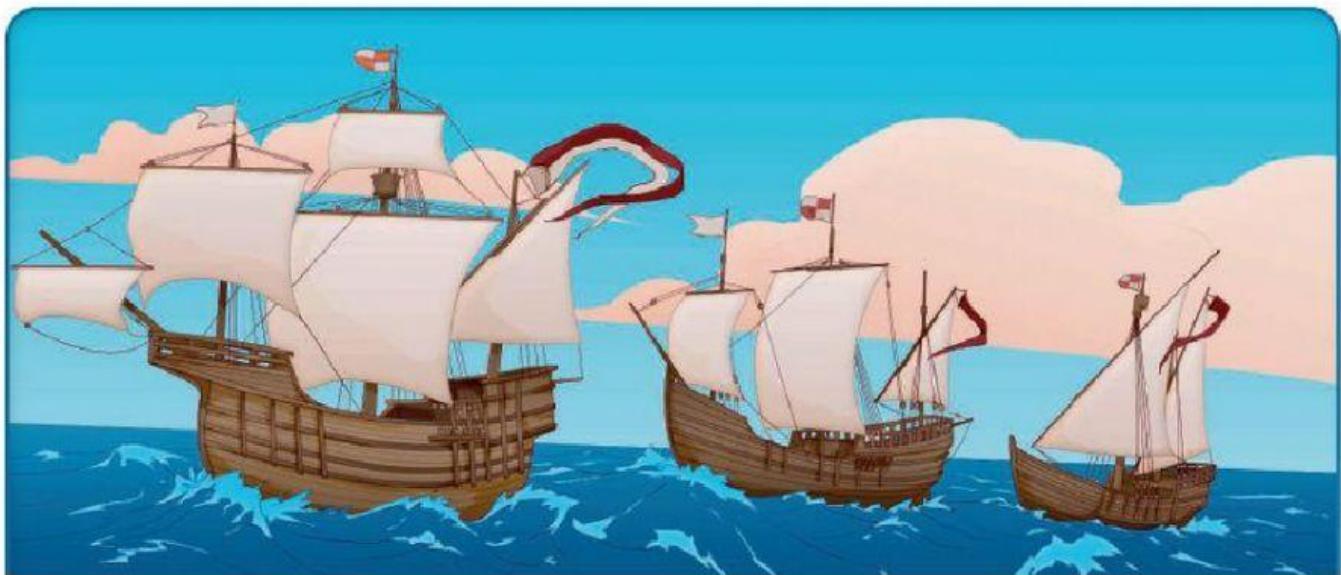


Reading Practice



Christopher Columbus was born ¹ in Italy in 1451. As a young man, Christopher Columbus studied maps and learnt how to ² a ship. Columbus wanted to go to China and East Asia. There ³ a sea route around Africa, but he wanted to find a new route that was ⁴ than the one everyone knew. He left with three ships on 3rd August, 1492. The journey was very ⁵ and difficult and the sea was very dangerous. On 12th October, 1492, Columbus ⁶ land. It was a small island. He thought it was the Indies, so he called the people ⁷ lived there 'Indians'. Actually it was the sea route across the Atlantic to the Americas. The Earth was much ⁸ than Columbus thought. Columbus went to the Americas three times, but when he ⁹ on 20th May, 1506, he ¹⁰ thought that his journey was a shorter sea route to Asia.