



# *Highlights of American History*

# **美国历史风云**

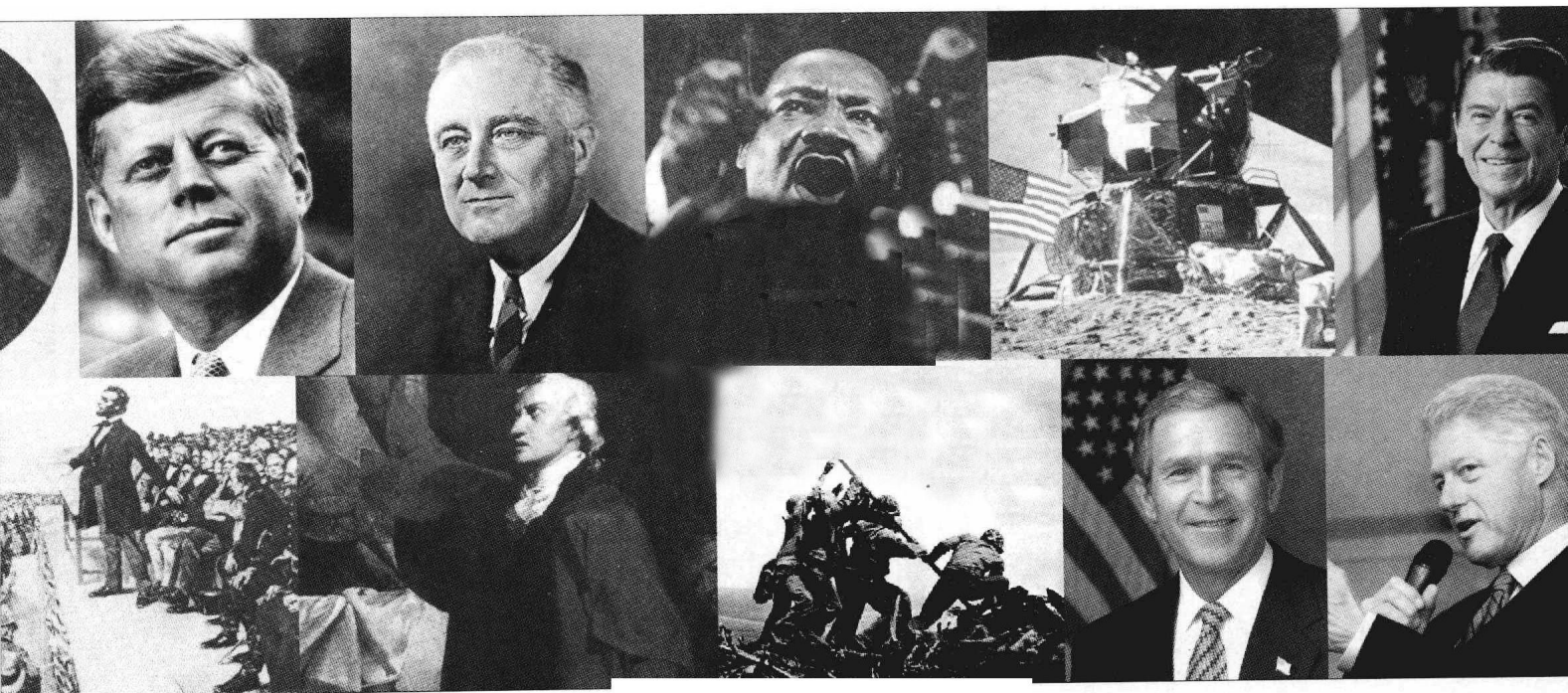
范咏涛 编著



Sichuan University Press  
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# 前言

《美国历史风云》是为我国高等院校英语专业一、二年级学生准备的一本把阅读、听力、历史与文化知识融为一体的新型教材，它与已经先期出版的《美国文化风云人物》组成一套体系，其首要目标是按照《高等学校英语专业英语教学大纲》的要求，帮助低年级学生从“读”和“听”两个方面打好扎实的英语语言基本功，同时拓宽他们的文化知识领域。

