THE TOPICS OF STUDY IN THIS PACKET ARE:

- MESOAMERICA – THE MAYAS, AZTECS, AND INCAS - This topic is divided into two parts. This packet covers both:
  1) Geography’s Impact on Mesoamerica (The Mayas, Aztecs, and Incas) and South America (This topic is also covered in Regents Review Packet Number Two. See GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP, Part 11.)
  2) The Mayas, Aztecs, and Incas were highly developed, complex civilizations that used advanced technology.

- THE AGE OF EXPLORATION - This topic is divided into seven parts. This packet covers the first two:
  1) The Encounter
  2) Portugal and Spain: The Search for a Water Route to the Spice Islands of East Asia

Global Regents Review Packet #11 covers the last five parts.
**MESOAMERICA - THE MAYAS, AZTECS, AND INCAS (divided into 2 parts)**

**PART 1: Geography’s Impact on Mesoamerica (The Mayas, Aztecs, and Incas) and South America**

(This topic is also covered in Regents Review Packet Number Two. See GEOGRAPHY IMPACTS HOW PEOPLE DEVELOP, Part 11.)

- The Andes Mountains and the Amazon River have influenced South America’s economic and political development. How?
  
  These diverse landforms prevented Latin American unity, particularly during the era of the Latin American independence movements in the early 19th century. (The Latin American independence movements will be a topic featured in a future Regents Review Packet.)

- A study of Aztec, Maya, and Inca agricultural systems would show that these civilizations adapted to their environments with creative farming techniques

  Mayas = slash and burn agriculture  
  Aztecs = chinampas (floating gardens)  
  Incas = terrace farming

- The Andes Mountains had a great influence on the development of the Inca Empire.
  
  The Inca adapted to their physical environment by building footbridges that connected their roads across the Andes Mountains.
  
  One similarity between the Mongols of Central Asia and the Incas of South America was that both societies adapted to difficult physical environments (The Mongols adapted to the STEPPES and the Incas adapted to the Andes Mountains.)

Which geographic feature had the greatest influence on the development of the Inca Empire?

1. deserts
2. irregular coastline
3. river valleys
4. mountains

108-17
Which continent’s economic and political development has been influenced by the Andes Mountains and the Amazon River?
(1) Asia  
(2) Africa  
(3) Europe  
**4 South America**  
807-2

Base your answers to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Which letter identifies the region in the Andes Mountains where many Inca settlements were located?
(1) A  
(2) B  
(3) C  
(4) D  
607-14

Which geographic feature made it difficult to unify South America?
**1 Andes Mountains**  
(2) Straits of Magellan  
(3) Gulf of Mexico  
(4) Argentinian pampas  
605-22
A study of Aztec, Maya, and Inca agricultural systems would show that these civilizations
(1) relied on mechanized agricultural techniques
(2) carried on extensive food trade with each other
(3) **adapted to their environments with creative farming techniques**
(4) relied on a single-crop economy
105-18

How did the Inca adapt to their physical environment?
(1) They built large fishing fleets to feed their populations.
(2) **They built footbridges that connected their roads across the Andes.**
(3) They established extensive trade agreements with Europe.
(4) They raised cattle and horses on the pampas.
104-17

One similarity between the Mongols of Central Asia and the **Incas of South America**
was that both societies
(1) developed cash-crop farming
(2) based their wealth on the slave trade
(3) **adapted to difficult physical environments**
(4) practiced monotheistic religions
803-10
Base your answer to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Which conclusion about Incan society could be drawn from the map?

(1) An extensive road system connected all parts of the Empire for trade.
(2) Their trade depended on many seaports.
(3) Tropical climatic conditions existed throughout the empire.
(4) A similar language unified the Inca civilization.

Which geographic factor most limited the growth of Latin American unity of the early 19th century?

(1) the region’s diverse landforms
(2) most of the region’s rivers flowed north to south
(3) the region’s location close to the equator
(4) the region’s lack of natural resources

103-19

802-25
Inca terrace farming and Aztec floating gardens are examples of
(1) the ability of civilizations to adapt to their region’s physical geography
(2) slash-and-burn farming techniques
(3) Mesoamerican art forms symbolizing the importance of agriculture
(4) colonial economic policies that harmed Latin American civilizations

• The Ottoman Empire disrupted overland trade between Europe and Asia.
• Peter the Great established St. Petersburg on the Baltic Sea.
• Mesoamericans relied on terrace farming.

These statements illustrate the
(1) impact of geography on human activity
(2) failure of people to adjust to their environment
(3) effect of geographic isolation on different societies
(4) movement from a traditional to a command economy
Mesoamerica - The Mayas, Aztecs, and Incas (divided into 2 parts)

Part 2: The Mayas, Aztecs, and Incas were highly developed, complex civilizations that used advanced technology

- One similarity of the Aztec, Maya, and Inca empires is that they created complex civilizations.

