Chapter 14.1 and 15 Notes

Exploration and the Discovery of a New World

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14.1 The Search for Spices

-trade existed with Asia for centuries

-learned of valuable goods from the travels of Marco Polo

-found spices, silk, gold and other valuables

-trade over land went through many middle-men which increased the price of

goods

-some countries begin to try to reach Asia by sailing

-Portugal, led by Prince Henry the Navigator, was the first country to explore

-built navigation schools for sailors

-used new technology

-caravel ship (triangular sails, can go against the wind)

-astrolabe, sextant and compass (for location and direction)

-first traveled along the coast of Africa and traded with natives and made

maps

-1488, Bartholomeu Dias eventually cleared the bottom of Africa (The Cape

of Good Hope)

-1497, Vasco da Gama reaches India and finds trading partners

-Spain joins the exploration process

-Christopher Columbus (from Italy) tries to reach Asia by sailing west

-lands in the Bahamas but thinks he is in the East Indies (Asia)

-calls the natives “Indians”

-The new world had been discovered, named “America” after Amerigo

Vespucci (navigator who kept a journal and described how beautiful

the land was)

-leads to more exploration of a new place

-still searching for a northwest passage – shortcut to Asia through America

-Ferdinand Magellan searches and travels around the whole world but no

shortcut was found

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-Conquistadors (Spanish conquerors) enter the new world

-advantages – guns/cannons, metal armor, horses, diseases

-Hernan Cortes attacks Tenochtitlan (Mexico City), the home of the Aztecs

-gets help from neighboring tribes

-Francisco Pizarro takes over the Incas in South America

-Spain now had many colonies and the most wealth in the world

-Native Americans lose land and 90% of their population

Section 2 pg. 477 Early American Colonies

-Spain takes strict control over their new colonies

-use the system of encomienda – natives forced to work under brutal conditions

-similar to slavery

-Christianity also was spread by missionaries

-eventually, priests end encomienda, replace the workers with slaves from Africa

-Spain became the richest country in the world due to their colonies and exports

(gold, silver, sugar)

New social structure was created

1. Peninsulares – (people from the peninsula) – born in Europe
2. Creoles – born in the Americas but their ancestors were from Europe
3. Mestizos – mixed Native American and European people
4. Mulattoes – mixed African and European people
5. Native Americans and Africans

Section 3 Page 482 North America

-France and England both make land claims in the U.S. and Canada

-France settled in Canada, traded for furs with the Native Americans

-England settled the east coast of the U.S. (13 colonies)

-first colony was Jamestown, VA (1607)

-grew cash crops (tobacco) and imported slaves for workers also

-both countries territories were growing and they are competing for the

same land

-leads to the French and Indian War (Seven Years’ War)

-England wins and gets all of the land east of the Mississippi river

Section 4 Page 487 The Slave Trade

Triangular trade - 1. Europeans trade goods for slaves in Africa

2. Slaves brought to America and sold

3. Merchants buy tobacco/sugar/coffee to sell to Europe

Middle Passage – journey from Africa to the new world on slave ships

-slaves were bought or sometimes captured

-long and dangerous journey (up to 3 months)

-crowded and cramped

-many died from disease, mistreatment or suicide

Section 5 Page 491 Global Exchange

Columbian Exchange – transfer of goods to and from the Americas

*Europeans get*: new healthy crops (corn, potatoes). Allows

population to grow

*Americas get* : livestock (including horses) and disease. Native

population decreases by about 90%

-massive immigration to the Americas also occurs

-opportunities for wealth and a new life

-new business practices occur and merchants as tries to maximize their profits

Joint-stock companies – groups of people sharing the costs and profits of a

business

Entrepreneurs – people who start and organize a business

Mercantilism – idea of exporting (selling) more than you import (buy)