Name:_____ Date:_____

Topic: The Story of Sir Henry Morgan

Instructions: Read the passage below and answer the following questions attached.

Henry Morgan 1635—1688

Henry Morgan was a Welshman who came to Barbados as an indentured servant. He took part in British capture of Jamaica in 1655. After this he became a Buccaneer. In 1666, he joined Edward Mansfield, who was leader of the Port Royal Buccaneers at this time. In 1666, the Port Royal Buccaneers led by Morgan and Mansfield raided Santa Catalina. Soon after this Mansfield died, and Morgan took over as the leader of the Port Royal Buccaneers. Soon after, Sir Thomas Modyford the crown representative in Jamaica made Morgan a Colonel in the British army. Morgan was also operating as a privateer holding a letter of Marque from the British government. In 1668, he was commissioned by Modyford to Capyure some Spanish prisoners in order to discover details of the threatened attack on Jamaica.

Both Modyford and Morgan hoped to squash Spanish claim to recapture Jamaica once and for all by attacking them first. The first raid led by Morgan aimed at Puerte Principe, in Cuba. The people had been warned but Morgan still took the city after hard fighting. Only 50,000 pieces of eight were taken. The second raid was aimed at Porto Bello in Panama. Morgan surprised the town by landing 100 miles south of the city and stole up to it at dawn, capturing 2 of the three ports immediately. The third fort held out.

Morgan used Friars and nuns to carry leaders up the walls of the fort but the Spanish still resisted. However, the Buccaneers still overcame them. The Spanish Garrison was locked up in the fort which was blown up and this time they got 250, 000 pieces of eight, goods and munitions.

In 1668, Morgan attacked Maracaibo with 15 ships and 900 men. He found that the Spanish had already deserted the fort and the town, so he continued to Gibraltar at the head of the lake Maracaibo which was also deserted. They stayed a month searching out the Spanish from the countryside and obtained about 250,000 pieces of eight. On the way out of the lake, the Buccaneers found the entrance blocked by three Spanish man-o-war, carrying silver from Porto Bello. Morgan waited until night, set one of his own ships on fire and sent it at the largest Spanish ship, causing it to explode. The second ship ran aground, and the Buccaneers captured the third. He got a considerable ransom for evacuating the place.

He was commissioned as Commander-in-Chief of all the ships of war in Jamaica to levy war against the Spaniards. He recaptured Santa Catalina, retook Porto Bello and then went on to Panama. To attack Panama, he carried 40 ships and 2,000 men. He found out that the President of Panama was granting Letters of Marque to Spanish Ships, allowing them to capture English ships they met, especially those engaged in illegal trade with Spanish colonies. This trade was very important for Port Royal.

Panama City was on the Pacific coast, and the plan was to sail as far up the Chagres

River and then walk overland. The Buccaneers captured fort Lorenzo at the mouth of the Charges, and then leaving a force to hold it, Morgan continued up the river with the rest of the men. He had taken no food with them, planning to raid the Spanish settlement. However, the Spanish had fled before them and the men suffered from starvation and diseases. They had to eat their shoes and only Morgan's will be kept them going. Finally, they arrived outside the city, and there the battle took place. The Spaniards stampeded herds of cattle to break up the ranks of the Buccaneers, still Morgan's men persevered. When the Spanish realized that the Buccaneers were winning, they set the city ablaze and nearly ¾ of it was destroyed including the city's treasure from the townspeople who had fled to the countryside. They got 750,000 pieces of eight. Those who failed to escape in the forest were killed or tortured to death.

Instructions: Read the comprehension above to assist with answering the questions below.

1. Henry Morgan was a Welshman who came to Barbados as an _____.
2. Morgan was also operating as a _____ holding a letter of Marque from the British government.
3. In 1668, Morgan attacked_____ with 15 ships and _____men.
4. To attack _____, he carried 40 ships and 2,000 men.
5. He found out that the President of Panama was granting _____to Spanish Ships, allowing them to capture English ships they met, especially those engaged in illegal trade with Spanish colonies.
6. Panama City was on the_____, and the plan was to sail as far up the Chagres River and then walk overland.
7. The Buccaneers captured _____ at the mouth of the Charges, and then leaving a force to hold it, Morgan continued up the river with the rest of the men.
8. They had to eat their shoes and only Morgan's will be kept them going. Finally, they arrived outside the city, and there the _____took place.
9. When the Spanish realized that the Buccaneers were _____, they set the city ablaze and nearly ¾ of it was destroyed.
10. Those who failed to escape in the forest were killed or _____ to death.