Coronado: Misfortune’s Explorer Worksheet
Seventh Grade

1. What was the primary motivation behind Coronado’s expedition in search of Quivira?
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2. Based on the image of the Great Plains, what would be the typical Spaniard’s reaction to the landscape?
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3. What effect did the hailstorm have on the Spaniards’ equipment and supplies?
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4. The hailstorm destroyed their “crockery” or water container. Why was this important?
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5. You are a Spanish explorer traveling across the featureless Great Plains. A devastating hailstorm destroys much of your equipment and injures your horses. What will you do next?

6. What did Coronado do after the hailstorm? What does this say about his belief in Quivira?

7. While on the Great Plains, how far did Coronado’s expedition march in a day? How did they keep track of the distance they traveled?

8. Were the Great Plains disorienting to Coronado? If so, how did they react?

9. What did the Turk hope would happen by lying and misleading Coronado?
10. What was the Spaniards’ reaction to the Turk’s lies?

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11. Besides the Turk, who was Coronado’s other Indian guide? What were his feelings toward the Turk? Why do you think he felt this way?

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12. Why would the Plains Indians depend so heavily on meat instead of growing corn?

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13. Did the Spanish consider Coronado’s expedition a failure? Do you agree or disagree? Explain. ____________________________________________

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