The Aztec, Inca, and Maya civilizations all achieved great progress in developing the arts and architecture.

These early Latin American civilizations used advanced technology to build complex structures.

- The archaeological evidence found at the Mesoamerican sites of Tenochtitlan (Aztecs) and Machu Picchu (Incas) suggests that these societies were highly developed and organized cultures.

The Inca city of Machu Picchu had a government with laws, leadership, and a military force.

- The Aztec use of the calendar and the Maya writing system both illustrate that pre-Columbian cultures in the Americas flourished prior to European contact.

- A road system helped unify the Inca Empire. A road system similarly helped to unify the Roman Empire.

- The Incas had a farming system that provided crops for the entire society.

- The Maya civilization (4th–10th centuries) built temple complexes and developed the concept of zero. Similarly, the Gupta civilization of India (4th–6th centuries) also built temple complexes and developed the concept of zero.

Which technological advancement helped unify both the Roman and the Inca Empires?
(1) astrolabe
(2) road system
(3) gunpowder
(4) wheeled carts

806-18
Base your answer to the following question on the diagram below and on your knowledge of social studies.

This diagram shows the Incas had a farming system that
1) **provided crops for the entire society**
2) left much of the land unfarmed
3) set aside fifty percent of the crops for those who farmed the fields
4) grew crops only for priests and government officials

The Aztec use of the calendar and the Maya writing system both illustrate that pre-Columbian cultures in the Americas
1) traded extensively with Africa
2) **flourished prior to European contact**
3) declined because of invasion and disease
4) converted others to Islam

806-20

806-22
Base your answer to the following question on the illustrations below and on your knowledge of social studies.

These illustrations suggest that early Latin American civilizations
(1) were based on European societies
(2) **used advanced technology to build complex structures**
(3) incorporated early Roman architectural design
(4) were strongly influenced by Renaissance humanism

805-20

Base your answer to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.
Which conclusion about the Inca city of Machu Picchu can be drawn from the map?
(1) Religious activities were prohibited in this city.
(2) The city was a ceremonial site, not a place of permanent settlement.
(3) Community planning and an organized way of life are not evident in this city.
(4) The city had a government with laws, leadership, and a military force.

The Gupta civilization (4th–6th centuries) and the Maya civilization (4th–10th centuries) were similar in that both
(1) built temple complexes and developed the concept of zero
(2) eliminated standing armies and introduced an aristocracy
(3) developed early democratic systems
(4) were conquered by European imperialists

The archaeological evidence found at the Mesoamerican sites of Tenochtitlan (Aztecs) and Machu Picchu (Incas) suggests that these societies
(1) consisted of hunters and gatherers
(2) were highly developed and organized cultures
(3) practiced a monotheistic religion
(4) followed a democratic system

One similarity of the Aztec, Maya, and Inca empires is that they
(1) developed in fertile river valleys
(2) maintained democratic political systems
(3) coexisted peacefully with neighboring empires
(4) created complex civilizations

The Aztec, Inca, and Maya civilizations all achieved great progress in developing
(1) a written language and great literature
(2) strong naval forces
(3) the arts and architecture
(4) a monotheistic religion
THE AGE OF EXPLORATION (divided into 7 parts)

PART 1: The Encounter

• The expedition of Hernán Cortés resulted in the destruction of the Aztec empire.

The fall of the Aztec Empire was a direct result of the conquest of Tenochtitlán (the Aztec capital) by Hernán Cortés in 1521.

• The expedition of Francisco Pizarro resulted in the destruction of the Inca empire.

• It could be said that the conquests of the Aztec and Inca empires were a result of European imperialism. What is imperialism?

Imperialism is the domination by one country of the political, economic, or cultural life of another country or region.

• Europeans brought new diseases (e.g. smallpox) to Latin America. They had devastating effects on indigenous peoples. Millions of native peoples in the Americas died because they had no natural immunity to these diseases.

Smallpox outbreak spread throughout Mexico. Between 1500 and 1600, the native population of Central Mexico decreased from 25 million people to 1 million people.

• The declining Native American population led to shortages of labor in 16th and 17th century North and South America. This labor shortage provoked the Atlantic slave trade (the importation of slaves from Africa). Plantations in the New World used enslaved Africans to replace native populations.

Similarly, the Black Death led to shortages of labor in 14th century Europe. The labor shortage in Europe led to the decline of feudalism (See Regents Review Packet Number Five).

• Although disease can be considered the main cause of the decline of Mesoamerican society, the technology of the Spanish conquistadors was also a major reason for their downfall. Spanish soldiers made effective use of their military technology against the Aztecs.

• Brazil was an area of Latin America that was colonized mostly by the Portuguese.
What was one reason the Spanish conquistadors were able to conquer the Aztec Empire?

