

23- Crash Course World History Video Notes The Columbian Exchange

1. Before _____, we couldn't really talk about a world history at all, we could only talk about the different histories of separate regions, but Columbus changed all of that, and everything else. The Columbian Exchange irrevocably homogenized the world's _____ landscape. Since Columbus, the number of plant and animal species has continuously diminished, and the variation in species from place to place has diminished dramatically.

2. The first European visitors to the Americas had never seen a _____ or a catfish; Native Americans had never seen a _____, and by making our planet biologically singular, the Columbian Exchange completely remade the populations of animals, particularly humans.

3. Microbes, like those hairy blokes back there, were a definite negative in terms of the Columbian Exchange. Terminology is hard here, but the majority of Caribbean Islanders or Native Americans or Amerindians had exactly one response to the arrival of Europeans: _____.

4. We can't be sure of how many natives died as a result of European arrival but it was definitely more than _____ and some estimates place it as high as _____.

5. _____ is usually seen as the villain of the story but it is more likely that a series of diseases in combination did the damage. Along with smallpox Native Americans were killed by: _____ and mumps, typhus, chicken pox, none of which they had been previously exposed to.

6. Diseases weakened the Native Americans and made them easier to be _____ by the Spanish.

7. Another effect of disease was _____, because there simply weren't enough people left to grow crops to feed the living. And the malnutrition made survivors that much more susceptible to disease.

8. The transmission of disease generally went one way, from the Old World to the New, but the Americans did have one gift for Europe: venereal _____.

9. But the New World did have one gift for the Old World that was pretty destructive: _____.

10. American animals, like llamas and guinea pigs, never really caught on in Eurasia. But imports to the Americas, like _____, _____, and _____ were revolutionary. 11. First of all, these animals, especially pigs, completely remade the _____.

12. _____, when combined with the plows, made it possible to bring more land under cultivation and also made transportation easier and more efficient, and plus European animals remade _____.

13. And the introduction of horses allowed many Native Americans to abandon agriculture in favor of a _____ lifestyle because riding around hunting _____ made them far richer than farming ever had.

14. While animals and diseases completely reshaped the New World, it was New World plants that had the biggest effect on _____.

15. New World food was far more caloric than Old World food, which is the essential reason that the world population _____ between 1650 and 1850. Plants like _____ and _____ could grow in soils that were useless for Old World crops.

16. Maniaqua Cassava is a New World plant with roots that provide more calories than any other plant on earth; provided they are properly processed (otherwise they're _____). Manioc is so prevalent in _____ that many Africans swear that the plant is native to the continent, but it isn't.

17. New World grains never replaced rice in Southeast, or East Asia, the _____ was so common that

it is known as the "poor person's staple" in China.

18. Alright, so last but not least, the Columbian Exchange involved the transfer of lots of _____. Again, in the early stages this movement was mostly one way, with Europeans and Africans - the Africans usually against their will - making their way to the Americas.

19. The Columbian Exchange led to the _____ of the New World following the disease devastation of the initial encounter. And better nutrition allowed the population of the Old World to grow which in turn placed population pressure on Eurasia which led to more people coming to the Americas. In the process, the world's human inhabitants became more genetically and ethnically connected. But it also led to the horrors of Atlantic slavery.

20. What are we to make of the Columbian Exchange? It devastated the population of the Americas, it led to the widespread _____ of Africans, but it also allowed for a worldwide population _____ and the lives of some Natives including Plains tribes like the Lakota became better and more secure, at least for a while.

21. Fewer people have starved since the Columbian Exchange began, but the _____ of life on Earth has diminished dramatically and planting crops where they don't belong has hurt the _____.

Extension Questions:

Describe HOW the Columbian Exchange impacted the New World.

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How did the Columbian Exchange make the Spanish conquest of the New World easier?

How does the Columbian Exchange impact YOUR daily life?

“Life changed dramatically and forever after 1492 for both the New World and the Old World. Some of these changes were good, and some were bad.” Explain the meaning of the quotation.