten or twelve houses, some twenty. Their houses are made of small poles, made fast at the tops in round form. In most towns these are covered with bark, and in some with mats made of long rushes [reeds].

In some places in the country, only one town belongs to the government of a Wiroans or chief Lord, in others some two or three, in some, six, eight, and more. The greatest Wiroans that yet we had been dealing with had but eighteen towns in his government.

Their manner of wars amongst themselves is either by sudden surprising one another, most commonly about the dawning of day, or moonlight, or else by ambushes. Set battles are very rare.

They seem very ingenious, for although they have no such tools, nor any such crafts, sciences, and arts as we, yet in those things they do, they show excellence of wit.

Some religion they have already, which although it is far from the truth, yet being as it is, there is hope it may be easier and sooner reformed.

They believe that there are many gods, which they call Mantoac, but of different sorts and degrees; one only chief and great God, which has been from all eternity.

For mankind they say a woman was made first, who by the working of one of the gods, conceived and brought forth children.

And in such sort they say they had their beginning. But how many years or ages have passed since, they say they can make no relation, having no letters or other such means as we to keep records of the particularities of time past, but only tradition [stories] from father to son.

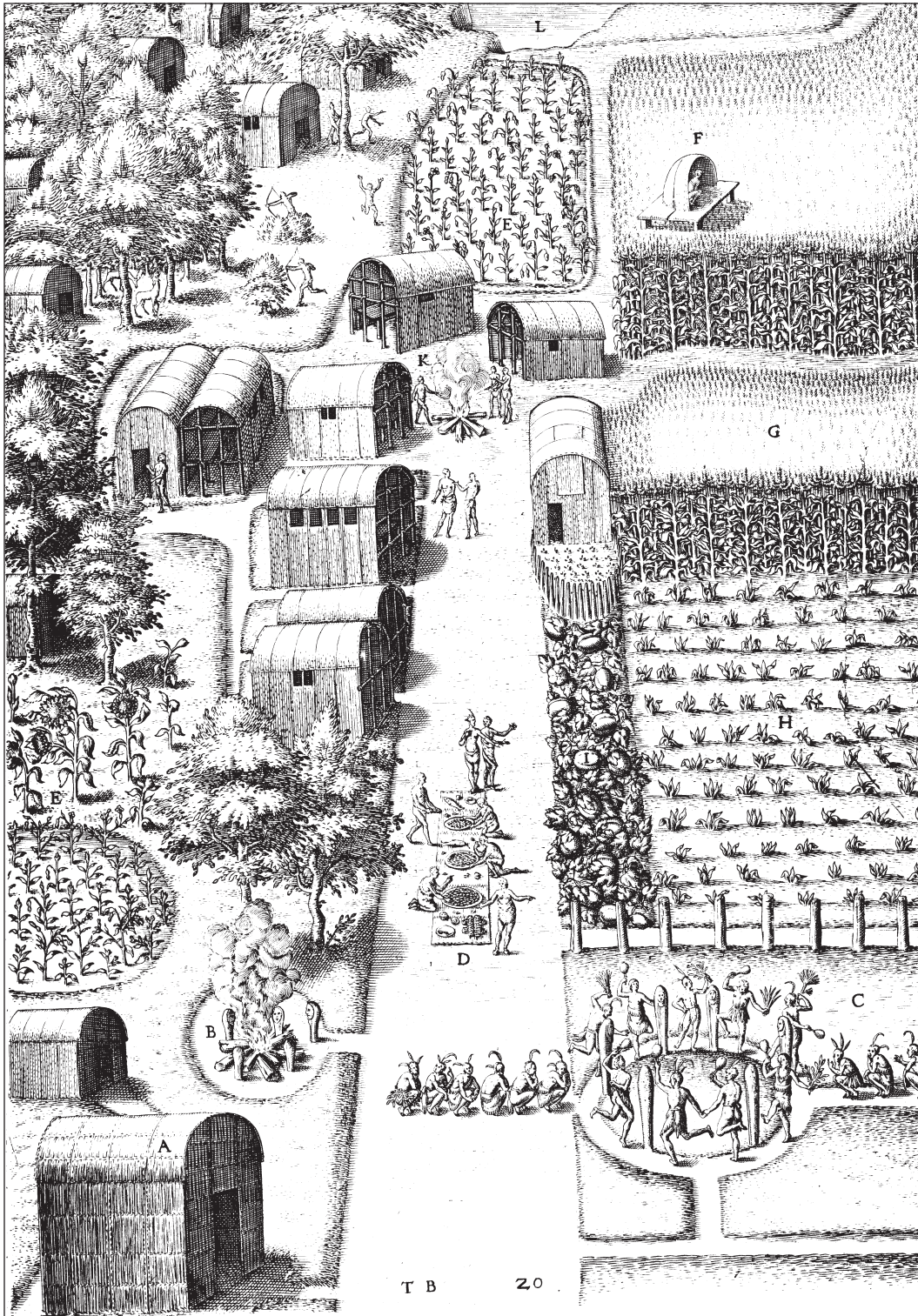


They think that all the gods are of human shape, and therefore they represent them by images in the forms of men. Them they place in temples, where they worship, pray, sing, and make many times offerings unto them.

Most things they saw with us, as mathematical instruments, sea compasses, burning glasses, guns, writing and reading, and spring-clocks that seem to go of themselves, were so strange unto them, that they thought they were rather the works of gods than of men, or that they had been given and taught us by the gods.

Group Discussion: *Compare the Native American life described here with that of Europeans life and religious belief at that time. What are some of the similarities and differences that you notice? What evidence is there that Thomas Harriot had respect for the Indians he met, in spite of their cultural differences?*

This drawing from Thomas Herriot's book shows an Indian town called Secota. It was on the mainland not far from the location of the Lost Colony. Make notes in the margins as you search for as much information as you can find about the life of the Indians shown here.



