

Questions About The Age of Exploration, Europe 1400 AD – 1600 AD

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

1. Why did European explorers choose to make their expeditions?
  - a. They were trying to determine the depth of the ocean floor.
  - b. They were seeking a sea route to Asia.
  - c. They were looking for whales to hunt.
  - d. They wanted to see how long they could survive at sea.
  
2. In what year did Columbus first sail and make land in the *New World*?
  - a. 1450
  - b. 1475
  - c. 1492
  - d. 1592
  
3. On his voyages to the *New World*, where did Columbus believe he had landed?
  - a. India
  - b. Indiana
  - c. New York
  - d. Spain
  
4. Where did Columbus actually set anchor?
  - a. near Australia
  - b. near South Africa
  - c. near an island in the Caribbean Sea
  - d. near California

5. Ferdinand Magellan also sought a sea route to Asia. He found a strait (a narrow ocean passage) that led him to the Pacific Ocean. Where was this strait?
- a. at the southern tip of South America
  - b. the northern portion of North America
  - c. along the eastern coastline of Asia
  - d. none of the above
6. How many total voyages did Columbus make to the West Indies?
- a. 1
  - b. 2
  - c. 3
  - d. 4
7. Which was **not** a motive for exploration during the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries?
- a. to gain converts to the Christian faiths
  - b. to become rich
  - c. to have adventures and become famous
  - d. to improve the health of native people on other continents
8. Cartography is
- a. the crafting of improvements in the technology of wagon wheels
  - b. the art and science of mapmaking
  - c. trade with other countries over land routes
  - d. an early form of open-heart surgery

9. What are longitude and latitude?
- short and longer ships used to carry goods throughout seas
  - vertical and horizontal lines on a map or globe that help navigators determine their location on Earth
  - rectangular and triangular sails on Spanish ships
  - wooden masts on ships used to hold sails in place
10. In which country did the European *Age of Exploration* over the seas begin?
- Italy
  - England
  - Portugal
  - South Africa
11. Why did King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain sponsor (pay for) Columbus' search for a sea route to Asia?
- they wanted to beat Portugal to control the wealth of Asia
  - they wanted to spread Christianity
  - both answers **a** and **b** are true
  - neither answers **a** nor **b** are true
12. The country of Spain funded Italian-born Columbus's voyages to the *New World*. Which country funded Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan's voyages?
- Portugal
  - England
  - Italy
  - Spain

13. Which of these happened on Magellan's voyage around the world?
- a. his fleet of five ships landed in North America where his crew began establishing the missions in California
  - b. his fleet of ships passed through an ocean strait that is now known as the Panama Canal
  - c. Magellan died
  - d. none of these happened
14. What was a result of Columbus' *discovery* of the *New World*?
- a. millions of native peoples died
  - b. the country of Spain gained great riches
  - c. native peoples were forced to become Christians
  - d. all of the above
15. What did Spanish conquistadors do in the *New World*?
- a. they made friends with all of the groups of native peoples
  - b. they stole the wealth of the natives
  - c. they died from diseases the native peoples carried
  - d. all of the above
16. How was Hernan Cortes able to conquer the Aztec capital and its people?
- a. he showed them how to mine for gold and jewels
  - b. he held their leader, Montezuma, as a hostage
  - c. he performed tricks of illusion to confuse them
  - d. he poisoned their leader with a drug-laden potion
17. **Epidemics** killed millions of native people in the *New World*. What were these **epidemics**?
- a. large waves that flood vast land areas
  - b. an outbreak of a disease that affects many people in an area
  - c. wars between great armies of soldiers
  - d. none of the above

18. Compared to the Aztec and Incan regions, the region of modern-day Canada was not as appealing an area to colonize because it lacked gold and treasures. But what resources did the Canada region offer?
- animal furs and skins
  - whale oil
  - rich fishing areas
  - all of the above
19. Finding sea routes to Asia allowed merchants to do what?
- avoid problems in the movement of products when some ports were closed
  - move products more quickly and cheaply
  - import spices from Asia to Europe to preserve and improve the taste of food
  - all of the above
20. The Spanish fleets of ships dominated ocean exploration for more than 100 years. Then England and the Netherlands grew more powerful at sea. What caused this change?
- epidemics in Spain and Portugal
  - changes in ship design and weaponry
  - a lack of translation between the spoken languages of the countries
  - none of the above
21. What lasting legacy did Spanish exploration of the *New World* leave on the lands and people of the Americas?
- the presence of farm animals like horses, cows, pigs, and sheep
  - the practice of the Christian religion
  - a tremendous reduction of the population of native people
  - all of the above

22. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ is a system where prices for goods, and the value of a person's work, are determined by the buying and selling decisions of the people in an area.
- market economy
  - cottage industry
  - unemployment rate
  - epidemic
23. In 1609, English explorer Henry Hudson searched for a **Northwest Passage**. It did not exist, but he didn't know it. Where was he looking for a **Northwest Passage**?
- between western Asia and east Africa
  - between Australia and Indonesia in the Indian Ocean
  - from the Atlantic Ocean, north to Canada, then south toward the Great Lakes of North America
  - between western Europe and northern Africa
24. We now know that there are 7 continents on Earth. According to 2<sup>nd</sup> century Greek geographer Ptolomy, there were how many continents on Earth?
- 1
  - 3
  - 7
  - 10
25. Which Portuguese explorer, sailing under the flag of Spain, initiated a voyage that successfully circumnavigated\* the Earth? (\*to travel around completely)
- Ferdinand Magellan
  - Christopher Columbus
  - Bartolomeu Dias
  - Vasco de Gama

26. What caused the deaths of so many native people in Brazil at the hands of Portuguese colonists?
- disease
  - abuse
  - overwork
  - all of the above
27. Prince Henry of Portugal was an important figure in Portugal's success in naval exploration. What did Prince Henry do?
- he successfully circumnavigated the Earth
  - he started a school where sailors and map makers could improve their skills
  - he designed more seaworthy ships
  - all of the above
28. **Capitalism** grew as a result of the *Age of Exploration* and trade that occurred between people of far away lands. What is **capitalism**?
- the killing of native peoples
  - the restriction a government places on its people to trade with people from another country
  - an economic system where people invest money and resources in order to make more money
  - none of the above
29. The primary reason a mother country established and maintained colonies was
- to transfer a portion of the population away from the mother country
  - to fight the outbreak of disease
  - to increase the wealth and power of the mother country
  - none of the above

30. Which was a result of the Age of Exploration?

- a. there was a tremendous increase in the slave trade
- b. the destruction of the Aztec and Incan Empires occurred
- c. the deaths of millions of native people in the Americas occurred over a short period of time
- d. all of the above