

The Age of Exploration - Notes

What motivated the European Exploration? (Wed, Mar 3)

- Brought back new things
- Spice
- Silk
- Animals
- 1400's = Europeans will pay a lot of money for the Asian goods
- High prices for trade routes
- Find faster route to Asia, gain control of east
- Silk Road
- Slow, gov start charging taxes to travel through their land
- Exploitation starts prior to Renaissance

Three Gs

- Gold (wealth in general, and actual gold)
- People want to get rich
- Sponsorship
- Capitalism, people making more than they need
- Wealth made in trading goods unavailable in Europe

- Glory (printing press=possible to tell stories of people, often about captains. Kings and Queens)
- Idea of humanism
- Printing press, social media of the day
- Kings wanted glory for their kingdoms, race for glory

- God (church very important to western society, spreading Christianity)
- Duty to spread Christianity, convert non-believers
- Competition between different branches of Christianity
- Race to convert people after contact

- Spain🇪🇸, Britain🇬🇧, France🇫🇷, Portugal🇵🇹

- Map - accurate, Europe, Africa and Asia- most accurate parts are the places that have been in
- Portugal goes south
- Sailors scared to go around the tip of Africa
- 1497 Vasco da Gama got around the southern tip of Africa
- Returns with a cargo ship containing precious stones, spices. Portuguese have found trade route to Africa

- Christopher Columbus
- "Discovered" "America"
- He thinks Cuba is China
- Thinks world is round
- Thought that if you sail west (instead of around Africa), you will go around the world
- Portugal won't fund him
- Goes to Spain, Spain will risk funding Columbus's journey

- Didn't know there were two continents in his way (North and South America)
 - Columbus set sail from Spain on August 3, 1492
 - Lands in Caribbean, thinks he is in Japan - calls them Indians due to confusion
 - Scrambles for the Americas begins, brings people like animals
 - British and French are sent to North America
 - Columbus made 4 voyages
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- Columbus has a shady story - something to do with slaves (video somewhere, watch later)
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What new technologies enabled exploration? (Thu, Mar 4)

