

# STUDY GUIDE

Test Date: Thursday, 12-8-11

Test format will be multiple choice. Any Study Guide items may appear as a test question and/or answer choice

## Section 1: Europeans Set Sail

### The Big Idea

Europeans explored the world searching for new lands and new trade routes.

### Main Ideas

- Vikings were skilled sailors and they were the first Europeans to reach North America.
- Prince Henry the Navigator established a school for sailors and provided financial support that enabled the Portuguese to start exploring the oceans.
- Portuguese sailors sailed around Africa and found a sea route to Asia.

### Main Idea 1:

Vikings were skilled sailors and they were the first Europeans to reach North America.

- Vikings came from Scandinavia.
- They raided countries throughout Europe and developed large trading networks.
- In 1000, **Leif Eriksson** sailed from Norway to the North American coast after having been blown off-course by a storm.
  - Landed on the Labrador Peninsula in present-day Canada
  - Sailed further south to Newfoundland and perhaps even into New England
  - Name for Newfoundland was Vinland
- Created a North American settlement, but attacks by Native Americans and the area's isolation prompted the Vikings to return to Europe

## Main Idea 2:

**Prince Henry the Navigator established a school for sailors and provided financial support that enabled the Portuguese to start exploring the oceans.**

### Henry the Navigator

Made great advances in exploration in the 1400s:

- Built an observatory
- Founded a school of navigation
- Financed research
- Paid for expeditions to explore the coast of Africa

# Advancement of Exploration

## Motivations for Exploration

- Find sea routes to develop additional trade with Asia.
- To spread Christianity and convert more people.
- Curiosity—many Europeans wanted to learn more about Asia and its cultures.

## Technological Advances

- Better instruments made it possible for sailors to travel the open seas.
  - The **astrolabe** enabled navigators to use the stars to chart location.
- The Portuguese began designing ships that were smaller, lighter, and easier to steer.
  - **Caravels** used triangular sails that allowed ships to sail against the wind.

## Main Idea 3: Portuguese sailors sailed around Africa and found a sea route to Asia.

- In 1488, Bartolomeu Dias led an exploration from Portugal southward along African coast, discovering the southern tip of Africa, the Cape of Good Hope.

- In 1497, Vasco da Gama sailed around the Cape of Good Hope and landed in India, winning the European race for a sea route to Asia.

## Results of Exploration

- As Portuguese sailors explored the west coast of Africa, they negotiated for gold, ivory, and slaves.
  - Devastated African communities
  - Broke up many families
  - Led to increased warfare among kingdoms
- Slaves were sent to Europe and to islands in the Atlantic where they endured brutal living conditions.
- New trade increased Portuguese wealth and power.
- Other European countries launched their own voyages of exploration.