

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Age of Exploration - Answer Key

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. Marco Polo influenced the Age of Exploration by

- A. returning with valuable silks, teas and spices from Asia
- B. teaching explorers how to build effective ships
- C. developing a social class system for explorers on ships
- D. successfully circumnavigating the globe

2. Why did the explorers travel by sea, rather than land, to reach Asia?

- A. Living on a boat was an easier way of life than traveling by land.
- B. The Ottoman Turks prevented people from passing through their land.
- C. The Ottoman Turks taught the Spanish and Portuguese how to build boats.
- D. The great European horse plague made it difficult to travel by land.

3. What did Vasco de Gama do before any other European explorer?

- A. He successfully reached Latin America by ship.
- B. He successfully reached India by ship.
- C. He successfully reached Africa by ship.
- D. He successfully reached Portugal by ship.

4. Why did Christopher Columbus think he had landed in India?

- A. He underestimated the distance around the world.
- B. People in the Caribbean spoke Hindi.
- C. He thought the world was flat.
- D. The spices he found were identical to those in India.

5. What two countries dominated trade during the Age of Exploration?

- A. Spain and Italy
- B. Portugal and England
- C. France and England
- D. Spain and Portugal

6. Which of the following goods shared in the Columbian exchange came from the Americas?

- A. cows
- B. cats
- C. coffee
- D. chocolate

7. What was a negative effect of the Columbian exchange?

- A. People tasted no new foods.
- B. Farmers in the Americas ran out of crops to grow.
- C. Diseases such as measles and smallpox were spread.
- D. Europe suffered from a shortage of horses for battle.

8. Which of the following was NOT an effect of the line of demarcation between Spain and Portugal?

- A. Spain and Portugal became the most influential countries during the Age of Exploration.
- B. People in Brazil speak Portuguese.
- C. Prince Henry the Navigator explored the African coast.
- D. Spain and Portugal claimed ownership of land they hadn't discovered yet.

9. **Circumnavigation** means to

- A. discover new land
- B. travel completely around something, such as the globe
- C. settle in a new continent
- D. trade goods with another people

10. Which statement about life at sea during the Age of Exploration is true?

- A. Pages were the highest ranking people on the ships.
- B. The captain was the highest ranking person on the ship.
- C. The social ranks on ships were completely different than on land.
- D. Medicine of the time prevented people from getting sick.