Group Discussion: *What can you discover from the picture about the life and culture of Native Americans living in this town? Be specific as you describe what you see.*

THE MYSTERY OF THE LOST COLONY

John White was a leader of the colonists who landed on Roanoke Island in 1587. He sailed back to England that same year to get more supplies. It was 1590 before White could finally return to Roanoke Island. As this condensed account shows, he found the colonists gone, apparently to another island called Croatoan.

Before we could get to the place where our planters [the colonists] were left, it was so exceedingly dark that we overshot the place a quarter of a mile. At daybreak, we landed, and we walked through the woods, until we came to the place where I left our colony. In all this way we saw in the sand the print of the Indians' feet, and upon a tree were carved these letters, C R O.

These letters we knew to signify the place where I should find the planters, according to a secret agreement between them and me at my last departure from them. The agreement was that they should write or carve on the trees or posts the name of the place where they should be, for when I left they were prepared to move from Roanoke Island fifty miles into the main [mainland].

Therefore at my departure in 1587, I told them that if they should happen to be distressed [in trouble] that they should also carve over the letters a cross, but we found no such signs of distress.

And having well considered of this, we passed toward the place where they were left, but we found the houses taken down, and the place very strongly enclosed with a high palisade [fence] of great posts.

One of the chief trees or posts at the right side of the entrance had the bark taken off, and five feet from the ground in fair capital letters was graven [written] CROATOAN, without any cross or sign of distress.

We entered into the palisade, where we

found many bars of iron, and such like heavy things, thrown here and there, almost overgrown with grass and weeds. We found five chests that had been carefully hidden, and of the chests three were my own. About the place many of my things lay spoiled and broken.

This could only be the deed of our enemies the Indians at Dasemunkepeuc, who must have watched the departure of our men to Croatoan, and as soon as they were departed dug up every place where they suspected anything was buried.



But although it grieved me to see such spoil of my goods, yet on the other side I greatly joyed that I had safely found a token of their being safe at Croatoan, which is the place

where Manteo was born, and the Indians of the island were our friends.

