



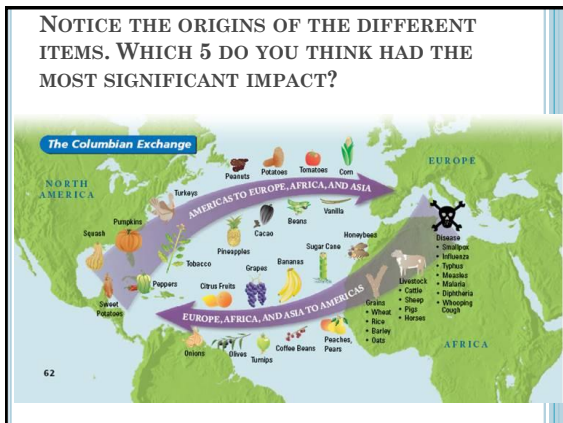
### WHAT IS THE COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE?

- ▶ “the contact between any two people geographically separated from one another results in an ‘exchange’ of physical elements.”

▶ Alfred Crosby

#### ▶ Elements

1. Animals
2. Plants
3. Microbes



1. **Horses:** Allowed for faster transportation, a huge advantage for the Europeans-made conquest easier
2. **Potatoes:** Became a staple (basic element) of diets worldwide and allowed for significant population increases
3. **Corn:** Same as potatoes
4. **Disease:** Scholars estimate that almost 95% of Native American populations were wiped out from European diseases
5. **Sugar:** Perhaps the most significant item of them all...

Where did 3 out of these 5 items originate?

#### ANIMALS

- ▶ Domesticated pre-European arrival
  - ▶ Llama (South America)
  - ▶ Turkey (North America)
- ▶ Europeans brought:
  - Cattle, chickens, horses, pigs



#### EFFECTS

- ▶ environmental impact
  - destroyed land with their hooves.
- ▶ new forms of transportation and mobility in warfare
- ▶ fertilizer



## PLANTS



- ▶ Europeans brought cash crops to the Americas and took new cash crops back.
- ▶ To Europe:
  - Avocados, beans, cashews, chili peppers, cacao, corn, cotton, papayas, peanuts, pecans, pineapples, potatoes, rubber, squash, strawberries, sweet potatoes, tobacco, tomato, and vanilla.
- ▶ To the Americas:
  - Bananas, black pepper, citrus fruits, coffee, grapes, garlic, oats, onions, lettuce, peaches, pears, sugar, rice, rye, and wheat.

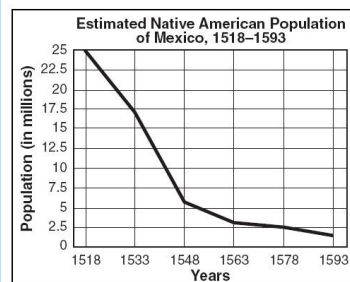
## EFFECTS

- ▶ indigenous plants crowded out
  - ▶ old world crops were stronger.
- ▶ large scale agricultural production.
  - labor intensive.
- ▶ Europeans adopted crops from the Americas.
  - ▶ potato, tomato



## PLANTS

- ▶ diversified American diets.
- ▶ exploitation of labor
  - sugar cane
- ▶ impact on Europe (potato, tomato)



Source: James Killoran et al., *The Key to Understanding Global History*, Jarrett Publishing (adapted)

- What does this graph show?
- How can we explain this trend?
- What were the repercussions (effects) of this de-population?

## DISEASE

- ▶ Smallpox, measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, chicken pox, bubonic plague, scarlet fever, and influenza.
  - ▶ communicable by air and touch.



## EUROPEAN BELIEFS REGARDING DISEASE

- ▶ Illness in Europe was considered to be the consequence for sinning.
  - ▶ Native Americans were seen as “heathen” or non-Christian.
    - regarded as sinners and subjected to illness as a punishment.

### SMALLPOX

- ▶ Deadliest that the Europeans brought to the Americas.
- ▶ North America's population decreased.
  - 90% of Native Americans were gone within 100 years of the landing on Plymouth Rock.



### WHY WERE EUROPEANS IMMUNE?

- ▶ original environment, immunity
- ▶ Europeans did bring home some American diseases such as syphilis.

