

Every Concept You Ever Wanted to Know to
Pass The AHSGE
in Two Hundred Pages

Written by
Roger Rose

Section 1

The Era of Exploration

STANDARD I: The student will understand the global influence of the pre-colonial and colonial eras of the Western Hemisphere.

OBJECTIVE 1: Identify and evaluate America's exploration, development, and divergence.

The emphasis in this part of the test is on the United States Economic, Political, Social, Cultural and Geographic characteristics.

ELIGIBLE CONTENT QUESTIONS (THIS IS THE STUFF YOU MUST KNOW!)

What were the effects of the Crusades, the Renaissance, and the Reformation on United States History? What were the motivations that lead to the Crusades? What were the subsequent events and actions that happened after the Crusades?

What is the Columbian Exchange? What developments lead to the Columbian Exchange? What events had an impact on the Columbian Exchange? How did the Columbian Exchange cause destabilization in Native American societies?

What were some of the early European conquests, colonies, and business ventures? What impact did they make on the history of the United States? Who were the major Conquistadors? What is the significance of St. Augustine? What is the significance of Jamestown? What is the significance of the Virginia House of Burgesses?

What were the critical economic and political events that lead to the Colonial separation from England? How did taxation influence the desire for separation? What impact did the French and Indian War have in the desire to separate? How did the lack of free trade influence the desire to separate? How did the Boston Massacre impact the desire to separate? How did the Boston Tea Party impact the desire to separate? What is the significance of Lexington and Concord?

Terms and Concepts for

Section 1: The Era of Exploration

Aborigines	These are considered the first or native inhabitants of an area.
Adaptation to the Environment	This describes the changes that Native Americans experienced as they came in contact with their surroundings.
Ancient	This term is used to describe the time in history beginning with the earliest civilizations (about 5000 B.C.) and ending with the fall of the Roman Empire (A.D. 476).
Animism	This is the belief that all natural objects have spirits. It is an idea that was common among several Native American Peoples during the Age of Exploration.
Anglican Church	This is the name of the Church of England founded by King Henry VIII when in 1534 he declared that England's church would be independent from the Roman Catholic Church.
Archaeology	This is the scientific study of prehistoric and ancient peoples through the examination of artifacts once used by these peoples.
Armada	This is the term for a fleet of warships such as the one sent by King Philip of Spain against England in 1588.
Artifact	This is a name given to any object made by humans. Archaeologists excavate and study artifacts once used by ancient and prehistoric peoples.
Astrolabe	This is an instrument used to determine a location's latitude (i.e., the number of degrees north or south of the equator).
Aztecs	These were Native Americans who lived in Mexico. They were conquered by Spaniards in the early 1500s.
Barbarians	This was the name given to uncivilized tribes, generally from northern Europe, which invaded the Roman Empire and caused its final collapse in A.D. 476.
Bering Strait	This is the narrow waterway connecting the Arctic and Pacific Oceans. During the last ice age of 20,000 years ago, low ocean levels exposed land at the site of the Bering Strait allowing people and animals to migrate from Asia to Alaska and beyond.
Beringia	This is the last area that existed circa 28000 B.C. between what is now Alaska and Asia. One theory of

how people arrived in the new world is that Asians migrated over Beringia at that time.

Capitalism

This is the economic system based on private ownership of property and the use of that property to make profits. The individualistic spirit of the Renaissance and the Reformation as well as the growing commerce of the late Middle Ages led to the establishment of capitalism in Europe.

Caravel

This was a new and very strong sailing ship that made it possible for larger amounts of goods to be shipped to markets to be opened and sustained.

Caribs

These are members of a tribe of Native Americans who inhabited the West Indies and the northern coast of South America.

Catholic

The Major Christian church during the middle ages and the only Christian church in Europe, let alone Great Britain.

Charter

This was a document which granted certain rights to an individual or group. Charters were often granted to the leaders of a colony.

Christianity

This is a religion based on the teaching of Jesus and his followers. The Roman Catholic Church, the Greek (Eastern) Orthodox Church, and the Protestant Churches are Christian religions. During the Feudalist Era, all European Christians were members of the Catholic church.

Columbian Exchange

This concept refers to the mixture of the native cultures in the newly discovered Western Hemisphere with European cultures; results included the following: Europeans brought tea, sugar, and coffee to the New World. The New World offered tobacco, potatoes, corn, tomatoes, and chocolate to Europe. Europeans brought over animals such as horses and cattle as well as plants that were not native to the New World. The Europeans and Native Americans exchanged words from their languages. Europeans brought over their communicable diseases to the New World. In some Native American cultures, European diseases killed as many as 80% of Native Americans.

