

APUSH

Period One- 1491-1607

Lesson: Contextualization

1. What does it mean to put an event in context?

In order to put our first period of study into context, we need to know the answers to the following questions:

a. What was happening in Europe that would influence the wave of exploration that began in 1492?

*

*

*

b. What were the circumstances in the development of the network of trade routes that would influence the Europeans to begin a wave of exploration?

*

*

*

c. What led to the voyages that were undertaken by European explorers sailing for Spain, England, and France— including those made by Columbus, himself? (Plus— what were the results of these journeys?)

*

*

*

d. How can we best describe the situation that the Native Americans were living in prior to European contact? What differences between the two groups would lead to conflict later that are highlighted in the essay?

e. What led to the Columbian Exchange and what were the effects of it on the Americas, Europe and Africa?

f. What were the factors that led to the rise of the slave trade? How did this early system of the slave trade work?