1. The Spanish soldiers made effective use of their military technology against the Aztecs.
2. Aztec religious beliefs promoted nonviolence.
3. Spain joined the Incas in their fight against the Aztecs.
4. The Spanish cavalry outnumbered the Aztec warriors.

Base your answers to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

The letter C (Brazil) indicates an area of Latin America that was colonized mostly by the

1. Dutch
2. Portuguese
3. English
4. French

Which statement best describes a result of the encounter between Europeans and native populations of Latin America?

1. Native societies experienced rapid population growth.
2. European nations lost power and prestige in the New World.
3. Large numbers of natives migrated to Europe for a better life.
4. Plantations in the New World used enslaved Africans to replace native populations.

806-21
The expeditions of Hernán Cortés and Francisco Pizarro resulted in the
(1) **destruction of the Aztec and Inca empires**
(2) capture of Brazil by Portugal
(3) colonization of North America by Portugal
(4) exploration of the Philippines and East Indies
804-17

After contact with Europeans in the 1500s, millions of native peoples in the Americas
died as a result of
(1) new foods, which the native peoples could not digest
(2) religious persecution resulting from the Spanish Inquisition
(3) **new diseases to which the native peoples had no natural immunity**
(4) slavery and the terrible conditions on their sea journey to Europe
803-15

A direct result of the conquest of Tenochtitlán by Hernán Cortés in 1521 was the
(1) expulsion of Jews and Muslims from Spain
(2) establishment of Portuguese trade routes around Africa
(3) **fall of the Aztec Empire**
(4) conquest of the Kush Kingdom
103-16

• Smallpox outbreak spreads throughout Mexico.
• Many Incas convert to Christianity in ceremonies in Lima, Peru.
• Spanish and Portuguese are introduced to chocolate, peanuts, tomatoes, and corn.
• Cortés brings Aztec gold and silver treasures to Spain.
Which situation is illustrated in these statements?
(1) empathy of Europeans for Native American Indian civilizations
(2) triangular trade and its effects on agrarian economies
(3) the relatively high costs of colonialism
(4) **the impact of contact between different peoples**
602-21

“In three or four months . . . more than seven thousand children died of hunger, their
fathers and mothers have been taken to the mines. . . . Thus they [Spaniards] ruined and
depopulated all this island [Cuba].” — Bartolome de Las Casas, 1552, The Brief Account of the
Destruction of the Indies
The event described in the quotation illustrates
(1) **a result of the “Encounter”**
(2) the forced migration of Native Americans to Spain
(3) the dangerous effects of mining without proper equipment
(4) an impact of Enlightenment philosophers
102-20
A major reason for the end of the Aztec Empire was
(1) the refusal of the people to obey their leaders
(2) a conflict with the Inca Empire
(3) the technology of the Spanish conquistadors
(4) political corruption and an unstable government
801-16

Base your answer to the following question on the timeline below and on your knowledge of social studies.

The events illustrated in this time line show the effects of European
(1) isolationism
(2) imperialism
(3) socialism
(4) fundamentalism
601-15

Which development led to the shortages of labor in 14th-century Europe and in 16th- and 17th-century North and South America?
(1) rise of nation-states
(2) outbreak of the Black Death and smallpox
(3) fall of Constantinople
(4) introduction of new military technologies
601-17
Between 1540 and 1580, what happened to the native population of Central Mexico?

(1) **It decreased by approximately 6 million people.**
(2) It increased to a high of 26 million people.
(3) It increased by approximately 2 million people per year.
(4) It decreased to 8 million people.

Which statement best explains the population trend shown on this graph?

(1) Native beliefs included human sacrifice.
(2) Tribal warfare raged during this time period.
(3) Native traditions encouraged polygamy.
(4) **Europeans brought diseases to Latin America.**

A major reason that the Spanish were able to conquer the peoples of the Americas was the

1 military technology of the Spanish conquerors
2 inability of the native peoples to adapt to Spanish culture
3 enforced slavery of the native peoples by the Spanish
4 unified resistance of native peoples to Spanish demands
Base your answer to the following question on the illustration below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Which explanation for the Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire is best supported by this illustration?

1. The Aztec religion encouraged nonviolence.
2. The nations of Europe allied with the Spanish against the Aztec rulers.
3. The conquistadors were defending their homeland.
4. Spanish technology was a major factor in the defeat of the Aztecs.

600-12
THE AGE OF EXPLORATION (divided into 7 parts)

PART 2: Portugal and Spain:
The Search for a Water Route to the Spice Islands of East Asia

- During the 15th century (1400s), Portugal and Spain began sea voyages of exploration.

  Spain had more influence than any other nation on the colonization of Latin America in the 1500s.

- The area of Latin America that was colonized mostly by the Portuguese was Brazil.

