

4-1.1 How did the Landbridge Theory contribute to the spread of Native American populations?

The Landbridge Theory

Groups of people **migrated** to North America for tens of thousands of years. At first it was mainly small groups of nomads that migrated. **Nomads** were people with no permanent settlements. Their movement was dependent on seasonal or other factors. Because these groups were small and continued to move about the continent, they often never had a sense of belonging to any larger society. It wasn't until people began to settle that organized societies formed, creating hundreds of different languages, new technologies, and the beginnings of diverse cultures in the Americas.

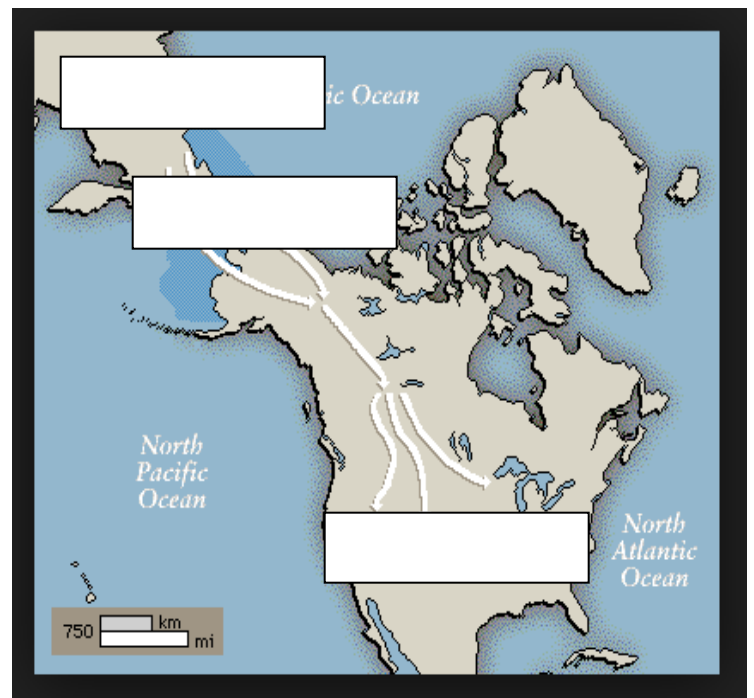
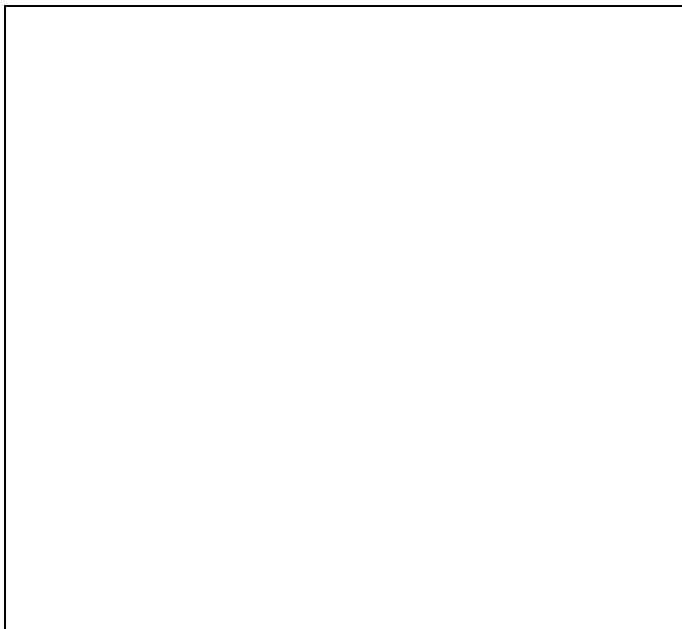
According to the **Land Bridge Theory**, Native Americans migrated from Asia to North America across the land bridge during the **Ice Age**. During this time period, low temperatures caused the level of water in the ocean to drop. Because the frozen water became exposed, a long land bridge was created that connected Asia to North America. By following herds of animals, hunter-gatherer people may have crossed this land bridge from Asia into North America. Some of them may have then continued across North America and into South America.