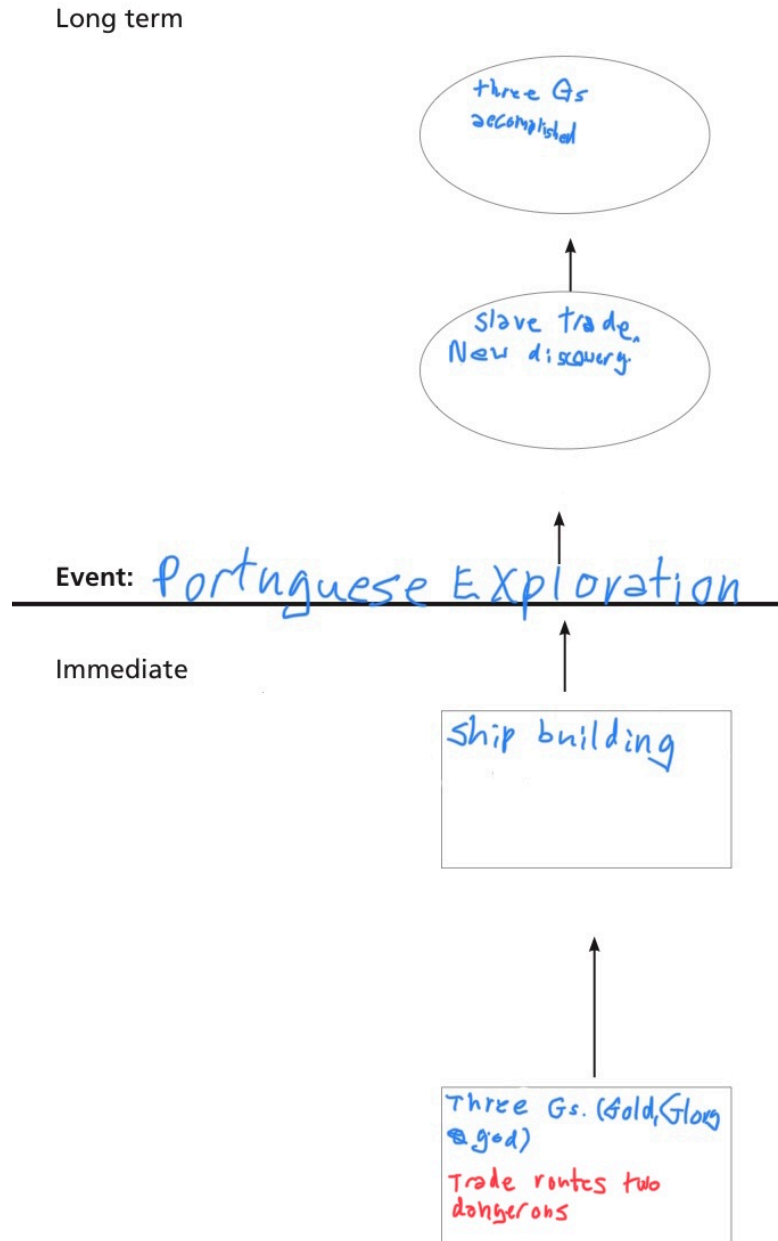
PRINCE HENRY THE NAVIGATOR

- prince Henry
- Dies 1460
- Early interest in exploration
- Like the Medicis but with early exploration
- 1419-brings together mapmakers, shipbuilders & navigators
- *Portuguese shipbuilders design a ship called the Caravel = faster, easier to steer, bigger

Portuguese searched for new trade route to Asia, made connections with Africa.

- Missionaries spread Christianity
- Portuguese first Europeans to exploit the Slave Trade

Web of causes and consequences



NAVIGATION TECHNOLOGY

Compass invented by Chinese - 200 - 300

Astrolabe

- Used North Star or sun to calculate latitudes, distance North or South of equator
- New astrolabe invented late Renaissance called a Sextant - measured the angle between horizon and sun or a star to find latitude of a ship

INNOVATION IN SHIPBUILDING

- Inuit had kayaks
- Vikings had boats with oars and square sails
- Portuguese invent Caravel, triangle sails + rudder = easier to navigate

The Caravel

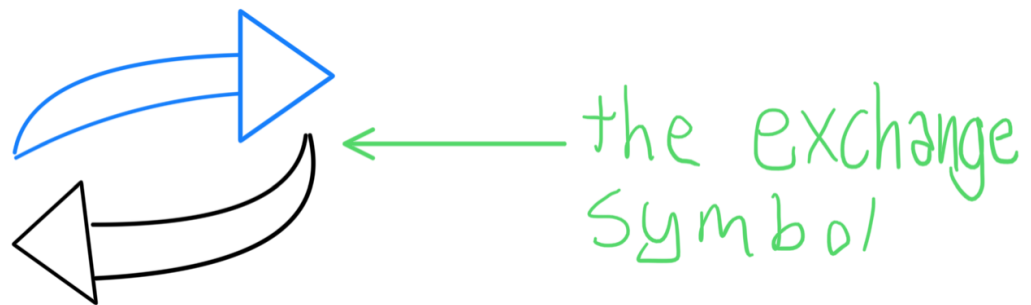
- faster + easier to navigate
- Triangular (lateen - means triangular) sails
- Bilge pumps = ships can float higher = easier to explore coasts + rivers

