

What's the Story? *Foundations*

Unit 2: Age of Contact

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.

First Significant Event(s)

The Reconquista

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.

Second Significant Event(s)

The Journeys of Christopher Columbus

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.

Third Significant Event(s)

God, Gold, and Glory in the Americas

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

Fourth Significant Event(s)

Conquistadors Continue their Search for Gold

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

Fifth Significant Event(s)

The Arrival of the French

<i>When:</i>	<i>What happened?</i>	<i>Significance:</i>
	<p>A) France and Spain had been enemies for hundreds of years.</p> <p>B) Spain focused on Mexico and South America because they found gold there.</p> <p>C) A French man named La Salle arrived on the coast of Texas.</p>	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 Asia 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.
- ☐ Texas was rich in gold and silver, causing conquistadors to colonize the region.