Possible migration routes from Siberia to North America.

How did the spread of Native American populations influence the New World?

Label the following on the map: Asia, North America, and Landbridge



4-1.2 How did location impact the everyday life and culture of the Native American groups?

Everyday life of Native Americans depended on the region in which they lived and how they interacted with their physical environment.

Eastern Woodlands Native Americans

The **Eastern Woodlands** Native Americans lived in the eastern part of North America from the **Atlantic Ocean** to the **Mississippi River**, including the Great Lakes area and the southeastern United States to the Gulf of Mexico.



Homes/Lifestyle

Their **longhouses** were made from saplings and branches for frames with bark from the trees covering the frame for protection. Sometimes up to 20 families would live in one longhouse.

Wigwams are similar to longhouses, just smaller and more compact for one family. Clothing was made from animal skins.



Infer: Why would branches and saplings to make their homes make the most sense?

How They Get Their Food

Most Eastern Woodlands Native Americans were **farmers**. They grew plants such as corn, beans, and squash. They were also skilled **hunters**. They hunted animals such as deer, rabbits and bears. They also fished in the fresh water rivers that were found in this area.

Cultural/Religious Practices

Songs and dances were part of the culture's practices - everything from death ceremonies to war ceremonies before battle.



4-1.2 How did location impact the everyday life and culture of the Native American groups?

Plains Native Americans

The **Plains** Native Americans lived on the Great Plains in central North America. They lived as far north as the present-day Canadian border and south to present day Texas.

Homes/Lifestyle

The Plains women would stay back at the camp while the men hunted. The women would watch the children, weave blankets, and cook. This group was known for traveling with the **buffalo** herds. Because of this, they needed a home that was easily **portable** and quick to set up and take down. They lived in **tepees** because they were perfect for traveling with the Buffalo.



How did the lifestyle of the Plains Indians influence their homes compared to that of the Woodlands homes?

How They Get Their Food

In order to survive, the Plains Indians hunted **buffalo** as their main source of food. While the men were out hunting the buffalo, women did a little **farming** close to the camp.

Cultural/Religious Practices

The worship of the Great Spirit was key to their beliefs. A dance performed called the **Sun Dance** was a way to show respect and love for their God. This dance would often take place over the span of four days, and much of it was spent staring up at the sun.



4-1.2 How did location impact the everyday life and culture of the Native American groups?

Southwest Native Americans

The **Southwest** Native Americans lived in the present-day southwest United States. The area that is today Arizona, New Mexico, and part of Colorado and Utah.



Homes/Lifestyle

Southwest tribes lived in apartment-like buildings made of adobe. **Adobe** is a mixture of clay and straw that is formed into bricks and dried in the sun. These shelters were usually built on cliffs that had large, shallow caves. Wooden or bone ladders were used to reach higher buildings and rooms. The climate was so **warm** that Southwest Indians didn't wear a lot. Their long hair was enough cover for most of them. **Moccasins** were usually worn on the feet. Some tribes also grew cotton to use for clothing when the weather got cold.

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Think! If it was hot enough to wear little clothing, why were moccasins so important? (Hint: think about the land in this region).

How They Get Their Food

The Southwest Native Americans were able to be **farmers** even though they lived in the **desert** because they built **irrigation systems**. One of the most important foods they grew was maize, or **corn**. They grew 24 different types of corn. They also grew beans, squash, melons, pumpkins and fruit. For meat, they often hunted and ate wild turkeys.



Cultural/Religious Practices

Southwest Indians believed in **Kachinas**. Kachinas were spirits from ancestors who returned with the clouds and rain. They believed the spirits once lived among them but were offended and left. Kachina dolls were made from wood and had masks and costumes to look like the men who dressed up as Kachina spirits.