CARTOGRAPHY AND MERCATOR PROJECTION

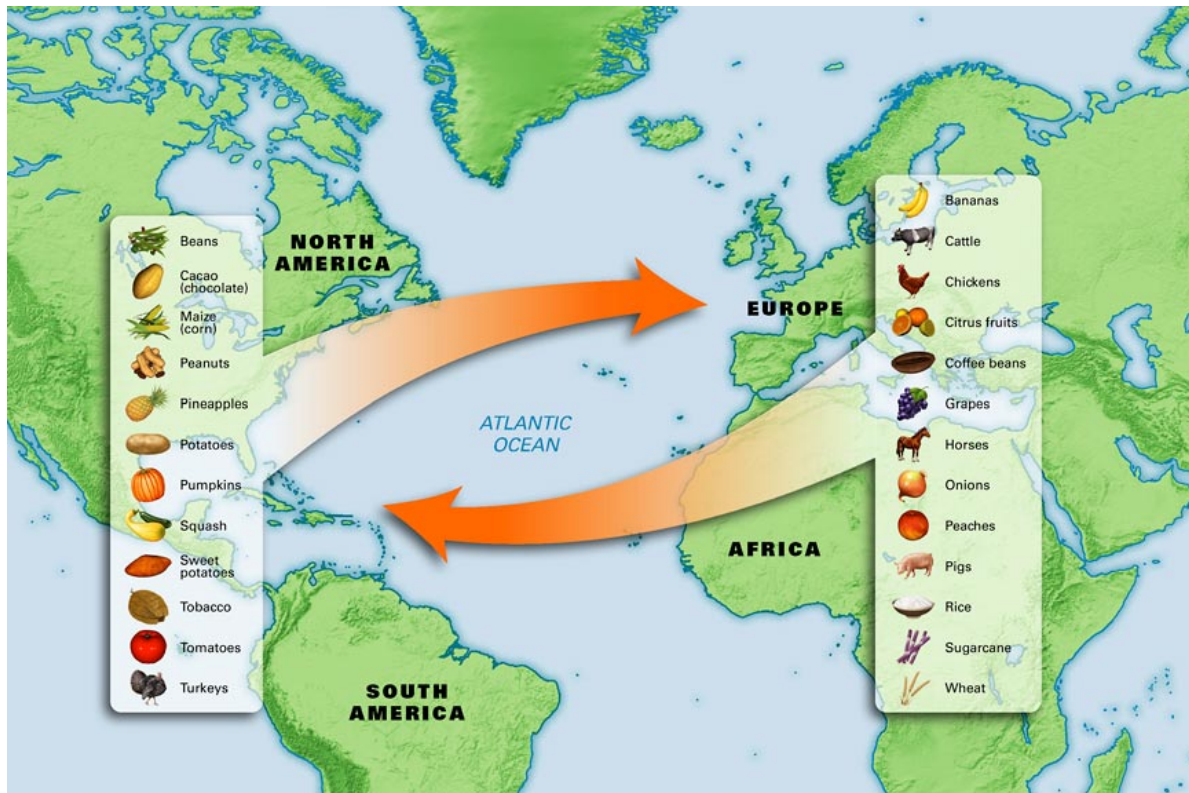
- Mercator Projection = took round, turn cylinder unroll = flat but distorted map
- Cause countries not on the equator appear bigger or smaller than actual size

The Columbian Exchange (Fri, Mar 5)

- Back and forth - pizza invented in Italy, made popular in America = more popular in Italy
- We live in Western Hemisphere
- Before 1492 = Two separate hemispheres, east and west = two different ecosystems, two different disease pools, two sets of culturally diverse peoples, two sets of flora and fauna



The period of large scale contact between Europe and the Americas



- Disease sexually transmitted from sailors and the people of the places they arrived in
- The exchange of plants, animals and pathogens between the two hemispheres was biologically the most spectacular thing that has ever happened to humans - Alfred Crosby

FOOD

- over time crops native to America became staples in European diet
- New food provided substantial nutrition = people live longer
- Schoolers estimate on a ton of all food crops

Originally from the Western Hemisphere	Originally from the Eastern Hemisphere
▶ Potato	▶ Sugar
▶ Maize (corn)	▶ Olive oil
▶ Manioc (cassava, tapioca)	▶ Various grains (wheat, rice, rye, barley, oats)
▶ Sweet potato	▶ Grapes
▶ Tomato	▶ Coffee
▶ Cacao (chocolate)	▶ Horses
▶ Squash	▶ Cattle
▶ Chili peppers	▶ Pigs
▶ Pumpkin	▶ Goats
▶ Papaya	▶ Sheep
▶ Guava	▶ Chickens
▶ Tobacco	▶ Various fruit trees (pear, apple, peach, orange, lemon, pomegranate, fig, banana)
▶ Avocado	▶ Chick peas
▶ Pineapple	▶ Melons
▶ Beans	▶ Radishes
▶ Peanuts	▶ A wide variety of weeds and grasses
▶ Certain cottons	▶ Cauliflower
▶ Rubber	▶ Cabbage
▶ Turkeys	

- new animals = lama first to be tamed over 45 kg
- Animals from Eastern Hemisphere = pig cow and sheep

HORSES

- Horses for food and travel (faster, further)
- Horse adopted happily and eagerly by Native Americans
- They see value right away = tired of walking for days, horse = get there in one afternoon, fighting easier, used for everything
- Colombian exchange brought horses, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs
- Changed use of land (eg, pastures)
- there were horses in the Americas = suffered extinction event 8,000-12,000 years ago
- Spanish horses brought to America by Columbus in 1493
- Horses change methods of hunting, warfare, modes of travel, lifestyles and standards and prestige (status)