本书既可以作为专业技能必修课“阅读”课程的教材，也可以作为专业知识选修课“美国历史”、“美国社会与文化”等课程的教材。同时，本书也适合有一定英语基础并且对美国历史感兴趣的其他专业的学生以及其他有意提高英语水平的人士阅读和使用。

## 本书的两大特点

本书的第一个特点就是它是一本难度适中的有声读物。对于英语词汇量有限的大多数学生来说，要发展阅读技能，培养阅读兴趣，所选用的阅读材料难度一定不要过高，否则只会适得其反。另外，掌握语言的诀窍在于首先要掌握它的“声音”。对于仍然处于基础学习阶段的学生来说，对英语“声音”的接触、模仿、训练自然是越多越好。充分了解有声读物的性质与特点并加以充分利用，是打好语言基础和培养语感的最佳途径。

本书的第二个特点就是它围绕美国历史这个主题为学习者提供了丰富的知识。母语学习的实践告诉我们，在发展阅读技能和吸取知识两个方面，比较深入地阅读一本书往往比阅读零散而内容不相干的文章的效果更好一些。另外，语言学习也不应该与语言所代表的文化分隔开来。我们要真正掌握英语，就必须对英语文化背景知识有最起码的了解。第二次世界大战以后，美国逐渐成为一个世界超级强国，而它的历史与文化一直就成为各国英语学习者讨论和研究的热门话题。尽管囿于篇幅，本书不是一部完整的美国历史，但它展现出的美国两百多年历史画卷中最重要的事件和人物，是非常值得每一个英语学习者了解和学习的。

## 关于英语阅读课程

英语阅读课程既要培养学习者的英语阅读理解能力，也应激发学习者通过阅读吸收英语文化和科技知识的兴趣。在近年来的阅读课教学上，编者认为有两个倾向需要注意。

第一是阅读题材过于广泛的倾向。从阅读的目标看，一个人的阅读范围当然是越广越好。然而，对大多数英语水平有限的学生来说，过分广泛的题材只会对他们英语阅读技能的发展造成更大的障碍。翻开近年来我国学生使用的一些英语阅读教材，我们发现几乎每一个单元都涉及社会或科技方面的一个新领域，而每一个领域的新概念和新词汇对学生的阅读和理解都是一个巨大的挑战。这种挑战迫使学生在阅读过程中始终处于一种艰难挣扎的状态，因而很难体会到阅读给人带来的精神愉悦，很难产生对英语阅读发自内心的兴趣。另外，由于文章内容不停地从一个领域转到另一个领域，生词和难词的重复率也很低，许多刚接触到的词语也很快就会被忘掉。

第二是阅读训练考试化的倾向。考试是检验学习效果的重要手段，但它永远只能是学习的副产物，永远不应该对正常的学习形成干扰。我们从一些英语阅读教材中看到，在一篇长度仅为一两页的文章后面，常常紧跟着五六页的以测试为目的的各种练习。这样的课程设计给学习者一个



强烈的信号：只有完成了这些习题才达到了学习的目标。在实际的教学中我们不难发现，面对一篇文章，许多学生首先选择去读练习题，然后在读文章的过程中对号入座，以求用最快的方法得到习题答案。把这种原本为考试设计的练习推广到正常的阅读实践中，其负面影响是显而易见的：学习者既不愿意用“心”去阅读，也无法培养出真正的阅读兴趣。

### 对使用本书的建议

本书由 16 个教学单元组成，每个单元有 4 篇文章。如果把此书作为阅读课程的主要教材，建议每周学习一个单元，全书内容在一个学期内完成；如果作为阅读课程的辅助教材，可以考虑每两周学习一个单元，全书内容在两个学期内完成。