4-1.2 How did location impact the everyday life and culture of the Native American groups?

Great Basin Native Americans

The **Great Basin** Native Americans lived in the region east of the Northwest coast in today's Nevada, Idaho, and Utah.

Homes/Lifestyle

The Great Basin was a region of **extreme temperatures**. In the cold winters they wore rabbit-skin robes and blankets. In the hot



summer months they wore little or no clothing. **Basket weaving** was very popular among the Great Basin tribes. It was needed as a tool for the seasonal

harvest. It was also a means of artistic expression. Tribe members often wove baskets with very complex designs and elaborate weaves. This Great Basin Native Americans were **nomadic**, they were constantly moving from place to place.



What does nomadic mean?

What other group of Native Americans were nomadic?

How They Get Their Food

The Great Basin Native Americans were **hunters**. They hunted small and large animals such as jackrabbits, antelope, and waterfowl. They also gathered pine nuts and berries in the forests. Enough food was harvested every summer and fall to last through the winters. Where the geography and climate allowed it, some also fished and farmed small plots. These were **resilient, flexible, and adaptable** people.



Cultural/Religious Practices

All of the tribes participated in dances, an important tradition to the Native Americans. The **Sun Dance** was a four-day religious centered festival that was held each year during the summer solstice and revolved around the greatness of the sun, focusing on harmony and rebirth.

4-1.2 How did location impact the everyday life and culture of the Native American groups?

Pacific Northwest Native Americans

The **Pacific Northwest** Native Americans lived on the present-day northwest coast of the United States, Canada and Alaska on the Pacific Ocean. This area includes Northern California and into Southern Alaska.

Homes/Lifestyle

The Pacific Northwest Native Americans are well known for their



handcrafted **totem poles**. A totem pole in front of a home shows the generations and social rank

of that family. For shelter, the Pacific Northwest Native Americans used what was available in their forests, **red cedar trees**. They built **Big Houses**, which were anywhere from 20 to 60 feet wide to 50 to 150 feet long. To keep the rain out, they overlapped wooden planks.

There were no windows in Big Houses, but instead a hole in the roof that let air in and smoke out from cooking fires. Tribes on the coast wore very little clothing, except when it was cold. Many items of clothing were made from cedar bark and helped shield people from the rain and wind.

How They Get Their Food

Coastal tribes lived off the **ocean**. There were plenty of seals, salmon, sea otters and whales. They had a nearly endless supply of **fish** from the ocean, animals to hunt, and fruit from the forest. During the fall, they pulled big **salmon** in by the thousands, enough to feed families for the entire year.



Why is the food this group ate so different from the others we have studied?

Cultural/Religious Practices

One of the most common customs was the **potlatch**. The ceremony was different from tribe to tribe but almost always involved dancing and gift giving. Dancers often wore animal masks and decorated themselves from head to toe with paint and feathers.

