

History: Unit 2

Lesson 30 of 30

Worksheet:

- Recap, exploration
- How well did Elizabeth I meet the challenge?



This is an end of unit review

This means that instead of having a worksheet with the information for the individual lesson you will need to access resources from across several lessons in order to help you answer the questions that have been set.

The first section of the lesson will help you with your review of exploration. Then use your glossaries, notes and worksheets from elsewhere in the unit to help you answer the questions for this lesson.



Impact of colonisation- Relationship with Spain

The colonisation of **Virginia** gave England a platform from which to attack Spanish colonies in the **New World**.

Virginia was relatively close to Florida and the Caribbean for attacks to be launched against Spanish ships there, but also sufficient distance away from the Spanish to avoid significant attacks from them.

The English could then allow their **privateers** to attack Spanish ships and steal goods. This meant that the attempts to colonise **Virginia** were also part of England's conflict with Spain.

England hoped to start an overseas **empire** like Spain's overseas **empire** and therefore this would potentially make the Spanish feel threatened.

It was hoped that the **Native Americans** would regard the English as an alternative to Spanish domination. They may be tempted to turn to the English settlers for trade and to build relationships with instead of the Spanish.



Impact of colonisation- Foundations of the British Empire and economic benefits

The attempts to colonise **Virginia** help to lay the foundations for future **colonisation** by the English. The early attempts to colonise and settle in **Virginia** gave explorers an opportunity to pass on their learning experiences for future attempts at colonising land. In 1707 England, Scotland and Wales formed the United Kingdom. Later in the 1700s and 1800s the British would form a large **empire** that was based on these experiences.

Economic benefits

Elizabeth I needed to find new markets for English people to trade with due to the ongoing tension between England and Spain. Trading in Europe was becoming more challenging. Prior to her reign English trade relied on trading with the Netherlands and their cloth markets, but due to Spanish influence in the Netherlands this was too risky after 1560.

Goods that used to be bought from southern European countries such as **Spain** could now be sourced from **America** if the **colonisation** was successful. This would reduce or remove any dependence that England had on Spain. They could now source fruits, vines, spices and other luxuries. One crop that became increasingly popular due to New World expansion was tobacco.



Why did it fail?

Problems with the voyage:

The voyage to the Americas proved challenging. The **colonists** left **England** later than they hoped to. This meant that when they arrived they had left it too late to plant crops that would grow and therefore supply the settlers when they arrived. One of the ships that Raleigh sent, known as the **Tiger**, was damaged on the voyage and the seawater caused ruined supplies. Worse was to come as the seeds that were going to be used to grow crops were also destroyed. They could now no longer rely on themselves for crops and supplies. They would now need help from the **Native American** people which may cause tension between the settlers and the **Native Americans**.



Why did it fail?

Unrealistic expectations

The colonists also had unrealistic expectations of life in **Virginia**. The Spanish missions and stories told by merchants who had travelled to the New World made potential settlers believe that the land would allow them to get rich quickly with little work. The precious metals that they hoped to find were not there and their lack of resources after the voyage left them having to rely on the **Native Americans** and **scavenging** for food. The settlers did not work well together. The more well-off settlers were unhappy about the amount of physical work involved and wrongly believed that they could use the **Native Americans** as a workforce on their behalf.

Many of the military personnel such as soldiers on the voyage were vital in defending the **colonies** but they were not necessarily able to farm the land. This contributed to the problems in supplying food to the settlers. They were also lacking discipline. One soldier is reported to have been executed as a way of trying to deter soldiers from such ill discipline.

They did take some skilled settlers but they had too many farmers and insufficient craftsmen. They had many **artisans**, such as bakers and weavers, but those **artisans** did not have the raw materials to work with. This meant that they were unable to use their skills when they arrived.



Why did it fail?

Inexperience and Native American Resistance

The settlers did not have enough knowledge of the area of **Virginia** and the problems they would face when they arrived. The English had not made such a mission to settle in this type of area before and were therefore not prepared for the environment they tried to settle in.

This led to a reliance on the **Native American** people which led to tension between the settlers and their **Native Americans**. Despite taking **Manteo and Wanchese** with them to help establish relations with the Algonquian people, the settlers angered the **Native Americans**.

A local chief named **Wingia**, was the ruler of the **Roanoake Island** and a small settlement on the mainland area of the **Virginian** settlement. He was wary of the English people. He believed they had **supernatural powers** to kill people without touching them. This was in reality due to the settlers bringing germs and diseases that the **Native Americans** had not faced before with deadly consequences for many **Native Americans**. This along with the anger over the settlers over reliance on the **Native Americans** for crops led to **Wingia** asking for other chiefs to join him in attacking the **colonists**. The attack in spring 1586 led to Wingia's death as **Ralph Lane** ambushed the **Native Americans**. However this led to Lane and the settlers abandoning the settlement and arriving back in **Portsmouth, England** on the 27th July 1586.



