



# **MANKIND: THE STORY OF ALL OF US**

## **EPISODE 7: NEW WORLD**

**THIS WORKSHEET SET INCLUDES, IN ORDER, A 56-QUESTION FILL-IN-THE-BLANK, TRUE OR FALSE, AND SHORT ANSWER WORKSHEET. THE SET ALSO INCLUDES, IN ORDER, AN ANSWER KEY.**

EPISODE SUMMARY FROM THE HISTORY CHANNEL: The Americas develop rapidly as the Aztecs build the biggest city on the planet. On the other side of the world, a Turkish sultan uses cannons to conquer Constantinople. The East feeds Europe with spices; explorers are driven to find new commodities and new lands. Columbus, Cortez and others reach the Americas, starting a battle for that continent. The consequences are dire for indigenous peoples.

**Keys Include: Cannons, Maize, Pepper, Compasses, Ocean Gyres**

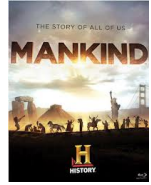
**Terms to define: abundance, artillery, compulsory, conquistadores, ecosystem, empire, gyre, immunity, obsidian, sovereignty**



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

***Mankind: The Story of All of Us***  
**Episode 7: New World**

from *The History Channel Series Mankind: The Story of All of Us*



**History Channel episode description:** The Americas develop rapidly as the Aztecs build the biggest city on the planet. On the other side of the world, a Turkish sultan uses cannons to conquer Constantinople. The East feeds Europe with spices; explorers are driven to find new commodities and new lands. Columbus, Cortez and others reach the Americas, starting a battle for that continent. The consequences are dire for indigenous peoples.

### VIKINGS EXPLORE THE AMERICAS

0:00

63. What allowed the Vikings to navigate the most treacherous waters on earth?

\_\_\_\_\_

64. From Scandinavia, warriors storm through \_\_\_\_\_, raiding, settling, founding new cities, \_\_\_\_\_ the northern world.

65. Who were the first Europeans known to land in the Americas?

\_\_\_\_\_

66. Thorvald Eriksson. Legendary \_\_\_\_\_. A hero whose exploits are remembered in \_\_\_\_\_ legend.

67. This land belongs to the Innu, descendants of the first \_\_\_\_\_ who came into America \_\_\_\_\_ years before.

68. How many Native Americans live in the Americas?

\_\_\_\_\_

69. The Innu are expert \_\_\_\_\_, armed with stone-tipped arrows. Swift. Silent. \_\_\_\_\_.

70. What is the Viking weapon of choice? \_\_\_\_\_

71. Thorvald Eriksson. The first European to \_\_\_\_\_ on American soil. It will be \_\_\_\_\_ years before another European sets foot in the New World.

### AZTEC CIVILIZATION

7:40

72. In the Americas, no \_\_\_\_\_ tools or horses. No wheeled vehicles. Yet America's people engineered great \_\_\_\_\_ thousands of years before the Egyptians. They mapped the \_\_\_\_\_ with as much accuracy as any astronomer in Europe.

73. True or False. Tenochtitlan, the capital of the Aztec Empire, was larger than London, Paris, or Rome.

74. What was the Aztec civilization dedicated to? \_\_\_\_\_

75. At its heart, a stone \_\_\_\_\_ 100 feet high, where sky, \_\_\_\_\_, and underworld meet.

76. To keep the \_\_\_\_\_ in balance, the Aztecs believe they owe a debt of \_\_\_\_\_ to their gods.
77. Aztec men are trained to \_\_\_\_\_ from puberty. The fiercest become Jaguar \_\_\_\_\_. Their weapons, not metal, but obsidian, volcanic \_\_\_\_\_. So sharp, some surgeons today \_\_\_\_\_ it over steel.
78. What was Tlahuicole's weapon? \_\_\_\_\_
79. True or False. Tlahuicole was a captive warrior in Tenochtitlan fighting for his life.
80. The Aztecs have created one of the most sophisticated \_\_\_\_\_ on the planet. A great city with laws against drunkenness, \_\_\_\_\_, and adultery. Compulsory \_\_\_\_\_ three and a half centuries before the United States. A city of philosophers, \_\_\_\_\_, mathematicians.
81. What do the Aztecs believe their gods need? \_\_\_\_\_
82. The warrior who cuts (Tlahuicole) down will get to wear his flayed \_\_\_\_\_ for twenty days. His family will eat his \_\_\_\_\_, giving them the status of gods.
83. True or False. Aztec priests only sacrifice a small number of adults per year during one of their most important ceremonies.
84. Tlahuicole's beating \_\_\_\_\_ offered to the god of sun and war, Huitzilopochtli, guardian of the \_\_\_\_\_. In return, the Aztecs believe, his blood will guarantee a bountiful \_\_\_\_\_.
85. What crop do the Aztecs grow that will become key to mankind's future?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## THE FALL OF CONSTANTINOPLE