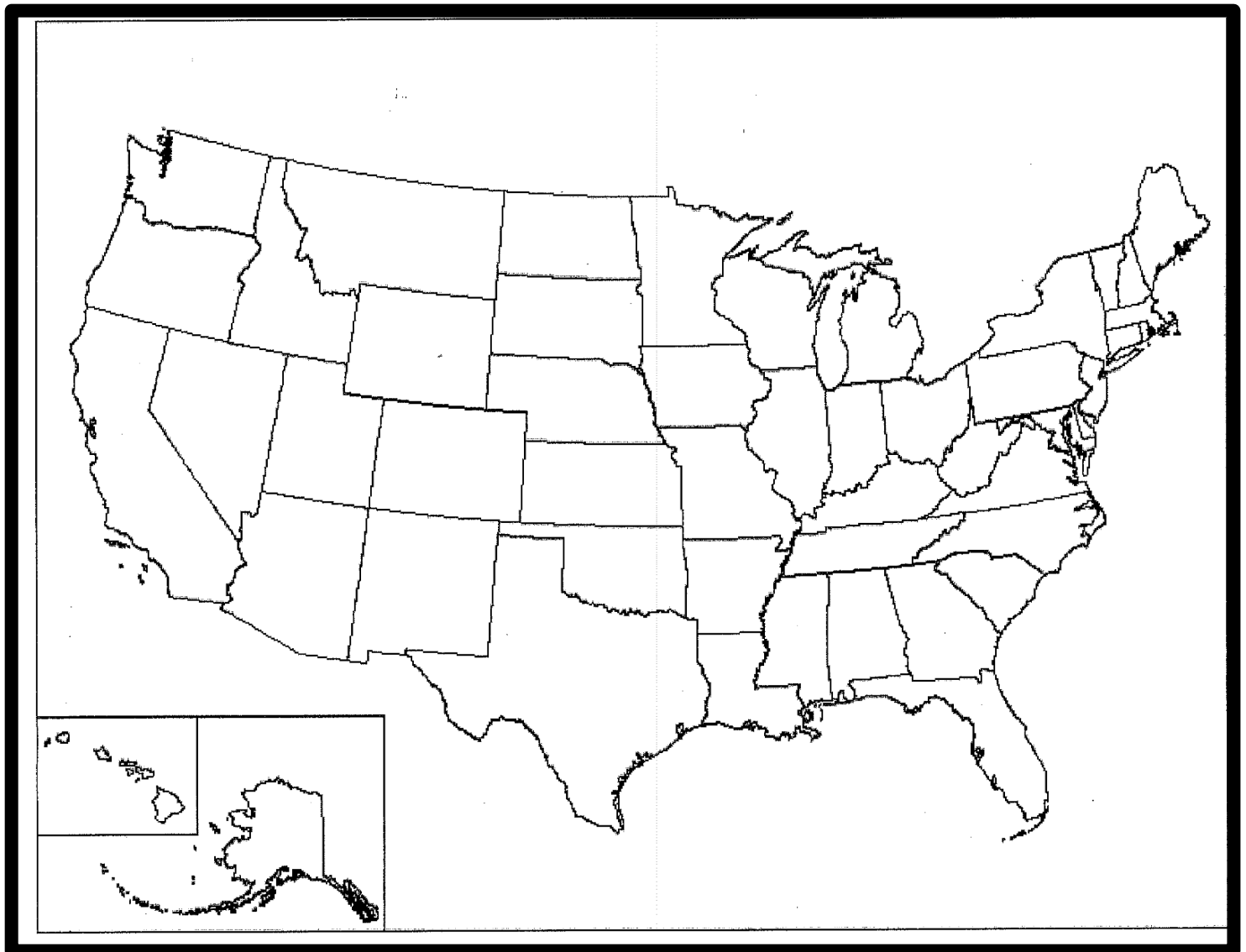
4-1.2 How did location impact the everyday life and culture of the Native American groups?

Native American Group	Location	Homes/Lifestyle	Food	Cultural/Religious Practices
Eastern Woodlands				
Plains				
Southwest				
Great Basin				
Pacific Northwest				

4-1.2 How did location impact the everyday life and culture of the Native American groups?

Causes	Effects
What effects did geography have on daily life?	

Native American Groups & Where They Lived



4-1.3 What effect did exploration have on the new world?

Economic Factors

Economic (money and wealth) factors motivated Europeans to explore the world. International trading both **caused** countries to explore, and was an **effect** of countries exploring the world. Countries wanted to take out the “middle man” (**merchants**) in the trading market because it would save them time and money. **Portugal** was the first European country to look for a water route to Asia because it was so close to the Atlantic Ocean. **Spain** was then influenced to pay for Christopher Columbus and others to explore because they wanted to compete with Portugal.