编者给教师的其他建议如下：

1. 教师尽可能要求学生在上新课之前听录音预习课文。
  2. 对于不能在课堂内完成的文章，教师应要求学生在课外学习，培养学生的自学能力。
  3. 每篇文章后面的问题既可以安排在课堂上讨论，也可以作为书面作业要求学生在课内或课外完成，其目的是检验学生的理解能力和归纳能力。书面作业一是不要用所谓的“标准答案”来束缚学生的思想，二是要求学生注意文字的正式性和准确性。
  4. 鼓励学生演唱一些课文后面附加的美国历史歌曲。唱英语歌曲是掌握正确的英语语音语调、克服地方口音的最好方法。教师应该要求学生在课堂上或课外活动中唱这些歌曲。
- 把阅读、听力，以及系统的文化和历史知识等内容有机地融合在一起编写基础英语教材是一种新的尝试。由于这是一项新的工作，加之编者水平有限，本书一定存在不少缺点或疏漏之处。本书编者诚恳欢迎使用本书的教师和学生提出批评与建议（E-mail: yongtaofan@ hotmail. com）。同时，编者对《美国之音》为本书提供全部基础资料表示最衷心的感谢。

范咏涛  
2010 年 10 月于成都

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# Unit 1 The New World

## 1 The First People That Arrived in the New World

### 最早来到新大陆的人们

当波澜壮阔的美国历史画卷随着意大利人克里斯托弗·哥伦布 1492 年远航的风帆徐徐展开之际，地球上恐怕没有任何人能够预见到一个崭新而伟大的文明——美利坚文明——将在今后的数百年中迅速崛起，为已经延续大约五千年的人类文明史增添了辉煌的一页。

如果从 1776 年《独立宣言》发布之日算起，美国的历史仅有 200 多年；即使从 1607 年第一批英国移民在弗吉尼亚詹姆斯敦安营扎寨算起，美国的历史也只有区区 400 年。然而，在这样一个位于大西洋沿岸一片狭长地带的年轻国度里，诞生了世界上第一部成文宪法，产生了世界上第一位民选总统，美国也因此被称为全世界的“共和国之祖国”。在一段用历史眼光看起来极其短暂的时间里，美国飞快地发展成为一个举足轻重、影响深远的世界大国，它在政治、经济、科技、文化等领域所取得的成就举世瞩目。因此，学习、了解和研究美国的历史，其重要性不言而喻。

与世界上其他国家截然不同，美国几乎是一个百分之百的移民国家。欧洲人——主要是英格兰人——是现在称为美国这块土地上的最初移民。然而，这并不是全部的事实。在欧洲人到达之前，早已有人捷足先登，在整个美洲大陆创建了独特而丰富多彩的文化和文明。现在，让我们在科学家和历史学家的指引下，去了解那些最早在新大陆定居的人类。

Scientists and history experts say the first people ever to come to the **Western Hemisphere** arrived between 15,000 and 35,000 years ago. They may have come in several different groups. No one is really sure who they were or where they lived before. Experts say the best possible answer about where they came from is northern Asia. Most experts believe they crossed to the Western Hemisphere from the part of Russia now called **Siberia**. The first people came to the **New World** in a time of fierce cold. Much of the Northern part of the world was covered in ice. Because of this, the oceans were hundreds of meters lower than they are now. Scientists believe this made it possible to walk across the area that is now the **Bering Sea**.

For a moment, let us follow a family group as it begins to cross the area that is now the Bering Sea. The time is more than 20,000 years ago.

The hunter watched the small group of animals. It had been several days since he had last killed an animal for food. The hunter's family had not much left to eat. It was the responsibility of the men to provide the food. Today they must get meat or their families would not survive. The **fierce cold** added to the **sharp hunger** that the hunter felt. He was dressed from head to foot in heavy animal skins to protect against the cold.

The hunter was several kilometers from the animals. The animals had moved slowly during the night