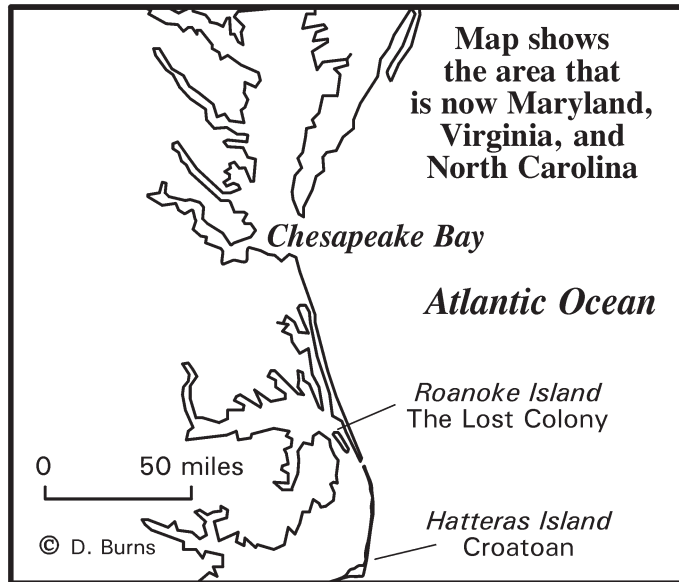
When we had seen in this place so much as we could, we returned to our boats and departed from the shore towards our ships with as much speed as we could, for the weather began to overcast, and very likely that a foul and stormy night would ensue.

Therefore, the same evening, with much labor and danger, we got ourselves aboard, by which time the wind and seas were so greatly risen that we doubted our cables and anchors would scarcely hold until morning.

The next morning it was agreed to weigh [lift] anchor and go for the place at Croatoan where our planters were. But when the anchor was almost apeak [raised], the cable broke. It was therefore determined that we should go to the southward for fresh water.

The captain of White's ship refused to return to the area, and searches in later years found no sign of the colonists on Croatoan. Since the colonists had originally planned to settle closer to the Chesapeake Bay, it is possible they moved there. Their fate remains a mystery.

Lightly shade the map to the right with color pencils to show the land and water areas. Then compare it to the map below from 1590. Notice that the old map is not oriented the way maps usually are today with North at the top.

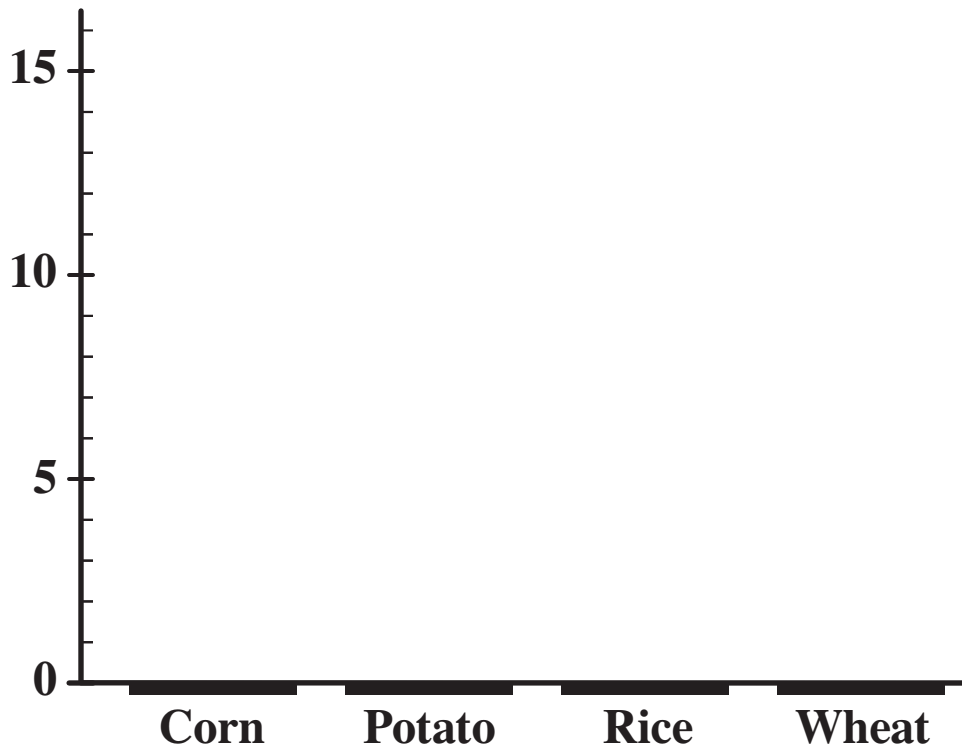


Group Discussion: Why is John White so sure the colonists had gone to Croatoan? Why does he think the colonists were not in any trouble or danger when they left? For spotting a rescue ship, why might Croatoan have been a good place? If you had been selected to lead the colony, what would you have recommended once the supply ship became long overdue?