Columbus, Christopher

This was the Italian explorer representing Spain who set out in 1492 to find a new route to Asia. His voyage marked the beginning of colonization efforts by European countries in the Americas.

Compass

This is a magnetic direction indicator used in navigation. Its creation assisted in European exploration.

Conquistadores

This is the name given to Spanish military leaders who

	conquered much of Central and South America during the 1500s.
Coronado, Francisco	This person explored the area of present-day New Mexico in 1540 in search of the legendary Seven Cities of Gold.
Cortez, Hernando	This conquistador conquered the Aztec Empire in 1519 with the help of only 600 soldiers.
Creole	This was the name given to a person born in New Spain who was a descendant of Spanish settlers.
Crusades	These were a series of failed military efforts by European Christians between 1099 and 1270 to drive the Muslims out of the Holy Land. The Crusades did lead to an increase in trade with the east, advances in technology, science and scholarship.
Culture	This is a general term describing the pattern of living, including political, economic, and social institutions, of a people in a given period of time.
Dark Ages	This is the period of time between the fall of Rome (476 AD) and 1000 AD when much of Europe slipped into cultural backwardness.
De Leon, Juan Ponce	This person explored Florida looking for the Fountain of Youth.
De Soto, Hernando	This person explored the areas of present-day Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi in search of these same legendary cities.
Demarcation Line of 1493	This was an imaginary line by which the pope divided the New World into Spanish and Portuguese zones of colonization.
Dissident	This is a term describing one who disagrees with the majority.
Direct Democracy	This is a political system where citizens directly vote on laws--as opposed to indirect or representative democracy, where laws are made by elected representatives. The ancient Greeks developed a system of direct democracy.
East	This is the eastern part of the world; commonly lands east of the Mediterranean Sea--often divided into the Near East (land just east of the Mediterranean such as Lebanon and Israel), the Middle East (lands including Iraq, Iran, and surrounding areas), and the Far East (lands including China).
Encomienda System	This was the system of treatment that was used by the Spanish on Natives in the new world. It was brutal to the native and tended to kill many.

Erikson, Leif	This was the son of Erik the Red. Like his Father, he was a Viking explorer and conqueror. Erikson is credited with discovering the New World long before Columbus. He called his new discovery Vineland.
Estancia	This was a large estate in Spanish America.
Feudalism	This is the social system involving kings and royalty.
Great Awakening	This refers to the stirring of religious activity, belief and fervor that took place during the era of reformation.
Great Britain	This is a nation created in 1707 when Scotland joined England and Wales and created a single nation.
Heretic	This is a term used to describe a person who holds beliefs which are opposed by the established church.
Hispaniola	This is one of the first islands that Christopher Columbus found on his exploration journeys to the new world.
Hohokum	This was the Native American tribe that lived in the southern deserts of what is now the United States. They are credited with designing and building a canal "irrigation" system for their agriculture in 300 A.D.
Holy Land	This is the name given to Israel by Christians because it was the place where Jesus lived and taught. (Jews and Muslims also attach great religious importance to this land.)
House of Burgesses	This was the legislative body that limited royal authority in the colonies and increased citizen participation in the colonial government.
Huguenot	This is a term used to describe a French Protestant of the 16th or 17th century.
Ice Age	This is a time of widespread glacial build-up resulting in a lowering of the sea level.
Indentured Servants	These were people who became servants for seven years to pay for their passage to the colonies.
Inquisition	This is a term used to describe an investigation such as the Catholic Inquisition where Courts of the Catholic Church sought out and punished heretics, especially during the 16th century.
Irregulars	This is a term used to describe an army of civilian volunteers as opposed to an army of regular army soldiers.
Isolation	This is a way of describing the condition of the people who lived in the Feudal Era. Many people lived