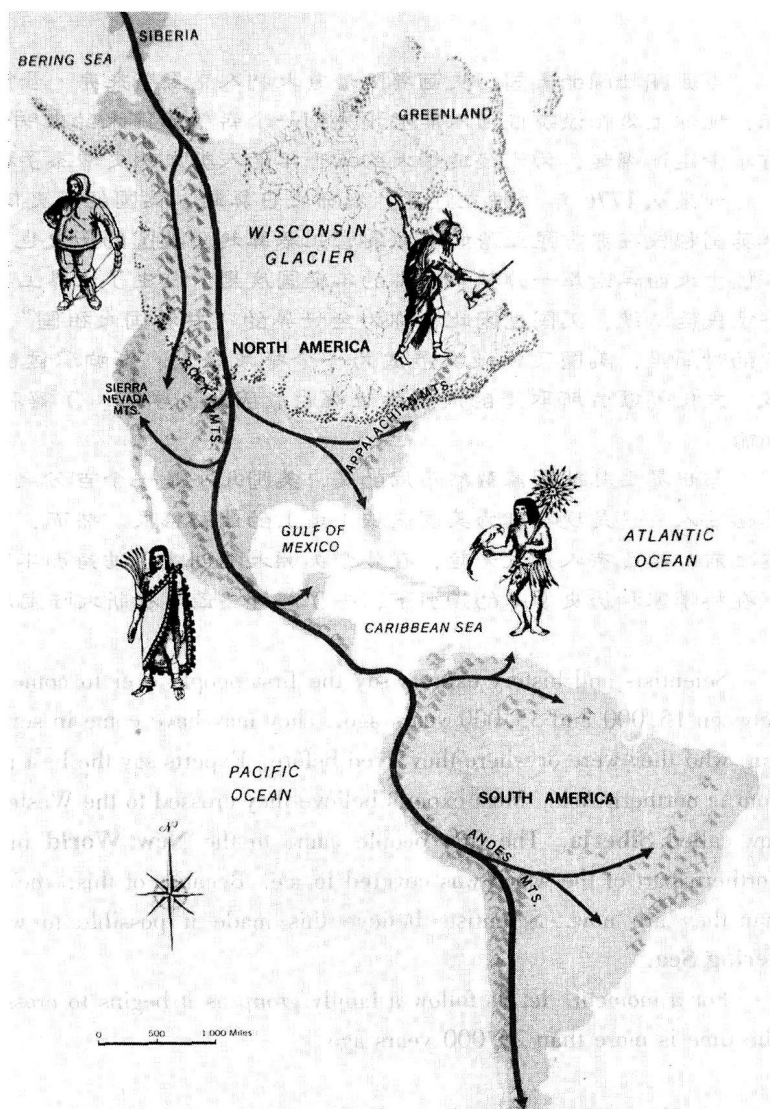
toward the rising sun. They had been moving in this direction for several days. They were also looking for food. The hunter knew there was not much for them to eat in this area. He knew the animals would keep moving. The hunter's people had always followed animals for food. But they had never followed them this far toward the rising sun. The hunter looked behind him. He could see the women and children far behind. He picked up his weapon and moved forward.

Later, the men killed two animals. It was enough to feed all their people for perhaps two days. That night as they cooked the meat, the hunter thought about turning back to the land behind them. The hunter knew that area well. But the hunting had been poor for a long time. This was the first group of animals they had been able to follow any length of time. It was not a large group of animals but there were enough to follow. He decided that in the morning they could continue toward the rising sun. They would stay with this herd of animals. He knew his family had little choice: Follow them and live; or go back and perhaps die from a lack of food.

This is just a story. But it could be true. Scientists believe such hunters followed animals east across what is now the Bering Sea. It is only about 80 kilometers from Siberia to what is now the American state of **Alaska**. Eighty kilometers would not be a long trip for ancient people following animal herds. Scientists have done new **genetic tests** on large populations of people. They show that about 95 percent of all native peoples in the Western Hemisphere came from the same family group. The scientists say this family may have crossed into the west about 20,000 years ago. This family group would have grown and divided during the next several thousand years. **Over time**, they would have spread out and explored most of the land that is North, Central and South America.

Many of those early peoples stayed in the far northern parts of the American continents. They were already used to living in the extreme cold. They knew how to survive. Today members of a tribe called the **Yuit** still live near the Bering Sea in Alaska. Other tribes live in the **Arctic Circles** of northern Canada. These include several different tribes of the **Inuit**. Many of these people of the far North still hunt wild animals for much of their food.

The early settlers in North America were not able to immediately travel south. Huge amounts of ice



Migration of Indians to the Americas

stopped them. Experts believe the early settlers lived in the far north for about 2,000 years before they began to move south. One expert says it could have taken only 500 years for the early Indians to settle all of the Western Hemisphere from southern Canada to the end of South America.