DISEASE

- Europeans brought new diseases to the Americas that the indigenous people had no natural resistance to
- Smallpox, measles, influenza and malaria killed millions
- People looked to religion for answers, thought that disease was evil
- European thought that the native peoples were sinners and were dying as punishment
- Disease component of the Columbian exchange was decidedly one-sided and had a devastating impact = disease went to the Americas but none went back to Europe
- Estimate that new diseases led to the death of 80% - 95% of Indigenous people in the Americas within the 150 yrs of the arrival of Columbus

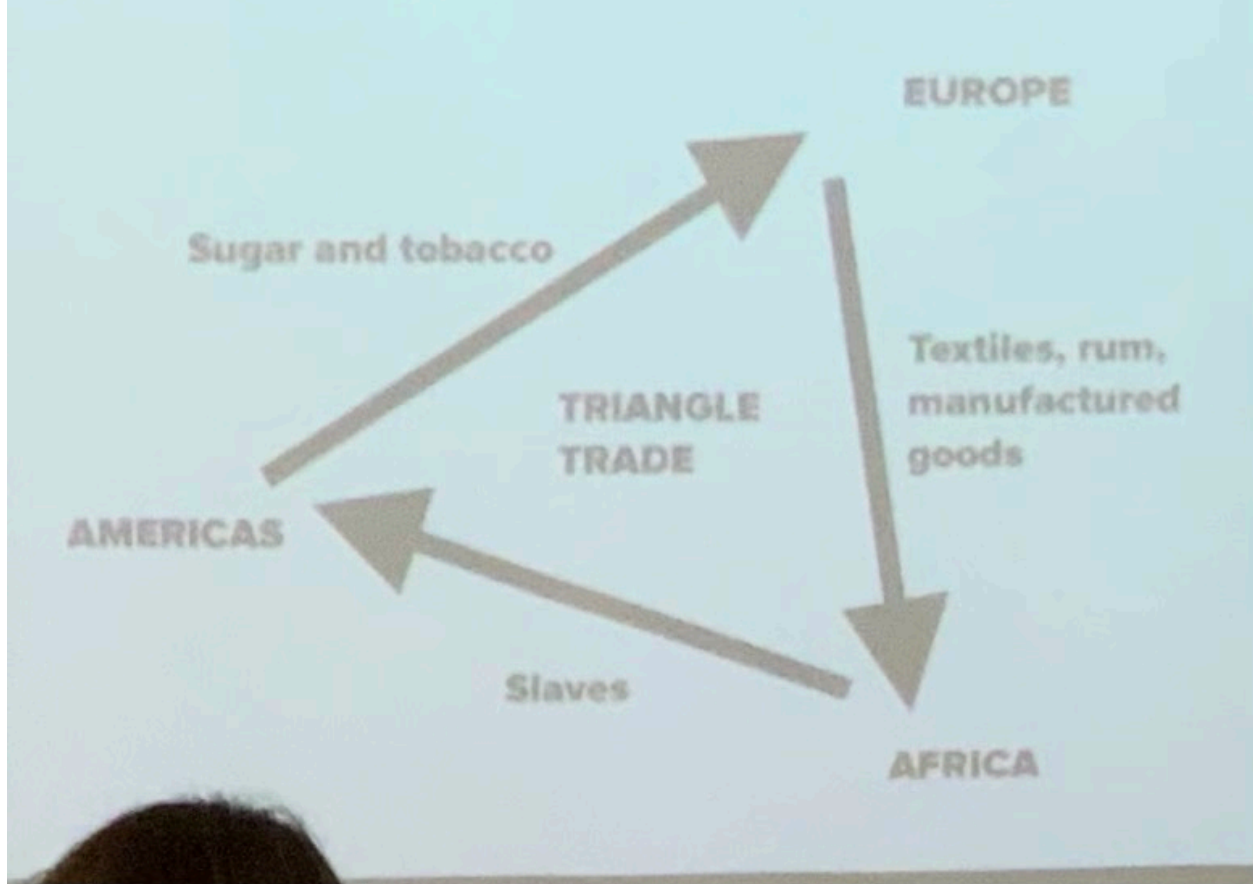
NEW ECONOMICS

- Growth of trade markets changed the world forever
- Europeans developed the plantation system to cultivate cash crops, reliant on slave labor
- Slave trade exploded = people reduced to items to be sold
- Over next 300 yrs (1500-1800) over 12 million people taken forcibly taken as slaves

SUMMARY

- Different Foods = exchange of the foods and animals had a dramatic impact on world diets
- Effect of disease = Indigenous American population decreased dramatically
- New Economics = Europeans needed laboratory to cultivate new cash crops in the Americas —> they turned to slavery to make the plantation system work

What was the consequence of the Columbian Exchange?