	in small kingdoms that were isolated from one another.
Joint-Stock Company	This was a company owned by investors which during the 1600s often established overseas colonies.
Latin	This is the language spoken by the ancient Romans.
Longhouse	This was the Iroquois dwelling made of a framework of poles covered by sheets of bark; typically 15 feet high, 20 feet wide, and between 50 and 75 feet long.
Magna Carta	This was a written document which King John of England was forced to sign stating the nobles had the right to a jury trial and the right to vote on tax increases. It was a first and major step in limiting the power of English monarchs.
Martin Luther	This was the leader of the Protestant Reformation to reform the Catholic Church.
Mayflower Compact	This agreement, sponsored by the people on the Mayflower, guaranteed just and equal laws for all.
Mercantilism	This is an economic theory widely held during the 16th and 17th centuries that a favorable balance of exports over imports would result in national wealth (gold) and power and that a nation's economic and colonial policy be directed toward that end.
Merchantmen	This is a term used to describe merchant ships and the sailors that sailed them.
Merchant Traders	This is the group of people who were most upwardly mobile in the Feudal Socio Economic system. As a result of their need for markets and customers, a relationship developed between them and the peasants at the beginning of the Renaissance.
Mestizo	This was name given to persons in Spanish America who were of mixed Spanish and Indian blood.
Middle Ages	This is the period of time between 476 AD (the end of ancient history with the fall of Rome) and 1453 A.D. (the fall of Constantinople to the Turks and the beginning of modern history).
Middle Passage	This is the second leg of the triangular trade route. African slaves were purchased and taken to the new world during the passage. Many slaves would die on the voyage. In spite of the hundreds of deaths on each trip, ship captains could still make a great profit once they arrived in the new world.
Migrate	This means to move from place to place. This is significant because of the amount of migration that took place during the renaissance.

Mission	This was a religious settlement such as those run by Catholic priests in New Spain.
New World	This is a name given to North and South America after its discovery by Columbus as distinguished from the known Old World of Europe, Asia, and Africa.
Nomadic	This term is used to describe the moving from place to place in search of food or pasture. The American Indians of the Great Plains were nomadic.
Normans	These were European people (originally Vikings) from an area of northern France called Normandy who, under the leadership of William the Conqueror, conquered England in 1066.
Northwest Passage	This was the long-sought water route from the Atlantic to the Pacific through North America or its northern coastal waters.
Nuclear Family	This is a family made up of a mother, father, and their children as distinguished from an extended family which includes grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, and other relatives.
Old World	This is the term given to the world known to Europeans before the discovery of America in 1492; it consisted of Europe, Asia, and Africa.
Ownership	This means to legitimately possess and object through its purchase or trade. To Many Native American groups, the concept of ownership was foreign.
Pagan	This is one who holds "primitive" religious beliefs such as animism.
Parliament	The lawmaking body of England first established in 1295.
Patron	This is a term used to describe a person who was given a large estate in New Netherlands if that person settled fifty tenant farmers on that land.
Prairie	A flat or gently rolling area of land covered with grass.
Pre-Columbian	This is the term given to the period of American history before Columbus's discovery of the New World.
Prehistoric	This is the term given to describe the time before the development of writing; generally the years before 5000 B.C.
Prime Minister	This is the chief executive member of Parliament, elected by its members, to serve as the leader of the government.

Prince Henry the Navigator	This was the Prince of Portugal who instituted a school of navigation which facilitated the use of new technologies.
Protestant Reformation	This was the religious movement which objected to certain doctrines (beliefs) of the Roman Catholic Church and which led to the establishment of Christian churches which were independent of, and different from, the Catholic Church. This took place throughout Europe, but mostly in areas that were not directly controlled by the church.
Peninsulares	These were persons sent from Spain to rule the Spanish lands in the New World; they became the upper class of New Spain.
Pilgrims	This was a group of Separatists who left England for America to worship as they pleased.
Pizarro, Francisco	This person conquered the Inca Empire in 1535.
Plantation	This was a vast farmland devoted to one main crop.
Proprietor	This was a named given to a person to whom the English monarch gave a large tract of land in America; these tracts became proprietary colonies.
Puritans	This was a group of English Protestants who wanted to "purify" or eliminate certain Catholic practices from the Anglican Church. They originally left England to escape religious persecution and because of the economic decline of the English wool market.
Reformation	This is the term give to the movement to reform the Catholic Church.
Regulars	These were uniformed, trained soldiers of a standing army as opposed to irregulars who are civilian volunteers.
Renaissance	This is the period between the 14th and 17th centuries when Europeans rediscovered the important ideas of the past, especially those of the Greeks and Romans; sometimes called the "rebirth of learning" which ended Europe's period of cultural stagnation.
Renaissance Man	This is a term used to describe a person who is well read or educated. This type of person tends to be a person who is inquisitive and a real thinker.
Republic	This term is used to describe a nation whose government is made up of elected officials.
Sachem	This was the name given to a chief of a North American Indian tribe; especially, the leader of a confederation of Algonquin tribes of the north

Atlantic coast.

Sioux Indians

These were the Buffalo-hunting Indians who once roamed an area now occupied by the states of Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Stone Age

This is the term used to describe the prehistoric period when humans made tools and weapons from stone.

St. Augustine

This was the first settlement in the New World to be established by Spain.

Technology

This is the application of science for building machines, tools, or devices which can be used to perform certain operations or tasks.