Scientists say it is more likely that the movement took several thousand years. But in time these people spread out over the Western Hemisphere. They became thousands of different tribes with many languages, from the Inuit in the far north, to the **Yahgan** people near the end of South America. One group was the **Maya of Mexico**. They learned to read and write their language and build huge stone buildings that can still be seen today. The **Inca of Peru** also built stone buildings that are extremely beautiful. Some Indians still live much the same as they always have. An example is the **Bora** tribe that lives deep in the **Amazon area of South America**. Other native peoples settled across the land that would later become the United States.

The earliest evidence of the existence of ancient Indians in North America was found in 1926. A worker found the bones of an animal sticking out of the ground. The bones were much larger than normal. Experts were called. The experts learned that the bones were from an animal that is no longer found in North America. The experts also found the **stone points** of weapons that were used to kill this animal. Since then experts have found many similar areas with animal bones and weapon points. The experts believe most of these finds are between 10,000 and 11,500 years old.

The experts agree that these stone weapon points are very similar to weapons that have been found in the far northern parts of Siberia. They say this helps prove the idea that the first settlers in North America came from North Eastern Asia. Near the small town of Clovis in the western state of New Mexico, experts found a new kind of stone weapon point. They named it the Clovis point. These points have been made very sharp by cutting away some of the stone from the sides. Experts say this kind of stone point is only found in America. The earliest ones were made about 11,500 years ago. Experts say at the time, this kind of stone point was the most modern weapon of its time. They were a great improvement over the older kind of stone point.

Many of the larger animals that were hunted by the early Indians began to die off with the end of the **ice age**. The Indians were forced to hunt smaller animals. In a period of several thousand years, the first peoples moved and settled across the land that would become the United States. Some settled in the forest land of the east, like the **Iroquois**. Some lived in the Southern desert like the **Apache**. Some settled in the open country of middle America like the **Lakota**. And others settled in the American northwest like the **Nez Perce**. These tribes and several hundred others had lived in the western part of the world many thousands of years before the first Europeans arrived. **Christopher Columbus** landed on the island of **San Salvador** in 1492. People in Europe did not know at that time that this land existed.

When Columbus landed, several million people lived in the area between the far north of North America to the end of land in South America. These included large groups and small. Most had their own culture, language and religion. Many were extremely fierce. Some were very peaceful. Some were hunters. Others were farmers. Some built huge cities of stone. Others lived in simple homes made from animal skins or wood from trees. Their ways of living would change forever when European explorers found their land.

