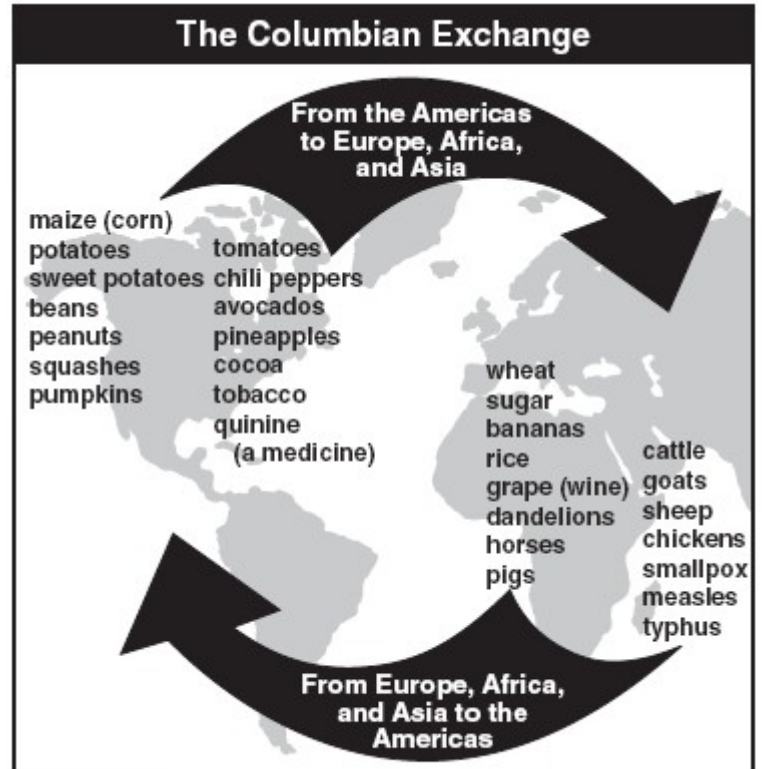
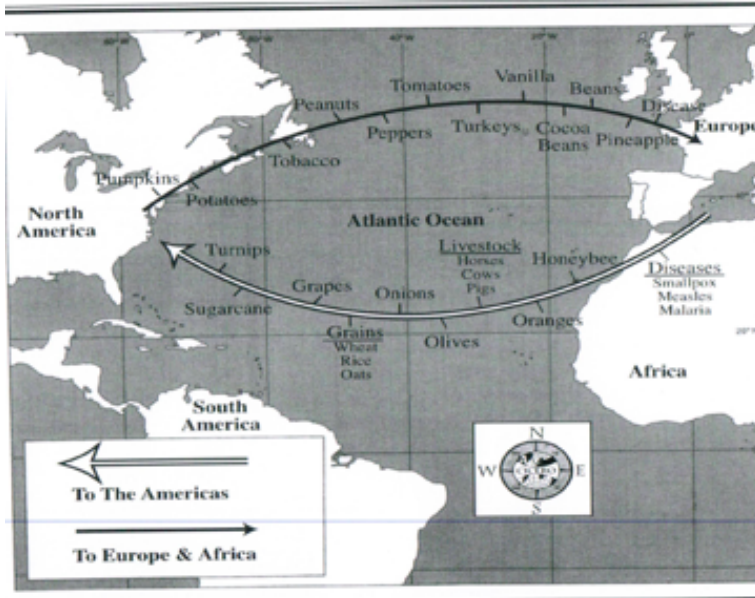


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## 7.74 Columbian Exchange



Source: *Guide to the Essentials of World History*, Prentice Hall (adapted)

**Directions:** Use the maps to answer the following questions in COMPLETE SENTENCES about the Columbian Exchange.

1. What are the continents that were involved in the Columbian Exchange?
2. What is the main ocean that was crossed for this exchange?
3. What diseases were sent over to the Americas?
4. What bird was shipped to Europe?
5. List three types of livestock that were sent to the Americas.
6. What insect was brought to the Americas to pollinate crops?
7. What sweet crop was sent from the Americas to Europe?
8. List three types of grain that were sent to the Americas.
9. Goods going from the Americas to Europe were traveling in which direction?
10. What were some advantages of the Columbian Exchange?
11. What were some disadvantages of the Columbian Exchange?

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Directions: Use the secondary source below to answer the following questions in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

“The Columbian Exchange had dramatic and lasting effects on the world. New diseases were introduced to American populations that had no prior experience to them. The results were devastating. The populations were introduced to new weeds, pests, livestock, and pets. Native American populations had no immunity to these diseases and were stricken by wave and wave of epidemics, which produced a catastrophic mortality throughout the Americas. On some Caribbean islands, the Native American populations died out completely. In all, between 1492 and 1650, perhaps about 90% of the Native American population died.

When the first inhabitants of the Americas crossed the land bridge 20,000 years ago they brought few diseases with them. Why? For one reason, they had no domesticated animals. These domesticated animals were the original source of human diseases such as smallpox and measles. In addition, the first Americans spent many years in the extreme cold, which eliminated many disease-causing agents.

On the other hand, the Columbian Exchange also introduced new foods and fiber crops improving diets and increasing trade. In addition, it also brought horses, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, and a collection of other useful animals to the Americas. Of all the animals introduced by the Europeans, the horse held particular attraction. Native Americans encountered it as a “fearsome war beast”; however, they soon learned to ride and raise horses themselves. The introduction of the horse revolutionized hunting buffalo in the Great Plains. Eventually, cattle ranches became widespread. Ranching economies emerged throughout the Americas.”

“The Columbian Exchange”

J.R. McNeill

12. The word “epidemic” is underlined in the passage. Using context clues, define epidemic in your own words.
13. According to McNeill, what group of people suffered the most from the Columbian Exchange? Explain why.
14. Why didn’t the first inhabitants in the Americas suffer from diseases? Explain.
15. What are some positive outcomes from the Columbian Exchange?
16. OPINION: After learning and reading about the Columbian Exchange, would you argue that the Columbian Exchange had more of a positive or negative effect on our world. (Make sure to explain and defend your answer with facts from the map and reading passage.)

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