



## 1. How new was the 'New World'?

1	Different societies and cultures?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>South and Central America: Maya, Aztecs, Incas</li> <li>North America: Divided into many tribes. Cahokia was the largest settlement with 40,000 inhabitants at its peak</li> </ol>
2	What were these societies like?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incas: Built roads and bridges, developed a postal service, performed brain surgeries, created their own calendar</li> <li>Aztecs: Had multiple gods which required thousands of human sacrifices each year. Everyone was educated up to age of 17. Had their own written language. Women had an important role in society.</li> </ol>
3	How did Europeans discover the Americas?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christopher Columbus voyaged west on behalf of Spain in 1492 to look for new routes to the East, discovering fertile lands full of new foods and precious metals. The Caribbean</li> <li>Many Europeans followed in his footsteps to discover the new continent and take riches back.</li> </ol>

## 2. What impact did Europeans have on the Americas?

1	How were the natives treated?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Aztecs and Incas were slaughtered and enslaved by the Spanish conquistadors (1521) due to their superior weaponry and technology</li> </ol>
2	What happened to the conquered people?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>European diseases like Smallpox wiped out millions of natives who had no immunity to them.</li> <li>Languages and cultures like those of the Aztecs were lost as they were forced to convert to Christianity</li> </ol>
3	Why were slaves used?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natives who were captured were used as slaves to farm and dig for gold</li> <li>Too few survived so slaves were brought from Africa as well</li> </ol>

## 3. Why did some Europeans go to the Americas?

1	Who were the Conquistadors?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish and Portuguese explorers and warriors who travelled West and went on to discover Mexico, Florida and Brazil</li> </ol>
2	What were their rewards?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conquistadores like Hernan Cortes brought back huge quantities of gold</li> <li>They set up great empires and gained huge power by taking over the empires of the Incas and Aztecs, with cities like Tenochtitlan under their possession.</li> </ol>
3	How was North America settled?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many Northern Europeans went to North America to escape religious persecution and set up their own societies.</li> <li>This involved having to fight and defeat native inhabitants.</li> </ol>

## 4. What impact did the 'New World' have on the old World?

1	How did Europe become more powerful?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The riches from the new World gave Europe a huge advantage over Asia and the Middle East</li> <li>Direct trade routes with China and India were created with increased wealth as well</li> </ol>
2	How did global empires emerge?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spain and Portugal now had huge riches which combined with their ship technology to allow them to gain territory from China and India all the way to South America</li> <li>Soon Britain and France also began to take advantage of Europe's new riches and superiority on the seas to gain territories.</li> </ol>
3	What role did pirates play?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>England employed privateers under Queen Elizabeth I to try take gold and other precious items from Spanish and Portuguese and bring them back home.</li> <li>These pirates became very rich and caused tension between European countries</li> </ol>
4	Which parts of the world were badly impacted	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Africa's population suffered greatly from the discovery as millions were enslaved and traded by Europeans to work in the 'New World'</li> <li>Empires like the Mughal and Ottoman went into decline as they could not compete</li> </ol>

Key Term	Definition
<b>Aztecs</b>	Indigenous people who controlled an empire around Mexico until 1521
<b>Conquistadores</b>	The Spanish and Portuguese invaders who took control of South America and the Caribbean
<b>El Dorado</b>	A mythical city or empire blessed with huge amounts of gold that Europeans searched for during the 1500s
<b>Incas</b>	Indigenous people who controlled an advanced empire around modern day Peru and the Andes
<b>Indigenous people</b>	Cultural and social groups that share ancestral connections to lands where they live
<b>New World</b>	Name given to The Americas and West Indies by Europeans
<b>Privateers</b>	Ships with guns employed by Kings and Queens to capture other boats and goods from merchants
<b>Smallpox</b>	A deadly disease that spread from Europe to the New World devastating indigenous populations
<b>Tenochtitlan</b>	The capital of the Aztec empire which had a population of about 200,000
<b>Treaty of Tordesillas</b>	1494 agreement that divided the 'New World' between Spain and Portugal