A Brief History of Piracy (Tuesday, Mar 9)

PIRATE BRAINSTORM

- Jolly Roger
- Treasure
- Swords
- Captains
- Unsanitary
- Walk the plank
- Eyepatch
- Hook hand
- Peg leg
- Puffy shirts
- Pirate ships

FACT CHECK

- Pets
- Parrots

- Monkeys
- Pirates lost limbs = replaced with pegs
- Would launch from the long boats - far away, didn't swing on ropes
- Weaponry
- Ships didn't fire cannons from right beside another ship
- Walking the plank was not common - only recorded one time
- They did use guns, pistols = which were not very reliable
- Swords and blades
- cutlasses = short, practical easy to keep out of ropes
- Daggers = could tuck into boots, etc.
- Rapier = for duels
- Axes and pikes = popular

- Pirates are not nice people!
- Thieves, murderers, lairs, kidnapers, rapists , terrorists and torture experts

Why do people celebrate pirates?

How did the Columbian exchange create the conditions for piracy?

- opportunity of riches sailing by

THE "OG" PIRATES: PIRATES OF THE BARBARY COAST

- off Barbary coast
- Estimated 1.25 million Europeans were captured by Barbary pirates, sold as slaves in the Arab world, 16th + 14th centuries
- Pirates = Muslims
- Pirates sworn to oppose the European Christians
- Took slaves rather than kill them
- Those who converted to Islam = treated as equals + avoided slavery
- Barbary pirates sanctioned by gov
- Barbary states demanded annual payment to unmolested across the Barbary coast
- 18th century most of European powers paid

More Knowledge (Thu, Mar 11)

The Triangle Trade = Columbian Exchange

THE AMERICAS



THE “GOLDEN AGE OF PIRACY”: 1650 - 1730

Pirates of the Caribbean

- pirates stayed close to shipping lanes + trade routes (between host countries and colonies)
- Need to resupply often so needed islands and land to come ashore - pirates stayed close to land
- Warm waters easier to pretend in than cold waters
- Today pirates operate throughout the world
- Still mainly found in warm waters today
- “It’s all about the booty....” want for reward

Practical and common plunder:

- Food and water supplies
- Cloth for sails and markets
- Spare parts and pieces for their ships (masts, ropes, lumbers, etc.)

Treasure:

- Spanish silver and gold coins
- Ingot (gold or silver cast into a bar)
- Enslaved people (to be sold)
- Some slaves joined pirate crew

LIFE AS A PIRATE

Why become pirate? (Pros):

- treasure, gold, jewels

- Quick way to get rich, good life: wine, food, and luxury
- An easy way to get money to spend in brothels and taverns
- Some forced to join pirate crews age after attacks (carpenters, surgeons)
- No jobs for sailors during times of peace = became pirates

Why not to become a pirate (cons):

- people turned to piracy for pure survival, either piracy or death by starvation
 - Very few ever became rich
 - Most were captured and executed
 - Even most successful pirates head careers 2yrs or less
- “If I didn’t shoot a crewman or two now and then they’d forget who I was...” - Blackbeard

TWO TYPES OF PIRATES: “OFFICIAL” AND “UNOFFICIAL”

Privateers:

- independent contractors, legally licensed by got to attack and harass the shipping of other countries
- Could attack any ships other than the country that licensed them

Pirates:

- individuals without license, preyed on the shipping of any and all countries for their own enrichment
- Pirates often former privateers who’s license had expired

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

- a pirate ship ran like a democracy: captains were chosen by popular vote
- Could be voted out at any time
- Women were captains too
- Women and people were treated as equals if they were part of the crew
- Pirates had no social class: could earn your way to a better life

FLAGS

- No one knows why it’s called a Jolly Roger
- Two flags
- Red = no quarter, intent to kill
- Black = plunder, overwhelm and