- The following developments influenced the start of the Age of Exploration:

  > Technological advances in navigation (Invention of the compass and astrolabe), naval engineering, and mapmaking (cartography)

  > European dependence on spices from Asia

  > Rise of nation-states in Europe

- The Byzantine Empire fell to the Ottoman Turks in 1453. As a result, Muslim traders came to dominate the overland trade routes that had connected Europe to Asia. This prompted Spain and Portugal to seek new trade routes (water routes) to the spice markets in East Asia.

  The Ottoman Empire’s disruption of overland trade between Europe and Asia exemplifies the impact of geography on human activity.

- In the 1500s and 1600s, control of the Strait of Malacca determined who traded in the Spice Islands.

- The encomienda system in Latin America was a direct result of the Age of Exploration.
Base your answers to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

The letter C (Brazil) indicates an area of Latin America that was colonized mostly by the
(1) Dutch
(2) Portuguese
(3) English
(4) French

Which nation had the most influence on the colonization of Latin America in the 1500s?
(1) Spain
(2) France
(3) England
(4) Netherlands

During the 15th century, which two European countries began sea voyages of exploration?
(1) Germany and Italy
(2) Portugal and Spain
(3) England and France
(4) Russia and the Netherlands
The encomienda system in Latin America was a direct result of the
(1) Crusades
(2) Age of Exploration
(3) Reformation
(4) Age of Reason
805-19

Base your answer to the following question on the statements below and on your knowledge of social studies.

• The fertile soil of river valleys allowed early civilizations to develop and flourish.
• In the 1500s and 1600s, control of the Strait of Malacca determined who traded in the Spice Islands.
• Because Japan is an island that is mostly mountainous, people live in densely populated areas along the coast.

Which conclusion is best supported by these statements?
(1) Major urban centers are found only along rivers.
(2) The geography of a nation or region influences its development.
(3) Without mountains and rivers, people cannot develop a culture.
(4) The spread of new ideas is discouraged by trade and conquest.
605-2

The major reason that Portugal and Spain established water routes to Asia’s spice markets was to
(1) experiment with new technology such as the astrolabe and sextant
(2) provide jobs for navigators, cartographers, and shipbuilders
(3) avoid the overland routes that were controlled by Muslim traders
(4) discover new continents, plants, and animals
605-17

The astrolabe and improvements in cartography helped Europeans to
(1) launch the Crusades
(2) defeat the Mongols
(3) expel the Moors
(4) explore the Western Hemisphere
104-20
Base your answers to the following two questions on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Which statement can best be supported by the information on the map?
(1) The Portuguese taught the Chinese their sailing knowledge.
(2) Portugal and China practiced isolationism throughout the 15th century.
(3) Only the Portuguese explored the east coast of Africa.
**4. The Portuguese and the Chinese were active explorers.**

603-18

Which two explorers are associated with the travels shown on the map?
(1) Ferdinand Magellen and Matthew Perry
(2) Christopher Columbus and Genghis Khan
**3. Vasco de Gama and Zheng He**
(4) Francisco Pizarro and Marco Polo

603-19
Base your answer to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Which conclusion regarding early European settlements is best supported by the information on the map?
(1) Portugal became the dominant colonial power in South America by 1600.
(2) Geography made the interior of South America easy to explore.
(3) Neither the Spanish nor the Portuguese developed major urban centers in Latin America.
(4) In 1600, most of the land in South America was not settled by Europeans.
603-20
• Invention of the compass and astrolabe
• European dependence on spices from Asia
• Rise of nation-states in Europe

These developments influenced the start of the
(1) Crusades
(2) Renaissance
(3) Reformation

(4) Age of Exploration
603-46

During the 1500s, technological advances in navigation, naval engineering, and
mapmaking contributed directly to the start of the
(1) Gupta Empire
(2) Mongol Empire

(3) Age of Exploration
(4) medieval guilds
103-14

The fall of the Byzantine Empire to the Ottoman Turks (1453) prompted Spain and
Portugal to
(1) seek new trade routes to East Asia
(2) extend religious tolerance to Muslim peoples
(3) reform their political systems
(4) expand the Catholic Inquisition into the Middle East
602-19

Base your answer to the following question on the map below and on your knowledge of
social studies.

![Map of the Age of Exploration](image-url)
What was a result of the explorers’ voyages illustrated on this map?
(1) Europe became increasingly isolated.
(2) **European trade with Africa and South America increased.**
(3) Southeast Asia became Europe’s greatest trading partner.
(4) European nations created colonial governments throughout central Asia.

102-21

- The Ottoman Empire disrupted overland trade between Europe and Asia.
- Peter the Great established St. Petersburg on the Baltic Sea.
- Mesoamericans relied on terrace farming.

These statements illustrate the

(1) **impact of geography on human activity**
(2) failure of people to adjust to their environment
(3) effect of geographic isolation on different societies
(4) movement from a traditional to a command economy

801-21