Political Factors

Political (government) factors included **competition** between European countries. **England** and other European countries became interested in exploring unmapped lands because Spain and Portugal found gold and silver that made them very wealthy and powerful. English Kings began to send explorers. England eventually became the most dominant country to settle North America.

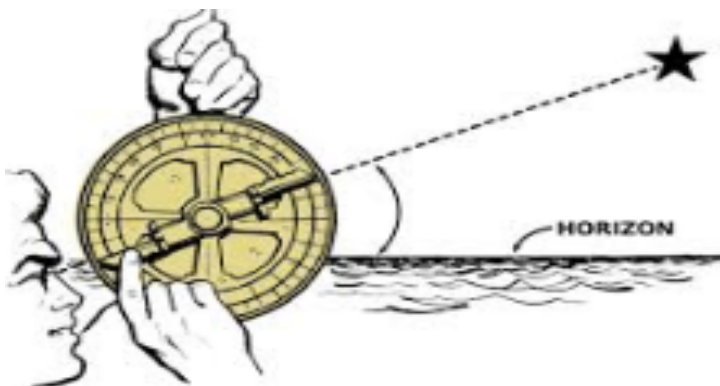


Technological Factors

There were several **technological** factors helped explorers discover the **New World**. There were many advancements in shipbuilding, included the construction of the **caravel**. The caravel was smaller, faster ship with triangular sails that could sail into the wind. There were also many improvements made to **navigational** skills, which allowed sailors to explore further out to sea.



With the invention of the **astrolabe**, explorers were able to measure the height of the sun above the horizon. This helped explorers determine the time of day, months and seasons. The **compass** was also a useful navigational tool. The compass helped explorers determine which direction they were traveling in. Explorers would often watch the location of stars in the sky to help them determine the time and length of their journey. Furthermore with improvements in **cartography**, or map-making, explorers were able read and use more accurate maps.



4-1.3 What effect did exploration have on the new world?

Identify the **economic** causes and effects of exploration.

Causes	Effects
	So, Europeans had to pay these merchants (or middle men) an added expense charge for their travels to bring spices.
Because some Europeans did not want to pay this additional fee for these middle men and because of and their location to the Atlantic Ocean...	
	Economic competition began between Portugal and Spain to explore unmapped areas of the world.

What political effect(s) did exploration have on the new world?

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What effects did these new technologies have on early exploration?

Caravel	Astrolabe
Compass	Cartography

4-1.4 How did accomplishments of the explorers impact the new world?

Motivations for Exploration

There were many factors that motivated Europeans to explore. These factors included **competition between countries**, **expansion of international trade**, and **technological improvements** in shipbuilding and navigation. The accomplishments of certain explorers greatly influenced the lands claimed in the **New World** by European countries including Spain, France and England.

Vikings

Leif Eriksson was Viking from **Greenland**. He was the first explorer to sail the Northern Atlantic Ocean and settle in North America. Even though he wanted to share his discovery, the Vikings were very **combative** and often did not get along with other European countries. This didn't allow them to share their discoveries, so North America was still unknown to most Europeans. Leif Eriksson did not claim land for Greenland and did not get credit as the first person to settle in North America.



Spanish Explorers

Christopher Columbus was an explorer for **Spain**. He sailed west looking for a new and faster route to the **Spice Islands** (near Indonesia). Columbus sailed west because Portugal had a **monopoly** on the Eastern route around Africa.

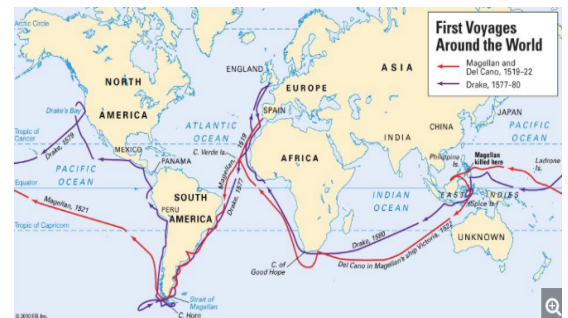


Columbus believed the world was small enough that he could reach the **Far East** (in southeast Asia) by sailing west. He never met his goal to bring riches back from the Far East because he never made it there. Instead he discovered the lands of San Salvador in the **West Indies** (islands in the Caribbean Sea) and wealth along with it. This discovery



allowed the Spanish to begin to settle in North and South America.

