

# Mankind Question Guide: Exploration and the New World

## Siege of Constantinople

16:43 – 25:35

7. Why was Constantinople so prosperous and powerful?
8. Sultan Mehmet II's big challenge was to take down the walls of Constantinople. To do this, he used non-stop artillery bombardment. Describe this attack.
9. Once their key trade route fell to the Ottomans, how did the Europeans respond?

## Bartholomew Diaz and the Cape of Good Hope

25:35 – 31:53

10. What advantage does a triangular lateen sail have?

11. What is an ocean gyre?

## Sir Francis Drake & the Effects of Silver

00:00 – 13:02

1. What strategy did Sir Francis Drake use to raid Spanish shipping?
2. Potosi was a mountain with a large amount of silver in it. Once the high-grade silver was mined, how did Bartolomeu Medina refine the rest of it?
3. What did the Spanish create out of the silver at Potosi?

## The Pilgrims

21:17 – 31:02

8. Why did the Pilgrims bury their dead at first light (first thing in the morning)?
9. Why were the Pilgrims shocked when they had their first meeting with a member of the Wabenaki tribe (Samoset)?
10. How did Squanto help the Pilgrims survive?

**Nzinga Mbande & the Slave Trade**

11. What did the Portuguese want from Nzinga?
  
12. Besides the Portuguese, who captured African slaves?

**Shah Jahan & the Taj Mahal 37:50 – 44:12**

13. How did trade with the New World change India?
  
14. Why was the Taj Mahal built?
  
15. Charles Mann: "That kind of globalization that we're in now, where bank collapses in Iceland can ripple across the American Midwest. That all begins in the 16th century and it begins with the creation of this universal currency." Give one example of how the creation of this universal currency affected a nation or people.