## Words, Expressions and Notes

**Western Hemisphere** 西半球

**Siberia** *n.* 西伯利亚

**New World** 新大陆，即美洲。此说法与欧洲大陆 (Old World) 相对应。

**Bering Sea** 白令海

**fierce cold** 严寒

**sharp hunger** 剧烈的饥饿

**to follow any length of time** 尾随相当长一段时间

**Alaska** *n.* 阿拉斯加

**genetic tests** 遗传测试

**over time** 随着时间的推移

**Yuit** 居住在西伯利亚地区的印第安部落

**Arctic Circles** 北极圈

**Inuit** 因纽特族，居住在北美洲北端育空地区的印第安部落

**Yahgan** 雅甘人，居住在南美洲最南端的印第安部落

**Maya of Mexico** 墨西哥马雅人，中美洲印第安人一族，曾拥有高度文明（大约公元 300 年至 900 年），以金字塔、庙宇、雕塑以及数学和天文学闻名。

**Inca of Peru** 秘鲁印加人，南美洲印第安人部落，曾建有印加帝国 (The Inca Empire)，于 16 世纪初被西班牙人征服。

**Bora** 博拉人，居住在南美洲印第安人部落

**Amazon area of South America** 南美洲亚马逊河流域

**stone points** (早期人类作为武器用的) 尖状石头

**ice age** 冰河时期

**Iroquois** 易洛魁人，居住在美国东北部地区的印第安部落

**Apache** 阿帕切人，居住在美国西南部地区的印第安部落

**Lakota** 拉科塔人，居住在美国中部大平原地区的印第安人，又称“苏人” (the Sioux)

**Nez Perce** 内兹佩尔塞人，居住在美国西北地区的印第安部落

**Christopher Columbus** 克里斯托弗·哥伦布 (1451—1506)，因于 1492 年发现新大陆而闻名。

**San Salvador** 圣萨尔瓦多岛，哥伦布最早在美洲登陆之处

## Questions for Comprehension and Discussion

1. When did the first people arrive in the New World?
2. Where did they come from and why did they come?
3. How long did it take for the first peoples to spread out over the Western Hemisphere?
4. What was the group of people that created their own language and built good stone buildings in the land now called Mexico?
5. What can we learn from ancient stone weapon points that have been found in North America?



# 2

## Early European Explorations

### 早期欧洲人的探险活动

1095 年 11 月，罗马教皇乌尔班二世发表讲话，发起十字军东征运动。西欧各国迅速集结兵力投入战争，并在最初取得一连串的胜利。1099 年，十字军洗劫圣城耶路撒冷，屠杀了 1 万穆斯林和犹太居民。两大宗教之间的战争持续了近两百年，最后穆斯林国家还是逐步收复了失去的土地和城市。

尽管从军事的角度看十字军东征是失败的，但它却在客观上开阔了欧洲人的眼界，极大地刺激了商业的发展，激发了欧洲国家中产阶级对财富的追求。在这样的背景下，欧洲从 15 世纪开始进入地理大发现时代（The Age of Discovery），而与之结伴而行的便是欧洲的殖民主义。

葡萄牙和西班牙两个国家是早期地理探索和殖民活动的急先锋。在众多的远航探索者中，代表西班牙的意大利人哥伦布的发现彻底改变了世界——尽管他自己从未见过未来美国的主要陆地。我们能否设想：一个没有西红柿的意大利，一个没有土豆的爱尔兰或者俄罗斯，或是一个没有可可粉的瑞士会是什么样子？在哥伦布发现美洲大陆之前，这些农作物在美洲之外毫不为世人所知。在带回农作物的同时，哥伦布给美洲带去了马匹，而这种美洲原本没有的动物从根本上改变了北美大平原上印第安人的传统生活方式，加速了美洲野牛等野生动物的灭绝。更为可怕的是，被哥伦布带去美洲大陆的还有天花、麻疹、流感等疾病，而正是这些疾病在哥伦布到达美洲后的 10 年之内导致了大约 300 万土著人的死亡。

早期欧洲殖民者在美洲探险的同时，对土著印第安人采取欺骗、威吓、抢劫、杀戮等各种手段，不择手段地掠夺金银财宝，干下许多罪恶勾当，在西方近代历史上写下了十分不光彩的一页。

The first Europeans arrived about 2,000 years ago in the area now called North America. A Norse explorer, Leif Erickson, sailed his boat from **Greenland** around the northeastern coast of the continent. He returned home to Greenland to tell others about the new country. He called it "Vinland." A few **settlements** were created following his explorations. Experts digging in eastern Canada thirty years ago found a village of houses just like those found in Greenland, Iceland, and Norway. But the **Norsemen** did not develop any permanent settlements in North America.

About 1000, Europe was beginning a period of great change. One reason was the religious wars known as the **Crusades**. These wars were efforts by Europeans who were mainly **Roman Catholic Christians**. They wanted to force **Muslims** out of what is now the Middle East. The Crusades began at the end of the 11th century. They continued for about 200 years. The presence of European armies in the Middle East increased trade which was controlled by businessmen in **Venice** and other Italian **city-states**. The businessmen were earning large profits by transporting and supplying the **warring** armies. When the European crusaders returned home, they brought with them some new and useful products. The products included spices, perfumes, silk cloth, steel products and drugs. Such products became highly valued all over Europe. Increased trade resulted which led to the growth of towns. It also created a large number of rich European businessmen. The European nations were growing. They developed armies and

governments. These had to be paid for by taxes from the people. By the 15th century, European countries were ready to explore new parts of the world.