Cause 1 of exploration: Trade

Background

In the 16th century, England relied heavily on the cloth trade which was based in Antwerp. The Netherlands were controlled by Spain and during **Elizabeth's** reign, trade became more difficult due to ongoing conflict there between the Dutch and the Spanish.

Spain had established a large overseas Empire in the **New World** across the **Americas**. These territories made Spain rich through the export of goods such as sugar and tobacco, mining and through the trade of enslaved Africans.

Impact on exploration

England too wanted some of the wealth that the **New World** could offer, especially as much of it remained largely undiscovered. As a result, Elizabeth began to fund an increasing number of voyages of exploration in the hope that these riches could be discovered and new trade links could be established.



Cause 2 of exploration: The Triangular Trade

Background

Although slavery had existed long before Elizabeth's reign, the 16th century marked the beginning of England's involvement within it and the development of the **Triangular Trade**.

In 1560s, an English sailor called **John Hawkins** made a series of voyages to West Africa. Whilst he was there, he purchased a large number of enslaved Africans. He then transported them across the Atlantic to Spanish colonies in the **New World** and sold them to the Spanish **colonists**. Hawkins then used the money he made through the sale to buy goods such as ginger, sugar and pearls which he then transported and sold back in England.

Impact on exploration

The huge financial profit that Hawkins gained through the trade of enslaved Africans encouraged more English merchants to embark on voyages of exploration and become involved in what became known as the **Triangular Trade**. **The Triangular Trade** developed on a **Transatlantic** scale and caused untold suffering and misery to those who were enslaved as a result.



Cause 3 of exploration: Adventure

Background

As a result of increased voyages of exploration in **Elizabeth's** reign, many accounts were published that told the story of how sailors and explorers to the New World had made their fortune and riches there.

Impact on exploration

In the 16th century, even though voyages of exploration were very dangerous, many young sailors embarked on them in the hope that they would both make their own fortune and at the same time have an adventure. Poverty and unemployment was also on the rise in England, making exploration seem like an even more enticing prospect.



Cause 4 of exploration: New technologies

One development in technology was improved ship design. A new type of ship called a **Galleon** was developed in the 16th century. **Galleons** were much larger and had more masts and sails than traditional ships. They were also capable of firing from both sides of the ship. This meant they could withstand the harsh conditions that sailors often faced on the long journeys to and from the New World and defend themselves against Spanish attacks.

Another development in technology was improved map design. As a result of increased exploration, journeys began to be recorded and used to produce more accurate maps. This made it easier for sailors to navigate to their desired location and avoid getting lost. Improved navigation was also made possible due to the invention of instruments such as the **quadrant** and the **astrolabe**, all of which helped sailors to more accurately follow the routes on the maps. By 1584, the English mathematician **Thomas Harriot** had also worked out a simpler way of using the sun to calculate the true sailing direction of a ship.

Impact on exploration

These developments in technology helped to encourage exploration as it made voyages of discovery safer, easier and faster.



What were the consequences of Drake's circumnavigation of the Globe?

Encouraging colonisation and exploration in the New World

During Drake's voyage, he stopped in a bay off (present day) California as the Golden Hind needed repairs. In spite of the fact that **Native Americans** were already inhabiting the area, Drake decided to claim it in England's name and he named it **Nova Albion**. This encouraged the idea that English people could freely colonise the Americas, and lead other explorers such as **Sir Walter Raleigh** to try and colonise **Virginia** in the 1580s. **Drake's** voyages also allowed a lot of information about the New World to be gathered, which was then shared with other explorers who set out on their own voyages.

Relationship with Spain

By the 1570s, relations between England and Spain were poor. During the voyage, **Drake** attacked and stole from Spanish ships, ports and colonies in the New World. When he returned to England in 1580 he brought back over £400,000 worth of treasure. As a reward for his voyage, **Elizabeth I** knighted him. Drake's actions angered **King Philip II of Spain** who saw **Drake's** actions as direct attack on Spanish interests and power in the New World. **King Philip** saw Drake's actions as piracy and was even more infuriated when Elizabeth I endorsed his actions by knighting him.



Questions

Come to a judgement on how well Elizabeth met the challenges of...

1. Religious threats
2. Improving society
3. Managing her foreign affairs
4. **Challenge question:** How well did she meet the challenge overall? Decide Where you would place Elizabeth on the continuum.

P - Point

E - Evidence

E - Explain

L - Therefore Elizabeth met/did not meet the challenge.