The Lost Colony

This colony was sponsored by Sir Walter Raleigh. A group of 100 settled on the island of Roanoke in present-day North Carolina. John White, the governor of the settlement, returned to England for supplies; when he returned, the settlers had disappeared. All he found was the word CROATOAN carved in a tree. Although this is the name of a near by island, he was unable to continue his search because of dwindling supplies and had to return to England.

Separatists

This is a name given to religious groups in England who wanted to separate themselves from the Church of England.

Spanish Main

This is a term for the mainland of Spanish America. It is a term often associated with the pirates and privateers who attacked Spanish treasure ships off the coast of the Spanish Main.

St. Augustine

This is a settlement on the Florida coast founded by the Spanish in 1565, the first European city in North America, St. Augustine was vital for maintaining control of Florida and the Spanish trade from Mexico.

Treaty of Paris of 1763

This treaty ending the French and Indian War (1754-1763) in which France surrendered to Great Britain its claim to Canada and lands east of the Mississippi River.

Triangular Trade Route

This is the general term to describe the shipping routes involving the Caribbean, Southern Colonies West Africa and Europe. Traders from the Southern colonies brought molasses to New York to be made into rum. Traders then took some of the rum to West Africa to be exchanged for slaves. Then traders brought the slaves back to plantations in the Caribbean or the Southern colonies where they bought molasses again.

Viceroy

This is a title given to a deputy or assistant appointed by Spanish royalty ("vice-royalty") to govern a colony in New Spain.

"One Page" Timeline for

Section 1: The Era of Exploration

- 982 Eric the Red discovered Greenland.
- 1000-1500 The Crusades were fought.
- 1002 Leif Eriksson discovered North America.
- 1050 Astrolabes arrived in Europe from the East.
- 1066 Normans (Vikings) conquered England.
- 1081 A trade treaty was established between Venice and the Byzantine Empire.
- 1142 The Iroquois Confederacy was formed.
- 1215 The Magna Carta was signed.
- 1233 Coal was mined in Newcastle, England for the first time.
- 1271-1295 Marco Polo journeyed to China establishing the overland trade route. He left China in 1292 and three years later arrived home.
- 1328 The invention of the sawmill spurred shipbuilding.
- 1441 Portuguese navigators sailed to West Africa and reestablish the slave trade.
- ca. 1450 Prince Henry the Navigator established a Naval observatory for the teaching of navigation, astronomy, and cartography.
- 1450 Invention of the printing press spurred wide distribution of navigation tables and ship plans. Ptolemy's geography was published and widely accepted.
- 1453 Turks overran Constantinople, shutting off the overland trade route.
- 1470-84 Portuguese explorers discovered Africa's Gold Coast and the Congo River.
- 1487 Bartholomeu Dias barely touched the Cape of Good Hope.
- 1492 Columbus set sail.
- 1494 The Treaty of Tordesillas divided the world between Spain and Portugal for the alleged purpose of spreading Christianity.
- 1488-98 Vasco de Gama rounded the Cape of Good Hope and reached India.
- 1497 John Cabot sighted "new found land" while searching for Northwest Passage.
- 1504 Venice proposed a Suez Canal to the Sultan of Turkey.
- 1506 Christopher Columbus died.
- 1511 Portugal defeated the Arabs in a major naval battle at the Straits of Sunda, taking control of the Spice Islands as the center of Far East trade. The Straits lie between Java and Borneo, now Indonesia.
- 1512 England began construction of double-deck warships.
- 1517 Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses.
- 1519 Magellan began his journey to circumnavigate the world with five ships and 270 men.
- 1519 Hernando Cortez invaded the Aztec Empire at Tinochtatlan.
- 1521 April 27, Magellan was killed by natives in the Philippines.
- 1522 September 6, eighteen of Magellan's crew and one ship returned.
- 1534 Jacques Cartier entered the St. Lawrence River. Land in Great Lakes was claimed for France.
- 1570 The Iroquois Confederation was established.
- 1577 Sir Francis Drake set sail from England. He circumnavigated the globe.
- 1587 The colony of Roanoke was established and disappeared.
- 1607 Jamestown was founded.
- 1609 Henry Hudson explored present-day New York and the Hudson River and claimed them both for the Dutch.
- 1630 An armed conflict (war) took place between an alliance of Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth colonies, with American Indian allies (the Narragansett, and Mohegan Indians), against the Pequot Indians.
- 1639 The Fundamental Orders of Connecticut were signed.
- 1768 James Cook began the first of his Pacific explorations.
- 1770 James Cook documented the location of Australia.
- 1778 James Cook explored the Hawaiian Islands. He failed to locate the Northwest Passage.