

Name: _____ Hour: _____

Crash Course U.S. History #1: The Black Legend, Native Americans, and Spaniards

Intro: Although this video is about “U.S. History,” that title doesn’t really apply to the 16th century because...

It’s difficult to generalize about Amerindians here before Columbus arrived because there were so many different tribes and cultures and lifestyles. However, there are a few things that stood out to European explorers:

- 1) The Amerindians didn’t build _____ or form massive _____ like older European civilizations, or like the Aztecs (Mexico) or Incas (Peru / Chile).
- 2) They didn’t have metal weapons or tools, no _____, they hadn’t invented the wheel, they didn’t have _____, and North America had no native _____.
- 3) What they DID have were _____, complex _____ and _____ organizations, and extensive _____.

IN YOUR OWN WORDS, what does John Green hate about the term “primitive”? _____

Define “infantilization” (look it up): _____

Approximately how many people lived in what is now the U.S. before Europeans arrived? _____

Approximately what percentage of these were quickly killed by disease (or warfare)? _____

Thought Bubble:

- MOST Amerindians in MOST of North America organized themselves by _____. Their lifestyles were largely determined by the _____ available where they lived.
- Along the west coast, for example, most tribes lived by _____ and _____.
- In the middle part of the continent (the Great Plains), most tribes hunted _____ to satisfy most of their needs.
- Sometimes tribal groups would form loose confederacies (like “teams”, but each tribe retained their own identity and followed their own rules). The most famous was the _____ in the northeast. (The American colonies would eventually interact with this group when they began arriving.)
- While many Amerindian groups believed in a _____ who stood above all other deities, their supernatural beliefs were largely connected with nature and animals and their environments. (This would really bug Christian missionaries once they arrived.)
- Perhaps most importantly, most Amerindians didn’t believe in *private, individual ownership of* _____.
THIS WOULD BECOME A VERY BIG PROBLEM ONCE THEY BEGAN DEALING WITH EUROPEANS.

Noble Savages? Not Really...

- It's not entirely true that there were no _____ among Amerindians, although in general wealth was much more _____ than it was among Europeans.
- While most tribal leaders were _____, many tribes were "matrilineal," meaning that ancestry was traced through the _____ and children were primarily considered part of their _____ bloodline.
- Amerindian women often had several other advantages over their "white" counterparts, like _____ and _____.
- Amerindians could be "savage" towards other tribes when defending themselves or their land or other resources. The real reason most Europeans considered them "savage," however, was that they weren't _____.

Early European Exploration

- Nearly a century before the English began colonizing along the east coast of the "New World," the _____ did some pretty serious exploration in the south and southwest.
- Juan Ponce de León landed in _____ in 1513 looking for _____.
- Like Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, however, MOST were looking for _____. (They didn't find it.)
- The Spanish made things much easier for later European explorers because they _____.
- The first permanent Spanish settlement was in _____ in 1610.
- The first large-scale uprising by Amerindians against Europeans was the Pueblo Revolt (1680). The Pueblo had plenty to be unhappy about, but two of the biggies were...
 - 1) _____
 - 2) _____
- The Pueblo Revolt was led by a religious leader named _____ (which is ironic, since the Spanish invaders were mostly Catholics). The Amerindians drove out the Spanish and tore down their churches to replace them with their own.
- Although the Spanish eventually came back, they changed their approach a little bit...
 - 1) They became more _____ of Amerindian religions
 - 2) They eliminated the "encomienda", a system of _____ popular among the Spanish invaders.

The Mystery Document: {You don't have to memorize this document or anything, but you should remember the general idea as well as the name of the guy who wrote it – Bartolomé de las Casas. You'll see his name again.}

Briefly explain the "Black Legend" (what it is, who promoted it, and why): _____