The first explorers were the **Portuguese**. By 1400, they wanted to control the Eastern spice trade. European businessmen did not want to continue paying **Venetian** and **Arab** traders for their costly spices. They wanted to set up trade themselves. If they could sail to Asia directly for these products, the resulting trade would bring huge profits. The leader of Portugal's exploration efforts was Prince Henry, a son of King John I. He was interested in sea travel and exploration. So he became known as Henry the Navigator. Prince Henry brought experts to his country and studied the sciences involved in exploration. He built an **observatory** to study the stars. Portuguese sea captains led their ships around the west coast of Africa hoping to find a path to India and East Asia. They finally found the end of the African continent, the area called the **Cape of Good Hope**.

It took the Portuguese only about 50 years to take control of the spice trade. They established trading colonies in Africa, the **Persian Gulf**, India and China. Improvements in technology helped them succeed. One improvement was a new kind of ship. It could sail more easily through ocean storms and winds. Other inventions like the **compass** permitted them to sail out of sight of land. The Portuguese also armed their ships with modern **cannon**. They used these weapons to battle Muslim and East Asian traders.

The other European nations would not permit Portugal to control this trade for long, however. Spain's **Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand** agreed to provide ships, crew and supplies for an exploration by an Italian seaman, Christopher Columbus. Columbus thought the shortest way to reach the East was to sail west across the Atlantic Ocean. He was right. But he also was wrong. He believed the world was much smaller than it is. He did not imagine the existence of other lands and another huge ocean area between Europe and East Asia.

Columbus and a crew of 88 men left Spain on August 3rd, 1492 in three ships. On October 12th, they stood on land again on an island that Columbus named San Salvador. He explored it, and the nearby islands of what is now known as **Cuba** and **Hispaniola**. He believed they were part of the coast of East Asia, which was called the **Indies**. He called the people he found there Indians. Columbus left about forty men on the island to build a fort from the wood of one of the ships. He returned to Spain with captured natives, birds, plants, and gold. Columbus was considered a national hero when he reached Spain in March, 1493.

Columbus returned across the Atlantic Ocean to the **Caribbean** area five months later. This time, he had many more men and all the animals and equipment needed to start a colony on Hispaniola. He found that the protective fort built by his men had been destroyed by fire. Columbus did not find any of his men. Seven months later, Columbus sent five ships back to Spain. They carried Indians to be sold as slaves. Columbus also sailed back to Spain leaving behind some settlers who were not happy with conditions. Christopher Columbus made another trip in 1498, with six ships. This time he saw the coast of South America. The settlers were so unhappy with conditions in the new colony, Columbus was sent back to Spain as a prisoner. Spain's rulers pardoned him. In 1502, Columbus made his final



Christopher Columbus

voyage to what some were calling the New World. He stayed on the island of **Jamaica** until he returned home in 1504.

During all of his trips, Columbus explored islands and waterways, *searching for a passage to the Indies*. He never found it. He also did not find spices or great amounts of gold. Yet he always believed that he had found the Indies. He refused to recognize that it was really a new world. Evidence of this was all around him—strange plants that were not known in either Europe or Asia and a different people who did not understand any language spoken in the East. Columbus's voyages, however, opened up the New World. Others later explored all of North America.

*You may be wondering about the name of this new land. If Christopher Columbus was the first European to attempt to settle the New World, why is it called "America"? The answer lies with the name of an Italian explorer, **Amerigo Vespucci**. He visited the coast of South America in 1499. He wrote stories about his experiences that were widely read in Europe. In 1507, a German mapmaker read Vespucci's stories. He decided that the writer had discovered the New World and suggested that it be called America in his honor. So it was.*

Spanish explorers sought to find gold and power in the New World. They also wanted to expand belief in what they considered to be the true religion, **Christianity**. The first of these Spanish explorers was **Juan Ponce de León**. He landed on North America in 1513. He explored the eastern coast of what is now the southern state of **Florida**. He was searching for a special kind of water that people in Europe believed existed. They believed that this water could make old people young again. Ponce de León never found it.

