

ORAL QUIZ ON COLUMBUS

The points and level of detail given below are those which a lower-grammar student might be expected to know from his reading, though he may not include every detail. You may also use these points to prompt your student.

Christopher Columbus

1. Where was Christopher Columbus from?
Christopher Columbus was born and raised in Genoa, Italy.
2. While traveling as a young man to England on a ship, Columbus encountered pirates off the coast of Portugal. What happened and how did God help Columbus?
As a result of the skirmish with the pirates, Columbus's ship was destroyed. However, God provided work for Columbus aboard a Portuguese ship, which allowed him to learn a lot about sailing and exploring.
3. What did Columbus desire to do that had not yet been accomplished by any sailor in his time?
Columbus desired to find a new route to the Indies. Many Portuguese sailors tried to reach the Indies by sailing around Africa, but Columbus believed he could find a short cut to the Indies by sailing west across the Atlantic Ocean instead.
4. Who funded Columbus's expedition to find a route to the Indies?
After the king of Portugal refused to help him and after he had been waiting many years, Columbus finally received financial aid for his expedition from King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain.
5. Name the three ships that Columbus used on his voyage across the Atlantic Ocean. Which of these ships was the largest and the one on which Columbus sailed?
The three ships were the Niña, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria. Columbus sailed on the Santa Maria, which was the largest of the three ships.
6. After much adversity on his voyage, what famous discovery did Columbus make? What was the year?
Columbus set sail with his crew of sailors in August of 1492. On October 12, 1492, they sighted an island, which Columbus named San Salvador. Thinking he had reached the East Indies, Columbus unknowingly had discovered the New World.
7. How many voyages did Columbus undertake in all?
Four
8. Who does Columbus acknowledge as the one who gave him the passion and skill to explore and discover new lands?
While Columbus may have been driven by mixed motives, he possessed a sincere faith and believed God had called him to find a trading route to the East and to bring the Christian faith to the people he encountered on his travels.

1. WHERE WAS COLUMBUS FROM?

FAILING	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
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COMMENTS: _____

2. WHAT HAPPENED TO COLUMBUS OFF PORTUGAL'S COAST? HOW DID GOD HELP?

FAILING	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
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COMMENTS: _____

3. WHAT DID COLUMBUS DESIRE TO DO THAT NO ONE HAD DONE BEFORE?

FAILING	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
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COMMENTS: _____

4. WHO FUNDED COLUMBUS'S EXPEDITION? _____

FAILING	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
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COMMENTS: _____

5. NAME COLUMBUS'S THREE SHIPS. WHICH ONE DID COLUMBUS SAIL IN? _____

FAILING	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
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COMMENTS: _____

6. WHAT FAMOUS DISCOVERY DID COLUMBUS MAKE? WHAT WAS THE YEAR? _____

FAILING	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
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COMMENTS: _____

7. HOW MANY VOYAGES DID COLUMBUS UNDERTAKE IN ALL? _____

FAILING	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
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COMMENTS: _____

8. WHO GAVE COLUMBUS THE PASSION AND SKILL TO EXPLORE AND DISCOVER NEW LANDS? _____

FAILING	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
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COMMENTS: _____
