



Summer Assignment 2022
U.S. History 11th Grade

Directions: Activities about Indigenous America and Spanish Exploration should be completed to the best of your ability and demonstrate your best work as a pre-collegiate, prep school student.

Academic Integrity: All work should be completed independently and without the assistance of unapproved resources. Any work violating academic integrity will be subject to a “0” and any additional consequences as outlined in the Knox Academic Integrity Policy attached to this assignment.

Due Date: Your work is due the first day of your (course name) class. All late work will be subjected to a grade reduction or penalty as outlined in the course syllabus and copied below:

All major assignments not submitted on the due date will face a 10% deduction of max points per day for up to five (5) days and up to a 50% deduction.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this assignment, please contact the History Department Chair, Mrs. Mandia, at kmandia@knoxschool.org or the Dean of Academics, Mrs. Pergola, at dpergola@knoxschool.org.

Name:

Mrs. Mandia

Grade 11 U.S. History

Date:

I. Indigenous America

Your study of American History begins with Indigenous America; where Native Americans resided for ten thousand years before the first Europeans arrived.

A. Please read about Indigenous America via [The American Yawp](#) (external link):

I. [Introduction](#)

and

II. [The First Americans](#)

Answer the following questions using complete sentences; proper sentence structure; correct capitalization, spelling, grammar and punctuation:

1. **“Agriculture arose sometime between nine thousand and five thousand years ago, almost simultaneously in the Eastern and Western Hemispheres.”**
Describe the importance of agriculture and the primary crop(s) grown that became so important.

2. Discuss the *many* “broad traits” shared by many of North America’s Indigenous peoples.

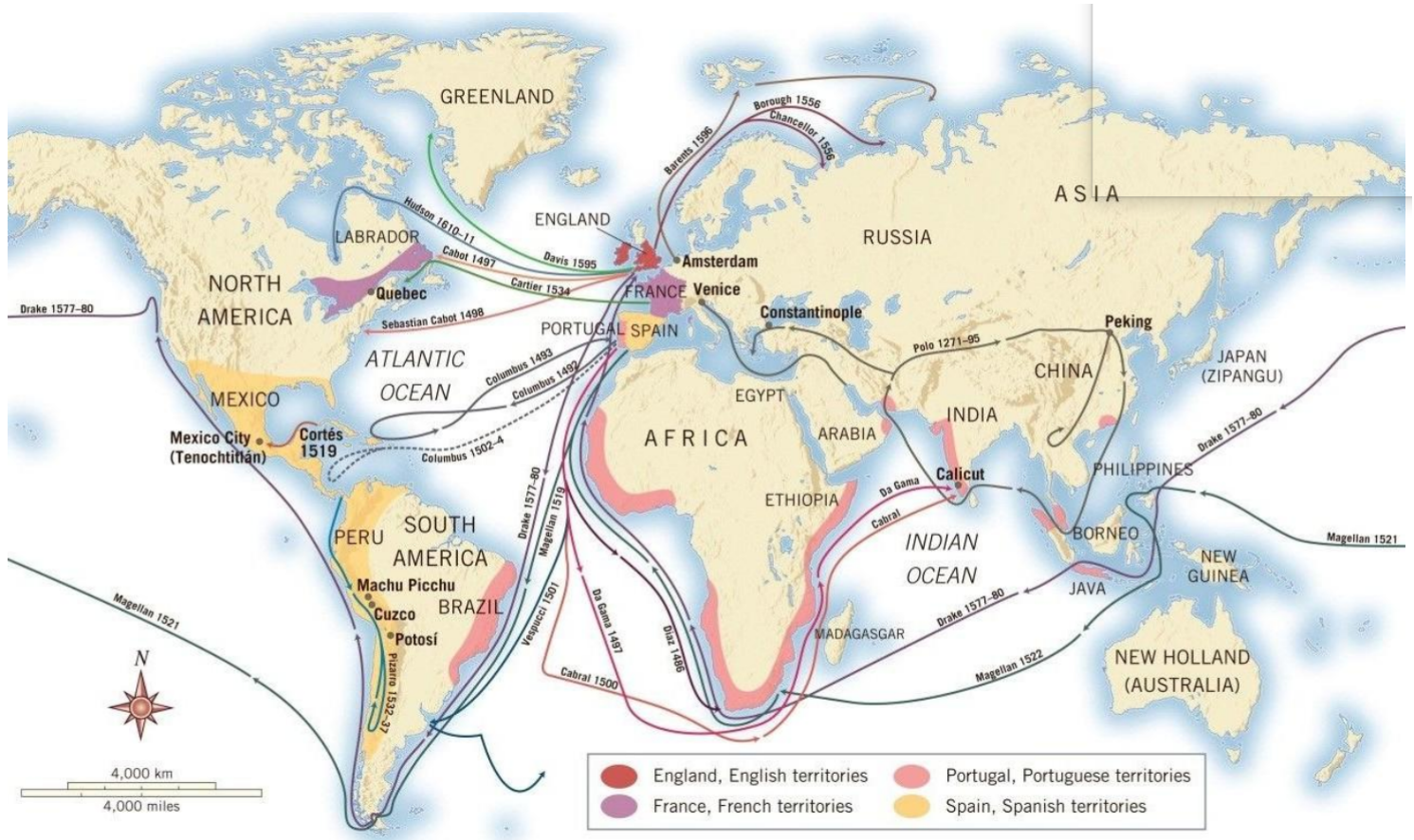
3. Describe the long-distance trading routes that connected North American communities.

4. Which region became the most densely populated in North America and why?

5. **“Despite commonalities, Native cultures varied greatly.”** How would European Explorers describe the peoples of the Americas upon their arrival and exploration of the Americas?

(continued ...)

II. The Spanish Invasion of the Americas



<https://www.studentsofhistory.com/routes-of-famous-european-explorers>

A. Watch the video [3-2 The Spanish Conquest of the Americas](#) by Seed Learning (Closed Captioning available), where you will learn about how the Spanish culture changed the Americas.

Take notes on important topics/events from the video:

Spices from Asia:

Columbus:

Aztecs, Inca, Maya:

“Indians”

“More than Just Spices”:

What did Spanish explorers want from the land?

Explorers and Conquerors:

Cortez v. the Maya

Maya population decreases:

Pizarro v. the Inca:

Columbian Exchange (“What Spaniards Brought to America” and “What America Gave to the Spaniards”):

B. Despite the diversity of Native populations and the existence of several strong empires, Native Americans were wholly unprepared for the arrival of Europeans. Biology magnified European cruelties. Cut off from the Old World, its domesticated animals, and its immunological history, Native Americans lived free from the terrible diseases that ravaged populations in Asia, Europe and Africa. But their blessing now became a curse. Native Americans lacked the immunities that Europeans and Africans had developed over centuries of deadly epidemics, and so when Europeans arrived, carrying smallpox, typhus, influenza, diphtheria, measles, and hepatitis, plagues decimated Native communities.²⁶ Many died in war and slavery, but millions died in epidemics. All told, in fact, some scholars estimate that as much as 90 percent of the population of the Americas perished within the first century and a half of European contact²⁷

C. Depiction of Christopher Columbus' Soldiers Chopping the Hands off of Arawak Indians who Failed to Meet the Mining Quota in Bartolomé de Las Casas's "*Brevisima relación de la destrucción de las Indias*."



D. Using the information from

A. the video and your notes, and

B. the reading and the image,

write a short answer response that discusses the impacts of the Spanish invasion upon the Indigenous Peoples.