

# CHAPTER 1

## New World Beginnings, 33,000 B.C.–A.D. 1783

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**1. Part One Intro. (pp. 2–3)** This introduction gives you a preview of the authors' answers to certain key questions about America up to the establishment of the United States. Look at this section and list three major questions you think the authors will be addressing in the first eight chapters.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**2. The Earliest Americans (pp. 4–10)**

a. List three things you found new or particularly interesting about the Native American societies that existed prior to their discovery by Europeans.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

b. \*\*\* What comments do you have about the differing views (pp. 9–11) of the relation of humans to nature held by Europeans (**humans have dominion over the earth**) and Native Americans (**humans must live in harmony with nature**)? Is one better than the other?

**3. Direct and Indirect Discovery of America (pp. 10–14)**

a. What is the connection the authors make between the eventual discovery of America and the Crusades, Marco Polo, and the European taste for exotic goods from Asia?

b. List three of the factors mentioned by the authors on pp. 13–14 as coming together to produce the voyage of Columbus.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

c. How did the New World discovery build an interdependent global economic system? What were the distinctive roles played by Europe, Africa, and America in this new system?

Europe:

Africa:

America:

**4. Worlds Collide (pp. 14–16)**

a. List three of the most important plants and animals introduced from America to Europe, and vice versa:

America to Europe

Europe to America

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

b. We usually think of military defeat as causing the downfall of most Native American civilizations. But in reality it was \_\_\_\_\_ that caused the decimation of up to \_\_\_\_\_ percent of Native American population. \*\*\* Hitler's Holocaust in Europe was responsible for the extermination of 6 million Jews. List one similarity and one major difference you see between the Holocaust and the fate of Native Americans at the hands of the Europeans.

Similarity

Difference

c. \*\*\* (Optional) Do you have any theories as to why Native Americans died of European diseases and Europeans didn't die of Native American diseases?

**5. Spanish Conquistadores (pp. 16–24)**

a. List the areas explored by the following Spanish expeditions to North America:

Ponce de Leon:

Hernando de Soto:

Francisco Coronado:

Hernán Cortés:

b. In 1769, Father \_\_\_\_\_ started a string of missions designed both to colonize California and Christianize the native Californians. \*\*\* What is your view of this?

c. What main difference do the authors point out (pp. 23–24) between Spanish interaction with native peoples and that of the English? \*\*\* Can you think of any reason for this difference?

# CHAPTER 1 TERM SHEET

## New World Beginnings

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### **Pages 4–10**

Incas

Mayans

Aztecs

Pueblos

Creeks, Choctaws, and Cherokees

Iroquois Confederacy

### **Pages 10–14**

Vinland

Portuguese slave trade

Vasco da Gama

Columbus

### **Pages 14–16**

Hispaniola

Old World diseases

### **Pages 16–24**

Treaty of Tordesillas (1494)

Vasco Nunez Balboa

Ferdinand Magellan

Juan Ponce de Leon

Francisco Coronado

Hernando de Soto

Hernán Cortés

John Cabot

Giovanni da Verrazano

Robert de La Salle

Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo

Father Junipero Serra