

Bering Strait

Nomads came across this narrow
body of water from Asia to North
America.

Mayans

Most developed and advanced of
the Native Americans

wheel

Because they had no beasts of burden, the Mayans did not use the wheel.

bananas, horses, cattle,
smallpox, measles

Things brought to America by Europeans

corn, potatoes, tobacco,
buffalo, syphilis

things brought back to Europe from
America

Aztecs

Militarily advanced tribe, led by
Montezuma, later conquered by
Cortes.

Tenochtitlan*

The capital of the Aztecs,
now Mexico City

Incas

wealthy, powerful tribe in Peru,
conquered by Pizarro

Norsemen/Vikings

First to reach America crossing the
Atlantic (about 1000 A.D.)

The Crusades

Christians fighting Moslems from
1100 to 1200 for control of
the Holy Land

Marco Polo

brought back goods from China

The Renaissance

Rebirth of art in Culture beginning in
the 14th century with Petrarch

Columbian Exchange*

The exchange of things between
America and Europe after
Christopher Columbus
(chocolate for horses)

Bartolomeu Dias

Portuguese who sailed
around the tip of Africa

Vasco de Gama

sailed around the tip of Africa,
then on to India.

Ferdinand & Isabella

the king and queen of Spain
who financed Columbus

Christopher Columbus

“discovered” America in 1492

John Cabot*

second European to discover the
mainland of North America

Treaty of Tordesillas

The pope divided the world between
Spain & Portugal, with a line down
the Atlantic.

Pedro Cabral

discovered Brazil belonged
to Portugal

Hernando Cortes

conqueror of Mexico

Ponce de Leon

In his search for the fountain of youth, he claimed Florida for Spain

Ferdinand Magellan

went around South America,
his ship circumnavigated the world.

Encomienda System*

although it was supposed to be
used to convert the Indians to
Christianity, it became a system of
hard labor for the Indians

Cabeza de Vaca

The “first Texan” who was
shipwrecked in 1530’s

Martin Luther

protested against the corruption in
the Catholic Church

Protestant Reformation

Luther and others broke away from
the Catholic Church, the first
“Protestants” seeking “Reform”

Henry VIII

in order to get a divorce, Henry
founded the Church of England

Elizabeth I

daughter of Henry VIII who ruled
England for 50 years

Sir Walter Raleigh

founded Roanoke colony in 1585

Roanoke

the “lost colony” off the coast of
North Carolina; unsupplied, it died
out without a trace

Sir Francis Drake

an English pirate or sea dog, who
raided Spanish ships & ports

Spanish Armada (1588)

The Spanish fleet was destroyed by
the English with the help
of a violent storm.
(the “Protestant Wind”)

Sir Thomas More

More wrote about a utopia or ideal place, which many sought in the New World.

Virgin of Guadalupe*

The patroness of Mexico, the Virgin Mary was said to have appeared to a poor Mexican.