CHARTING GOLDEN CROPS

The Spanish took great quantities of gold and silver from their colonies. In the long run, however, New World plants like corn and the potato proved to be far more valuable than all the precious metals the Spanish carried away. Complete these bar graphs to help you analyze the data and explain why these plants are so valuable. The first chart compares the yield per acre of four crops grown on American farms 500 years after the voyage of Columbus.

Color Key: New World Crops [] Old World Crops []



Crop Yields (Tons per Acre) on U.S. Farms - 1992

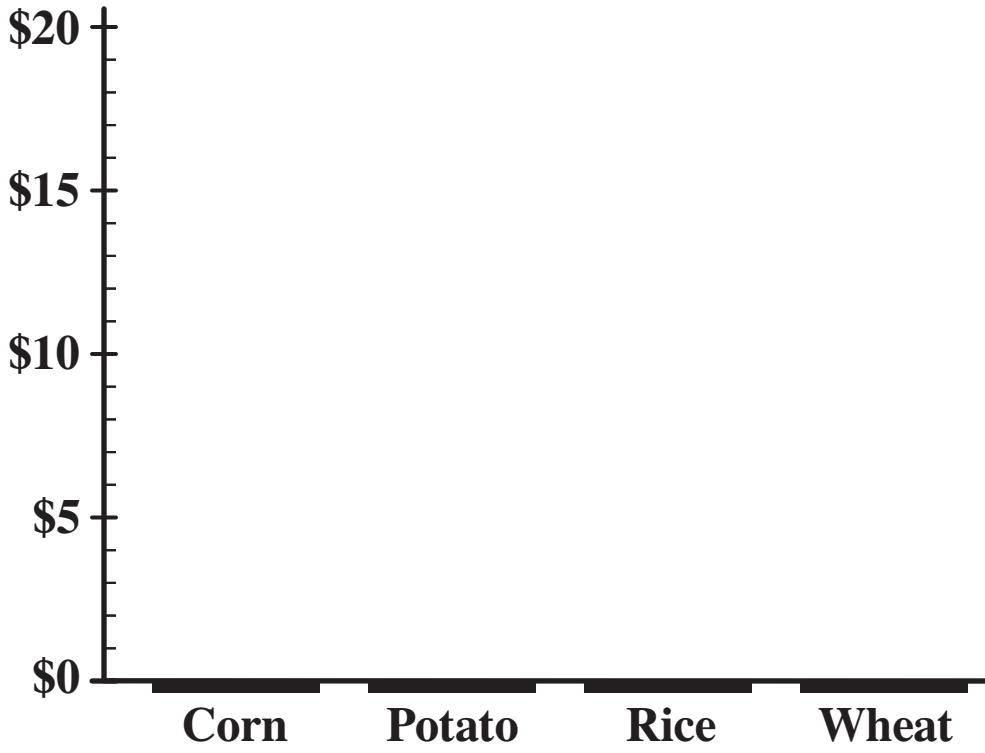
Use the table below to find the information to complete the bar graph above. Draw a vertical bar for each crop, with the length corresponding to the yield of that crop. Then pick a color for each category in the key, and shade the bars with the appropriate colors.

New World Crops	Yield (Tons per Acre) U.S. Farms - 1992	Old World Crops	Yield (Tons per Acre) U.S. Farms - 1992
Corn	3.7	Rice	2.8
Potato	16.2	Wheat	1.2

source: *Statistical Abstract of the United States*

The bar graph below compares the monetary value of the same four crops in the United States in 1992, five centuries after Columbus reached the New World. What reasons can you give to explain why the corn crop is so large and valuable in modern America?

Color Key: New World Crops [] Old World Crops []



U.S. Crop Values (Billions of Dollars) - 1992

Use the table below to find the information to complete the bar graph above. Draw a vertical bar of the appropriate length for each crop. Then shade the color key with the same colors you used on the previous chart, and shade the bars with the appropriate colors.

New World Crops	1992 Value - U.S. Farms (Billions of Dollars)	Old World Crops	1992 Value - U.S. Farms (Billions of Dollars)
Corn	19.7	Rice	1.1
Potato	2.3	Wheat	8.0

source: *Statistical Abstract of the United States*