**THE EARLY AMERICANS**

EQ: How were early American societies similar or different to Europeans?

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| First Native Americans | \*Arrived via Bering Isthmus or by boat nearly 35,000 years ago.  \*Gradually spread across the continents.  \*Developed unique cultures based on geography (Maize, fishing, trade).  \*Three major civilizations emerged (Aztec, Maya, Inca). |
| Europeans in Africa | \*New ships (caravels) improved sailing for longer voyages.  \*Portuguese explore Africa, set up trade posts, and introduce slavery to European sugar plantations. |
| Explorers | \*Columbus, under Spain’s Ferdinand and Isabella, mistakenly lands in West Indies looking for spice route to SE Asia.  \*France, Dutch, and English follow suit.  \*Marquette, Lasalle, Cartier lead the French mostly along Miss. and St. Lawrence Rivers.  \*Cabot and Hudson sail for England looking for Northwest Passage.  \*Hudson also sailed for Dutch who later settle New Amsterdam. |
| Conquistadors | \*Cortez- defeats Aztecs and great city of Tenochtitlan.  \*Pizarro- defeats the Inca in South America.  \*More explorers follow under GOD, GLORY, GOLD including Balboa, de Soto, Ponce de Leon, et.al.  \*Spain uses encomienda system enslaving Indians and Christianizing them.  \*Some revolt including Pueblo in SW in Pope’s Rebellion or Pueblo Rebellion.  \*Culture begins to mix with inter-racial marriages and offspring known as mestizos. |
| Effects | \*Treaty of Tordesillas- line separating Spain/Portugal’s exploration rights (Portugal in Brazil and Africa).  \*Columbian Exchange- new global commerce of goods, people, ideas, and disease.  \*Balance of Power in Europe- Spain dominates early until the Spanish Armada of 1588. |
|  | \*underlined words are great illustrative examples that when used properly will result in high SAQ, LEQ, and DBQ scores. |

**Chronology**

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| 33,000-8,000 B.C. | First humans cross into Americas from Asia. |
| 5,000 B.C. | Corn is developed as a stable crop in highland Mexico. |
| 4,000 B.C. | First civilized societies develop in the Middle East. |
| 1,200 B.C. | Corn planting reaches present-day American Southwest. |
| 1,000 A.D. | Norse voyagers discover and briefly settle in northeastern North America. Corn cultivation reaches Midwest and southeastern Atlantic seaboard. |
| 1,100 A.D. | Height of Mississippian settlement at Cahokia. |
| 1,100-1,300 A.D. | Christian crusades arouse European interest in the East. |
| 1295 | Marco Polo returns to Europe. |
| Late 1400s | Spain becomes united. |
| 1488 | Diaz rounds southern tip of Africa. |
| 1492 | Columbus lands in the Bahamas. |
| 1494 | Treaty of Tordesillas between Spain and Portugal. |
| 1498 | Da Gama reaches India. Cabot explores northeastern coast of North America for England. |
| 1513 | Balboa claims all lands touched by the Pacific Ocean for Spain. |
| 1513, 1521 | Ponce de Leon explores Florida. |
| 1519-1521 | Cortes conquers Mexico for Spain. |
| 1522 | Magellan's vessel completes circumnavigation of the world. |
| 1524 | Verrazano explores eastern seaboard of North America for France. |
| 1532 | Pizarro crushes Incas. |
| 1534 | Cartier journeys up the St. Lawrence River. |
| 1539-1542 | De Soto explores the Southeast and discovers the Mississippi River. |
| 1540-1542 | Cabrillo explores present-day Southwest. |
| 1542 | Cabrillo explores California coast for Spain. |
| 1565 | Spanish build fortress at St. Augustine. |
| Late 1500s | Iroquois Confederacy founded, according to Iroquois legend. |
| 1598-1609 | Spanish under Onate conquer pueblo peoples of Rio Grande valley. |
| 1609 | Spanish found New Mexico. |
| 1680s | French exploration down Mississippi River under La Salle. |
| 1769 | Serra founds first California mission, at San Diego. |