

Key Concept 4.1 Globalizing Networks of Communication and Exchange

1. Describe the degree of global ‘interconnection’ after 1500 CE compared to before 1500.
2. What were the overall effects of this change in global interconnectedness?
3. How did the global trade network after 1500 CE affect the pre-existing regional trade networks? (Indian Ocean, Mediterranean, trans-Saharan, Silk Routes)
4. What technical developments made transoceanic European travel & trade possible?
5. What were the major notable transoceanic voyages between 1450-1750 CE?
6. Why did Portugal begin longer maritime voyages ca. 1430 CE?
7. What effect did Columbus’ travels have on Europeans?
8. What originally motivated Europeans to travel across the northern Atlantic?
9. How did the new global connections affect the peoples of Oceania and Polynesia?
10. What role did silver play in facilitating a truly global scale of trade?
11. What new mercantilist financial means developed to facilitate global trade?
12. What were the economic and social effects of the Atlantic trading system?
13. What were effects of the Columbian Exchange?
14. What effects did American food crops have on the diet of Afro-Eurasians?
15. How did settlers’ action affect the Americas environmentally?
16. How did the Columbian Exchange affect the spread of religions?
17. Where did the “universal” religions of Buddhism, Christianity & Islam spread?

Key Concept 4.2 New Forms of Social Organization and Modes of Production

1. How did agriculture’s role change between 1450-1750?
2. What pre-requisite conditions made these changes possible?
3. How did labor systems develop between 1450-1750?
4. How was peasant labor affected between 1450-1750?
5. How did slavery within Africa compare to the pre-1450 era?
6. How did the Atlantic slave trade affect both African societies and the economy of the Americas?
7. How did labor systems develop in the colonial Americas?
8. How did the post-1450 economic order affect the social, economic, and political elites?
9. How did pre-existing political and economic elites react to these changes?
10. How were gender and family structures affected to these changes?

Key Concept 4.3 State Consolidation and Imperial Expansion

1. How did empires attempt to administer the new widespread nature of their territories?
2. How did the role of Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe develop in this new world-wide political order?
3. How did political rulers legitimize and consolidate their rule?
4. What role did religion play in legitimizing political rule?
5. How were ethnic and religious minorities treated in various empires?
6. How did rulers finance their territorial expansion?
7. What was the relationship between imperialism and military technology?
8. How did Europeans go about creating new global empires and trade networks?
9. How did pre-existing land-based empires and new empires during this era compare to previous era’s empires?