17:30

86. True or False. Constantinople, eastern capital of the Christian world, was founded by Rome's first Muslim emperor, Constantine.
87. Hagia Sophia was the largest what of its day?  
\_\_\_\_\_
88. True or False. In 1453, Constantinople is under siege by an army of 70,000 Ottoman Turks, led by Sultan Mehmet the second.
89. If Mehmet can take Constantinople, he will control the key \_\_\_\_\_ routes between east and west, and the city's vast trade in \_\_\_\_\_.
90. What dried berry makes up two-thirds of the spice trade into Europe? \_\_\_\_\_
91. What major obstacle does the Sultan face as he tries to capture Constantinople as the jewel of a new Islamic Empire? \_\_\_\_\_
92. What is the key to the future of war? \_\_\_\_\_
93. If the \_\_\_\_\_ of Constantinople fall under bombardment by the Turks, the world will \_\_\_\_\_ be the same again. \_\_\_\_\_ cannons. Dedicated \_\_\_\_\_ working in shifts. Cool. Clean. Reload. \_\_\_\_\_ . Each cannon packed with up to \_\_\_\_\_ stone balls...Pounding the city, round the clock for \_\_\_\_\_ days.
94. True or False. Mehmet captures Constantinople, renames Istanbul, and because he is hostile to the west, forces Europeans to search for a new route to the riches of the east.

**DIAZ TRAVELS AROUND THE TIP OF AFRICA****26:30**

95. True or False. Diaz was a wealthy nobleman searching for a new route to Africa around the southern tip of India.
96. What has Diaz been using to navigate?  
\_\_\_\_\_
97. Caught in a \_\_\_\_\_ off the coast of Africa, searching for a new \_\_\_\_\_ to the east, Diaz has two options: risk death on the \_\_\_\_\_, or head out into the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean and the unknown.
98. What becomes key to a new of exploration? \_\_\_\_\_
99. Out of sight of land for \_\_\_\_\_ days. No idea what lies ahead. His \_\_\_\_\_ are useless. Lost at sea. His fate now turns on a powerful force of nature \_\_\_\_\_ the waves. An ocean gyre, a vast circular \_\_\_\_\_ caused by prevailing winds working against the rotation of the \_\_\_\_\_, creating a conveyor belt of water \_\_\_\_\_ times more powerful than the Mississippi River.
100. Diaz claims the land in the name of \_\_\_\_\_ and country. It will become known as the Cape of \_\_\_\_\_. The key to a new \_\_\_\_\_ route to the east, bypassing Constantinople. A direct passage to \_\_\_\_\_. Within 50 years, it becomes one of the busiest \_\_\_\_\_ lanes in the world.

**COLUMBUS DISCOVERS THE AMERICAS****33:00**

101. October 12, \_\_\_\_\_. A date seared onto the hard drive of humanity. \_\_\_\_\_ sailors discover land. Leading them, an Italian: \_\_\_\_\_.
102. Christopher Columbus underestimated the distance to travel to China from Spain by how many miles? \_\_\_\_\_
103. Monarchs from what country finance Columbus's expedition?  
\_\_\_\_\_
104. After five weeks at sea, Columbus finally reaches land that he believes to be Japan, but which is in fact where? \_\_\_\_\_
105. True or False. The Bahamas are home to the Taino people.
106. Living in a different \_\_\_\_\_ for thousands of years, the people of the Americas have immunity to a deadly threat: \_\_\_\_\_.
107. What is Columbus on the search for?  
\_\_\_\_\_
108. Columbus returns to Spain a \_\_\_\_\_. His journeys open floodgates. All of \_\_\_\_\_ wants a piece of the Americas.

## CORTES CONQUERS TENOCHTITLAN

38:20

109. 28 years after Columbus, the lust for \_\_\_\_\_ is about to change the destiny of the New World, through the ambitions of one man: \_\_\_\_\_.

110. How many European adventurers did Cortes lead? \_\_\_\_\_

111. True or False. Aztec emperor Montezuma is the richest most powerful man in the Americas and rules over 25 million people.

112. True or False. Montezuma turn Cortes away from his palace.

113. What was Cortes's plan? \_\_\_\_\_

114. What are Montezuma's treasuries filled with? \_\_\_\_\_

115. True or False. The people of Tenochtitlan try to rescue their emperor from Cortes.

116. True or False. Montezuma was murdered by his own people, but Cortes escaped.

117. What lethal time bomb did the Spanish leave behind?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 118. 11 months after his \_\_\_\_\_, Cortes returns, his victory complete. He's hijacked the mighty \_\_\_\_\_ Empire. An empire of \_\_\_\_\_ million brought down by just \_\_\_\_\_ men.