Ferdinand Magellan was and explorer for **Spain**. He was the first explorer to **sail around the world**. Even though he died before his journey was complete, he claimed more land for Spain in the New World. Magellan and his crew proved that sailing around the world could be achieved, but at a great cost.



Hernando de Soto was and explorer for **Spain**. He was a Spanish **Conquistador** who explored throughout the southeastern United States and claimed land for Spain. Spanish explorers could then claim modern day **Florida** and **southwestern United States** as new lands for Spain.



4-1.4 How did accomplishments of the explorers impact the new world?

English Explorers

John Cabot was an explorer for **England**. He sailed looking for faster route to the West Indies known as the **Northwest Passage**. They believed the Northwest Passage would link the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The belief that this route existed



continued to motivate explorers to explore as far north as the Arctic Ocean, but all had no success in finding it (because it didn't exist.) John Cabot did however claim the lands he discovered for England in the New World.

Henry Hudson was an explorer for **England** AND the **Netherlands**. While looking for the Northwest Passage he claimed and mapped lands in modern day **New York** for the **Dutch**, and lands in **Canada**

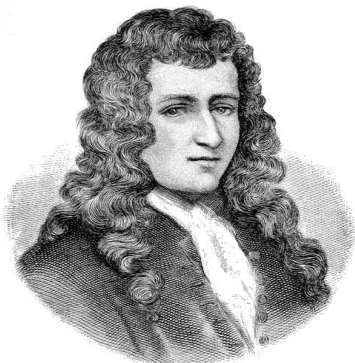
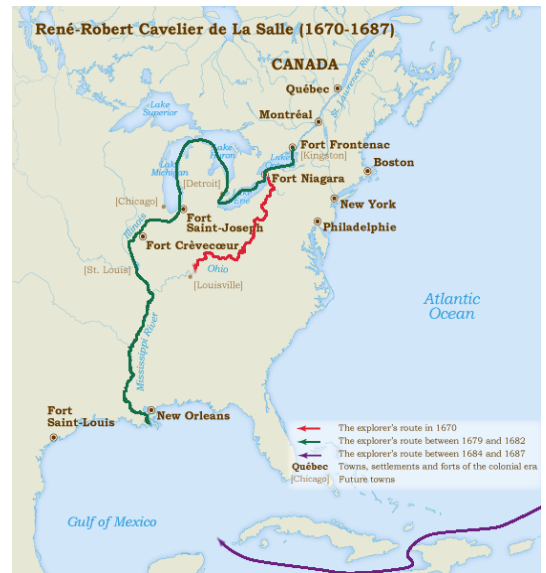


for the **English**. Both the Hudson River and Bay in New York are named for him. The English ended up claiming the coast of North America based on Hudson's exploration. They called the land Virginia and New England. The Dutch claimed the area around the Hudson River. They established New Netherlands and New Amsterdam there. Later, the Dutch ceded their land in present-day New York to the English. This led to the 13 original colonies.



French Explorers

Robert LaSalle was an explorer for **France**. He explored the **Mississippi River** to its mouth in the **Gulf of Mexico** and named the area **Louisiana**. The French also explored **St. Lawrence River** and the entire Mississippi River to New Orleans. They claimed the land surrounding these rivers for France.



4-1.4 How did accomplishments of the explorers impact the new world?

Explorer	Country Explored For	Motivation	Effects/Land Claimed
Christopher Columbus			
Ferdinand Magellan			
Hernando De Soto			
John Cabot			
Henry Hudson			
Robert LaSalle			