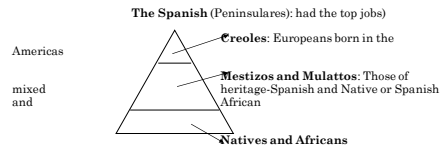


### THE EFFECTS OF THE EUROPEANS ON THE AMERICAS



### SPANISH COLONIES

- With the Aztec and the Inca defeated, the Spanish began to set up colonies in the Americas
- They created a new hierarchy:



- Any remaining natives were controlled by the encomienda system

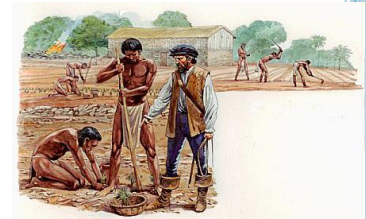
### THE SPANISH COLONIES

- Led by Spanish officials called Viceroy
- Greatly influenced by Catholicism
- Mining precious metals was the basis of much of the economy



### THE ENCOMIENDA SYSTEM

- Right to force Native Americans to work
- Resulted in major abuses of the Native Americans



## THE IMPORTANCE OF SUGAR

Sugarcane was a valuable cash crop that grew well in the Americas



The labor was very difficult, so the Europeans forced Native Americans to work on the sugarcane plantations



Native Americans died from disease, warfare, and being overworked



The Europeans now needed someone else to work on the plantations- but who?

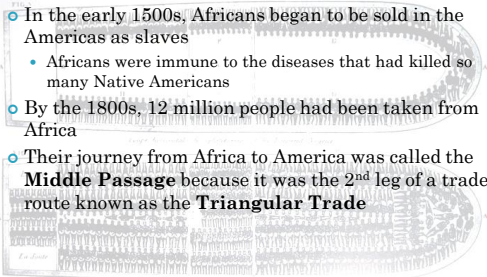


Europeans begin importing Africans to work on their sugarcane plantations: this is the beginning of the trans-Atlantic slave trade



## THE TRANS-ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE

- In the early 1500s, Africans began to be sold in the Americas as slaves
  - Africans were immune to the diseases that had killed so many Native Americans
- By the 1800s, 12 million people had been taken from Africa
- Their journey from Africa to America was called the **Middle Passage** because it was the 2<sup>nd</sup> leg of a trade route known as the **Triangular Trade**



## THE TRIANGULAR TRADE

Those that survived the horrific journey led a life of forced labor in the American colonies



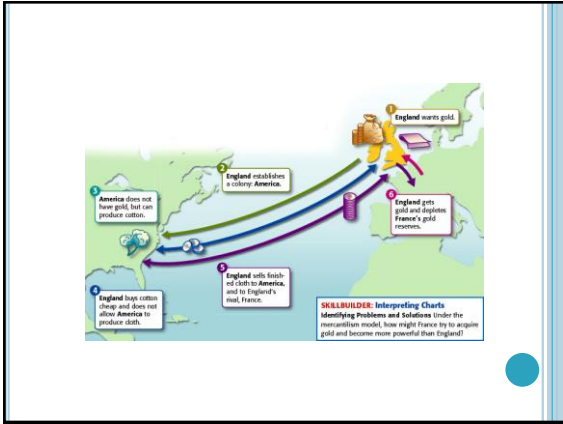
## ECONOMIC RESULTS

- Commercial Revolution
  - Europeans started using money rather than the barter system
  - This happened during exploration partly because of the vast amounts of gold and silver that started being sent to Europe
  - But what problem can arise if there is TOO much gold and silver?

INFLATION

## ECONOMIC RESULTS

- Mercantilism
  - An economic theory that encouraged countries to
    1. **Acquire large amounts of gold and silver**
      - So they could build a strong army and navy
    2. **Export more than they import**
      - This was known as a "favorable balance of trade"
    3. **Conquer overseas colonies to get cheap raw materials**
      - "Mother" countries in Europe can then use those materials to make goods to sell back to the colonies



### ECONOMIC RESULTS

- Joint Stock Companies
  - Groups of individual investors that pooled their money together to finance voyages of exploration

Positives	Negatives



### The Atlantic World

**Global Interaction**

**Europeans** ↔ **Native Americans** ↔ **Africans**

- Beginning around 1500, the Spanish and Portuguese colonize Central and South America and establish prosperous overseas empires.
- Between 1521 and 1533, the once mighty Aztec and Inca empires fall to the invading Spanish.
- Throughout the 1600s and 1700s, the English, French, and Dutch battle for control of North America, with the English emerging victorious.
- Beginning around 1500, millions of Africans are taken from their homeland and forced to labor as slaves in the Americas.
- Africans eventually become an important part of the Americas, as they populate the various regions and share aspects of their culture.

