



9-12 The Columbian Exchange Essay Challenge

In this lesson, you have learned about the Columbian Exchange and its impact on the world. You will now write an essay that shares what you have learned and what you think about it.

Instructions

- Choose one of the topics below and write an essay.
- Organize your response so that it includes at least three supporting details that you have learned from the lesson plan background passage, video, and any other materials in this lesson.
- Use at least three vocabulary words (or a form of the words) as part of your supporting details.

Essay Topics

1. The Atlantic Ocean once kept the Americas separated from the rest of the world. After Columbus, the ocean was like a highway connecting the Americas to Europe, Asia, and Africa. What was exchanged? How did the Columbian Exchange change life for people on these continents? Use at least three examples to support your ideas.
2. Describe some of the long-term effects of the Columbian Exchange. Explain which effects you consider positive and which you consider negative, and why. Use at least three examples to support your ideas.

Vocabulary Words

- conquistador
- encomendero
- pre-Columbian
- encomienda
- pueblo
- native