

Vocabulary Builder Activity



Age of Exploration and Trade

A. Content Vocabulary

Directions Select a vocabulary term from the box to complete the sentences below. Write the term(s) in the blank. You may need to change the form of the word to fit the sentence. Not all words are used.

mercantilism	hostage	conquistadors
ambush	smallpox	commerce
entrepreneur	plantations	allies
cash crops	cottage industry	circumnavigate

1. The Spanish colonists created huge _____ where they would grow _____ like cotton that could be sold for profit.
2. As Europeans established many colonies on different continents, they began to trade and produce goods for sale. This increase in _____ made them wealthy. The colonies were working models of the theory of _____, which involved exporting more goods than you imported.
3. Montezuma had a secret plan to _____ Cortés, but Cortés found out about it and attacked Montezuma first, killing 6,000 of his men and taking Montezuma as a _____.
4. European sailors used an ancient Greek astrolabe to navigate across unknown oceans. It allowed Magellan to _____ the Earth and sail to Asia and back.
5. Some Spanish _____ used a small number of men and weapons to overtake much larger forces. They made Native Americans their _____, or people who fought beside them.

Vocabulary Builder *Cont.*



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6. _____ hired people in the countryside to produce goods in their homes from raw materials supplied to them. This became known as a _____.
7. The spread of _____ led to the defeat of the Aztec.

B. Academic Vocabulary

Directions Draw a line from each vocabulary word in the first column to its definition in the second column.

Academic Words	Definitions
1. considerable	a. a supply of something valuable
2. culture	b. across the ocean
3. primary	c. the customs, learning, and art of a civilization
4. rely	d. a way of doing something; a process
5. resource	e. involving the entire world
6. invest	f. to take possession of
7. method	g. give money to a company in exchange for a return, or profit, on the money
8. global	h. main, chief, or first
9. obtain	i. large in size, quantity, or quality
10. overseas	j. to depend on or count on for help
11. transform	k. to bring about a large and widespread change

Vocabulary Builder *Cont.*

**networks**

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C. Combined Vocabulary Reinforcement

Directions Complete the following sentences by selecting the content or academic vocabulary term from the box that best fits. You may need to change the form of the word to fit the sentence. Not all terms will be used, but you may use a word more than once.

cash crops	entrepreneurs	plantations
circumnavigation	global	primary
commerce	hostage	rely
conquistadors	invest	resource
cottage industries	obtain	method
cultures	overseas	

On a separate sheet of paper, write one or two sentences about each category of the Renaissance and Reformation. Use at least three of the vocabulary words. You may change the form of the words in your sentences. Underline the vocabulary words you use.

1. The push for _____ trade required European sailors to venture into oceans they had never explored before. Yet their desire for exploration and trade eventually led to the _____ of the Earth by Ferdinand Magellan.
2. For strong _____ to exist between two markets, entrepreneurs have to _____ both their time and their money to support it.
3. The Spanish royalty thought their conquistadors could convince Native Americans to give up religions that had been part of their _____ for centuries.

Vocabulary Builder *Cont.*

The logo for 'networks' features the word in a bold, sans-serif font. The letter 'o' in 'networks' is replaced by a stylized globe icon with several lines radiating from it, suggesting a network or global connectivity.

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4. The giant _____ the Spanish farmed in the Americas needed a large work force to maintain them. This required the use of enslaved Africans to produce _____.
5. _____ came to the Americas to conquer Native Americans and used a variety of _____ to find gold and silver and bring it back to Spain.
6. Francisco Pizarro demanded that Atahualpa convert to the Catholic faith. When he laughed at the idea of it, he was taken _____ and had to produce a room filled with precious metals to try to _____ his freedom. Pizarro's _____ goal was to get gold and silver from the Inca.
7. In the 1600s, _____ began to _____ money in businesses that workers performed in their homes or cottages. This led to the establishment of _____.