# **What’s the Story? *Foundations***

*Unit 2: Age of Contact*

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| Name: |  | Date: |  | Period: |  |

***Part I Directions:***

1. Read each passage about a significant event or events during the Age of Contact.
2. **When**: Write the date it occurred. (Make sure you are writing the date under the correct event in your list. Check the title of your reading.)
3. **What happened**: Highlight or circle ***two*** statements that are most significant to this event. **NOTE:** All three statements are **TRUE**, but only **two** are the most significant.
4. **Significance**: A helpful tip: read the significance of each event FIRST to help you understand what’s most important about each reading. Then choose which 2 events under “What Happened” best support the significance.

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| ***First Significant Event(s)*** | **The Reconquista** |

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| ***When:*** | ***What happened?*** | ***Significance:*** |
|  | **A)** Spain defeated the Moors after 800 years of occupation.  **B)** King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella joined to rule Spain.  **C)** The king and queen hired Columbus to explore. | Spain’s defeat of the Moors allowed them to begin exploration. |

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| ***Second Significant Event(s)*** | **The Journeys of Christopher Columbus** |

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| ***When:*** | ***What happened?*** | ***Significance:*** |
|  | **A)** Columbus’ arrived in the Americas and realized the land was full of resources.  **B)** A large system of trade between the Americas and Europe began after Columbus’ journey.  **C)** Columbus sailed west to find a water route to Asia. | Columbus’ journeys to America initiated an era of European exploration that changed history. |

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| ***Third Significant Event(s)*** | **God, Gold, and Glory in the Americas** |

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| ***When:*** | ***What happened?*** | ***Significance:*** |
|  | **A)** Spain’s goals for exploration included spreading their religion.  **B)** Hernán Cortés defeated the Aztecs in 1519, making himself wealthy.  **C)** Francisco Pizarro defeated the Incas in 1532, acquiring gold and wealth. | Spain’s success acquiring gold in Mexico and South America caused more Spaniards to explore. |

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| ***Fourth Significant Event(s)*** | **Conquistadors Continue their Search for Gold** |

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| ***When:*** | ***What happened?*** | ***Significance:*** |
|  | **A)** Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca explored America from Florida to Texas.  **B)** Conquistadors like Coronado explored north of Mexico, finding no gold.  **C)** De Soto and Oñate found no gold north of Mexico. | Spain failed to find gold north of Mexico, so they stopped exploring lands like Texas. |

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| ***Fifth Significant Event(s)*** | **The Arrival of the French** |

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| ***When:*** | ***What happened?*** | ***Significance:*** |
|  | **A)** France and Spain had been enemies for hundreds of years.  **B)** Spain focused on Mexico and South America because they found gold there.  **C)** A French man named La Salle arrived on the coast of Texas. | The French presence in Texas troubles Spain, who doesn’t want their enemy to control the land. |

***Significance of the Age of Contact:***

Place a checkmark next to three statements that demonstrate the primary significance of the Age of Contact.

* The king and queen of Spain decided to explore the world for riches.
* Spain was successful acquiring gold and wealth in Mexico and South America.
* American Indians gained horses, and millions were killed by European diseases.
* Spain failed to find gold north of Mexico, so they gave up on places like Texas.