Also in 1513, **Vasco Núñez de Balboa** crossed the **Isthmus of Panama** and reached the Pacific Ocean. In 1519, **Hernán Cortés** landed an army in Mexico and destroyed the Empire of the Aztec Indians. That same year **Ferdinand Magellan** began his three-year voyage around the world. And in the 1530s, **Francisco Pizarro** destroyed the Inca Indian Empire in Peru.

Ten years later, **Francisco Vásquez de Coronado** had marched as far north as the Central American state of Kansas and west to the **Grand Canyon**. About the same time, **Hernan de Soto** reached the Mississippi River. Fifty years after Columbus first landed in San Salvador, Spain claimed a huge area of America. The riches of these new lands made Spain the greatest power in Europe. But other nations refused to accept Spain's claim to rights in the New World. Explorers from England, France and Holland also were traveling to North America.

## Words, Expressions and Notes

**Norse** *a.* 古代斯堪的纳维亚人的

**Greenland** *n.* (丹麦) 格陵兰岛

**settlement** *n.* 居留地

**Norseman** *n.* 古代斯堪的纳维亚人 (又称“北欧海盗”)

**Crusades** 十字军东征

**Roman Catholic Christians** 罗马天主教徒

**Muslims** *n.* 穆斯林, 伊斯兰教信徒

**Venice** *n.* 威尼斯

**city-states** *n.* 城邦

**warring** *a.* 交战的

**Portuguese** *n.* 葡萄牙人

**Venetian** *a.* 威尼斯的

**Arab** *a.* 阿拉伯的

**observatory** *n.* 天文台

**Cape of Good Hope** 好望角

**Persian Gulf** 波斯湾

**compass** *n.* 罗盘, 指南针

**cannon** *n.* 大炮

**Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand** 伊莎贝拉女王与其夫斐迪南德国王, 二人共同统治西班牙, 曾资助哥伦布航海探险。

**Cuba** *n.* 古巴

**Hispaniola** *n.* 伊斯帕尼奥拉岛, 即海地岛 (Haiti),



位于拉丁美洲西印度群岛中部。

**Indies** *n.* 东印度群岛

**Caribbean** *a.* 加勒比海的

**Jamaica** *n.* 牙买加

**Amerigo Vespucci** 阿美利哥·韦斯普奇 (1454—1512), 意大利商人和航海家, 确认新发现的大西洋以西的陆地不是亚洲的一部分而是新大陆。

**Christianity** *n.* 基督教

**Juan Ponce de León** 庞塞·德莱昂 (1460—1521), 西班牙探险家, 曾任波多黎各总督。

**Florida** 佛罗里达 (美国州名)

**Vasco Núñez de Balboa** 瓦斯科·努涅斯·德巴尔波 (1475—1519), 西班牙探险家

**Isthmus of Panama** 巴拿马地峡

**Hernán Cortés** 赫尔南·科特斯 (1485—1547), 西班牙探险家, 1521 年率军队征服墨西哥阿兹特克

帝国 (the Aztec Empire)。

**Ferdinand Magellan** 费迪南德·麦哲伦 (1480—1521), 葡萄牙航海家, 1519 年率西班牙船队作首次环球航行。

**Francisco Pizarro** 弗朗西斯科·皮萨罗 (1475? —1541), 西班牙冒险家, 征服秘鲁印加帝国, 发现太平洋。

**Francisco Vázquez de Coronado** 弗朗西斯科·瓦斯科·德·科洛纳多 (1510—1554), 西班牙征服者, 到美国西南部地区探险的第一个西方人

**Grand Canyon** 大峡谷, 即科罗拉多河峡谷, 位于美国亚利桑那州西北部, 世界地理奇观之一。

**Hernan de Soto** 赫尔南·德·索托 (大约 1496—1542), 西班牙探险家, 第一个发现密西西比河的欧洲人

## Questions for Comprehension and Discussion

1. What were the major results of the Crusades—the religious wars between Roman Catholic Christians and the Muslims?
2. Who were the first to explore new parts of the world in the 15th century?
3. Why was Christopher Columbus both right and wrong when he planned to sail across the Atlantic Ocean to reach the East?
4. Why did Columbus call the native people he found in the New World “Indians”?
5. Why was the New World named “America”?

