



Trade in the 16th

From 1500-1600, as most of countries in the Europe were busied fighting each other for differences in their religions, the Portuguese and the Spanish focused on “discovering” the new world. India, the *(rich/ poor)* land, was a piece of dreamt land for many European because of its spices and different products. In 1492, Columbus went on his journey to find a new way to go to

India, yet what he stepped on at last was a new world, America, which he thought to be India. This misunderstanding later made people who lived in America now called Indianers. When Culumbus stepped onto the land of America, the times of blood and tear started...

What happened in America: When Hernan Cortes first *(arrived in / left)* the largest city of Aztec, he was surprised by the size and the *(number/ amount)* of people there. It’s a general bias that people of Middle and South America were uncivilized. However, the truth is not. Far from it. At that time, there were about 200,000 living in the capital of Tenochtitlan, two times the size of London and the same size of Paris. Cortes used fire arms, also with the help from other tribes, to take down the country and finally **enslave** the local.

What happened in India: Da Gama first got to India in 1498. At first, he had nothing to trade. All the Asians wanted was silver. **Wool** and **linen** was not good enough compared with **silk** and **cotton**, and **wheat** was not to Asians taste. What could they sell? This is where the mining in Americas came in; **the triangular trading** system of the Atlantic started. Silver of Americas went to Europe, African **labor**s were sent to America to dig out more gold and silver, and the Europe sold **textile** to Africa.

Changing words: find out what these words mean and explain in your own language

Religions= people’s belief, like Buddhism, Christianity, Catholicism...

Spices= _____

Step= _____

Uncivilized: if someone is uncivilized, he or she is rude. It’s especially used by people who think they are better than others

Capital: the main city of a country. Usually the largest or the most developed

fire arm: guns, artillery

enslave: _____

Wool: a kind of material that comes from _____

Linen: _____

Silk: _____

Wheat: a kind of grain. It’s usually used

Cotton: _____

Labor: _____

Textile: _____

enslave _____

Adapted from: Goldstone, Jack A. Why Europe: the rise of the West in world history, 1500-1850. New York:

McGraw-Hill, 2009. – chapter four- Trade and Conquest

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