

Study Guide *Grade Level*

Unit 2: Age of Contact

Name: Date: Period:

Part I: Key Terms and Definitions

Match the terms in the word-bank to their best definition or description in the chart below.

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| Hernán Cortés | The Reconquista | The Columbian Exchange |
| Cabeza de Vaca | God, Gold, and Glory | Juan de Oñate |

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| 1. | Spain's goals for exploration included locating new sources of wealth, gaining power and prestige, and spreading Catholicism. |
| 2. | The system of trade between the Americas and Europe that began with Columbus' arrival in the Caribbean. New items like fruits, vegetables, livestock, and diseases were transported across the Atlantic. |
| 3. | This conquistador conquered the Aztec people, built Mexico City on the Aztec capital, and claimed the region for Spain, calling it "New Spain." |
| 4. | This conquistador suffered through years of hardship in Texas before escaping to Mexico City. He wrote a book about his experience in which he claimed to have seen <i>Cibola</i> : 7 cities of gold. |
| 5. | For nearly 800 years the Spanish struggled to regain control of Spain from the African Moors. |
| 6. | This conquistador is credited with establishing El Paso, Texas, and Santa Fe, New Mexico, as well as naming the Rio Grande River. |

Part II: Matching

Match each term on the left with the statement that best identifies its significance on the right.

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|-------------------------------|---|
| ___ 1) Colonization | A. The American Indians got access to THIS from the Spanish, which transformed how they hunted, traveled, and waged war. |
| ___ 2) Seven Cities of Cibola | B. His voyages to America encouraged many more Europeans to travel to the Americas in search of wealth. |
| ___ 3) Horses | C. The Spanish successfully took control of land, resources, and people in the Americas gaining more land and incredible wealth. |
| ___ 4) Disease | D. Spain saw this territory as a distant, dangerous frontier without any valuable resources to increase the country's wealth. |
| ___ 5) Columbus | E. THIS killed millions of American Indians when the Spanish unintentionally carried it with them to the Americas. |
| ___ 6) Texas | F. The legends of THIS led many Spanish conquistadors to set off on expeditions across the Americas in the hopes of gaining incredible wealth. Most conquistadors were not successful locating gold in North America. |

What do you think is one significant effect of Spanish exploration during Age of Contact? Provide evidence to support your answer.

One significant effect of Spanish exploration was _____

Evidence that supports this claim is _____

Part III: Practice Questions

Practice answering the following questions to prepare for the types of questions you may see on the exam. These questions are based on the new 8th grade social studies STAAR question types.

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| ? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing wealth and access to new and profitable resources. • Expanding national territory and international prestige and power. • Spreading Catholicism to people in the colonized lands. |

- ___ 1) Which answer provides the best title for the diagram above?
- Effects of the Reconquista
 - Reasons for Spanish exploration
 - French Expansion and Colonization
 - Encounters between the Spanish and American Indians
- ___ 2) Which statement provides the primary significance of La Salle's expedition in Texas?
- La Salle and the French were able to befriend and form alliances with American Indian tribes, unlike many Spanish conquistadors.
 - La Salle successfully located stores of gold and established the first mining operations for France in the Coastal Plains.
 - La Salle's presence signaled the threat of French encroachment on Spain's claims to Texas.
 - La Salle immediately undertook expeditions in search of the legendary cities of Cibola.
- ___ 3) The graphic organizer below displays different points of view that Spain might have held toward Texas. Circle or highlight THREE that most accurately provide the Spanish view of Texas during the Age of Contact.

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|---|--|---|
| Texas was overpopulated with French explorers who posed a severe threat to Spanish explorers. | Texas appeared to be a land of hardship and conflict with Indigenous people. | Texas seemed to hold no valuable resources that could make Spain wealthy. |
| Texas was seen as a distant frontier, far from New Spain's capital of Mexico City. | Texas gold and silver stores had been completely emptied by greedy conquistadors | Texas Indians successfully waged wars to keep future conquistadors out of the land. |

“It is my considered opinion **that the greatest obstacle that stands in the way of the pacification of the New World**, and with it the conversion of the people to Christ, is **the harshness and cruelty of the treatment meted out by ‘Christians’ to those who surrender**. This has been so harsh and so brutal that **nothing is more odious nor more terrifying to the people than the name ‘Christian’**, a word for which **they use in their language the term *yares*, which means ‘demons.’**”

- Bartolomé de las Casas, “A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies”

- ___ 1) According to de las Casas, what is the primary obstacle to Spain’s ability to convert American Indians to Christianity?
- Spain’s bad treatment of the American Indian people
 - Not enough religious leaders to carry out the task
 - Spain’s unwillingness to learn American Indian languages
 - All answers are correct

- ___ 2) Which quote from the passage gives evidence to support your answer in number one?
- “... that the greatest obstacle that stands in the way of the pacification of the new world ...”
 - “... the harshness and cruelty of the treatment meted out by the ‘Christians’ to those who surrender.”
 - “... nothing is more odious nor more terrifying to the people than the name ‘Christian,’ ...”
 - “... they use in their language the term *yares*, which means ‘demons.’”

- ___ 3) Read the list of conquistador actions below. Write the letter of the actions under the correct conquistador in the chart below.

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| A. The first European to see the Grand Canyon. |
| B. The conquistador who wrote a book claiming to see cities of gold. |
| C. The conquistador who conquered the Aztecs |
| D. The conquistador who made the first map of the Gulf of Mexico |

| Cabeza de Vaca | Coronado | Pineda | Cortés |
|----------------|----------|--------|--------|
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