

## Columbian Exchange Data Analysis

As stated by Alfred Crosby in his book *The Columbian Exchange*, the definition of the CE is the “artificial re-establishment of connections through the commingling of Old and New World plants, animals, and bacteria.”

**Objective:** Analyze and evaluate the effects and changes on different societies as a result of the Columbian Exchange.

**Assignment:** In your assigned groups, complete the following addressing diffusion of plants, animals, foodstuffs, and diseases, demographic changes, and the creation of the first global economy, to evaluate the short and long term effects of the Columbian Exchange. As you finish each section, complete the chart outlining-causes and effects, major changes, regions impacted, and significance of change/effect. Divide work and share after you are finished with your section. Hand in **ONLY ONE** completed packet.

### GET MOVING...

#### A. Overview (everyone)

Read the overview presented by Alfred Crosby that briefly explains the Columbian Exchange and the basic causes and effects on the New and Old Worlds.

#### B. Diffusion Cartography

How did so many crops and animals that we use today become common in so many parts of the world? Trace/plot the chronology of world trade of three common foods (maize, sugar, and potatoes) and horses. Record your findings on the blank world map.

1. Each product is in one column. Starting with sugar, read through the events and put them in chronological order.
2. Find locations on your blank map (use textbook, computers, atlas, etc.)
3. Write locations on map
4. Draw arrows showing how these products traveled across the world
5. Use different colors, label your arrows, and make a key on the map

#### C. Population and Demographic Analysis

How did the CE impact global demography-population and the migration of peoples?

1. Draw the general diffusion of the following diseases on you map. Make a key.

Europe to Americas		Americas to Europe		Europe to Africa		Africa to Americas	
small pox	measles	syphilis		syphilis		malaria	yellow fever
diphtheria	typhus						
influenza							

2. Using the population charts and information in the packet, draw some conclusions about the impact on different regions’ population changes and record information in the appropriate section chart.
3. Create a bar graph representing the changes in population between 1000 -1700 in Europe, Africa, and the Americas. **Place** on the map
4. Complete the appropriate chart in the category of biological effects and impact of disease. Which regions were most impacted by these changes? What caused these changes?

#### **D. Analysis of Plants/Crops and Animal Diffusion**

Using the charts, data, and text provided answer the questions below on a separate sheet of paper. In addition, complete the appropriate chart referencing causes, effects, and changes in plants/crops and animal diffusion.

1. What were the four most important types of livestock that were transported (diffused) from Europe to the Americas? Why?
2. Which of these four types of livestock are the most widely dispersed throughout the Americas today?
3. Why do you think there was so little, apparent diffusion of animals from the Americas to Europe?
4. What do you think were the three most important plants diffused or spread from the Americas to Europe and/or Africa?
5. What do you think were the three most important plants transported or diffused from Europe to the Americas? Why?

#### **E. Economic Impacts and the Global Economy**

Who was really driving world trade during the early modern period? What were the long term impacts of the introduction of silver into the world market? How did this impact specific regions involved in trade?

1. On your map, trace the movement of silver around the world. Make sure to indicate starting points and ending points, importers and exporters.
2. What was the role of the following: Spain, Manila, China, Portugal, Japan, and Europe as a whole?
3. Complete the chart addressing economic changes.