

ORAL QUIZ ON COLUMBUS

The points and level of detail given below are those that an upper-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. During Columbus's time, what two rival countries had the most powerful fleets and ruled the seas?
Spain and Portugal each had strong fleets, and no one could successfully challenge their superiority on the seas.
2. What were these two countries determined to attain?
Both countries wanted to establish new trading posts and to find new sea routes to access them.
3. Why did Columbus want to sail west across the Atlantic Ocean?
In Columbus's time, land travel to the Far East was arduous and dangerous. Many people like the Portuguese and Spanish attempted to find alternative routes. Columbus, an experienced sailor, wanted to find a faster sea route to the Far East. He believed God had commissioned him to undertake this task and to bring the gospel to the unconverted people of the Indies.
4. Who sponsored Columbus's expedition?
After seeking aid and waiting many years, Columbus finally received financial support for his expedition from King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain.
5. Name the three ships that Columbus used for his expedition.
The Niña, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria
6. On which of these three ships did Columbus sail?
Columbus sailed on the largest ship, the Santa Maria.
7. When did Columbus and his crew set sail for the Indies?
Along with his crew, Columbus set sail for the Indies in August of 1492.
8. Shortly after embarking on the trip, what happened to one of the three ships?
The Pinta's rudder was not working properly and had to be repaired on the Grand Canary Island, delaying the trip twenty-one days.
9. For the voyage, Columbus kept a log detailing the events and sightings of the trip. As you read parts of it in your studies, how did Columbus express his faith and trust in God?
Through much difficulty and hardship during the expedition, Columbus consistently expressed faith and trust in God. He acknowledged God as the One in control at all times and entrusted the safety of the expedition to Him, thanking Him on several occasions for His help and safe guidance.
10. What amazing discovery did Columbus make? What was the year?
On October 12, 1492, he came upon an island, thinking he had reached the Orient. However, he actually had discovered the New World, which would play an increasingly important role in world history.

1. DURING COLUMBUS'S TIME, WHAT TWO COUNTRIES RULED THE SEAS?

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

2. WHAT WERE THESE COUNTRIES DETERMINED TO ATTAIN?

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

3. WHY DID COLUMBUS WANT TO SAIL WEST ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN?

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

4. WHO SPONSORED COLUMBUS'S EXPEDITION? _____

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

5. NAME THE THREE SHIPS COLUMBUS USED FOR HIS EXPEDITION. _____

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

6. ON WHICH OF THESE THREE SHIPS DID COLUMBUS SAIL? _____

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

7. WHEN DID COLUMBUS AND HIS CREW SET SAIL FOR THE INDIES? _____

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

8. AFTER SETTING SAIL, WHAT HAPPENED TO ONE OF THE SHIPS? _____

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

9. HOW DID COLUMBUS EXPRESS HIS FAITH AND TRUST IN GOD? _____

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

10. WHAT DISCOVERY DID COLUMBUS MAKE? WHAT WAS THE YEAR? _____

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____
