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THE SOUTHERN RENAISSANCE AND THE AGE OF EXPLORATION



ORAL QUIZ ON MAGELLAN

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. Note: For this quiz, it may be helpful to have a map on hand as a visual aid.

Ferdinand Magellan

- 1. Where are the Spice Islands, and why were they important during the Age of Exploration?

 The Spice Islands are a group of tiny islands located between the Pacific and Indian Oceans. They were very important because of their valuable spices, such as nutmeg and cloves.
- 2. Which two countries sought to claim these islands? *Spain and Portugal*
- 3. Where was Ferdinand Magellan born? *Portugal*
- 4. What was Magellan's mission?

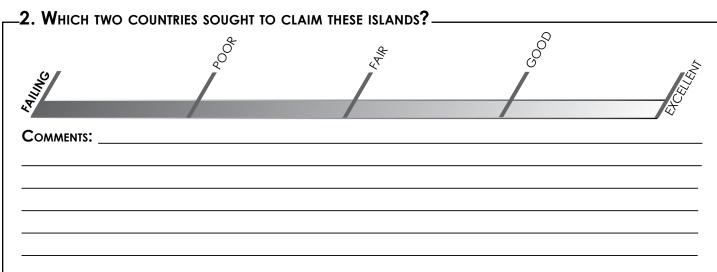
 Magellan's mission was to find a westward sea passage from Spain to the Spice Islands in the Far East.
- 5. What kinds of training prepared Magellan for his sea exploration?

 As a young page in the Portugal royal court, Magellan learned how to read the stars. When he became a man, he was trained as a navigator and sailed on Portuguese ships to places like Africa and India.
- 6. Who sponsored Magellan's expedition?

 The Portuguese king refused to finance Magellan's trip, but the Spanish king offered Magellan funds and gave him a fleet of five ships.
- 7. What was the major challenge Magellan faced with his crew on the voyage?

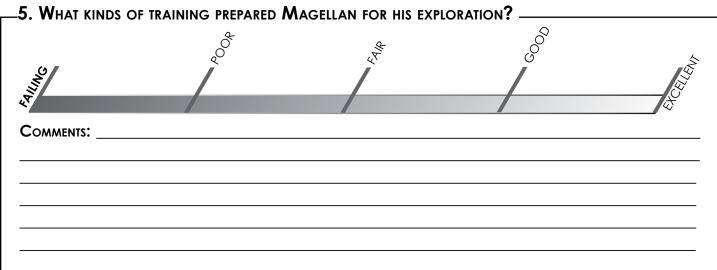
 In light of the rivalry between Portugal and Spain, the Spanish sailors distrusted the leadership of a Portuguese commander. On at least two occasions, Magellan subdued mutiny attempts by his crew.
- 8. What did Magellan discover on his mission? What is the name for his famous discovery? Although Magellan's trip was grueling, he did discover a passage or strait between the southern tip of South America and the coast of Antarctica, connecting the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. This passage, which he discovered in 1520, is called the Strait of Magellan. As Magellan continued his quest, he became the leader of the first voyage to circumnavigate (sail around) the globe.

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