STUDENT _____

Reading

E Read the text. In each question choose the right answer, *A*, *B*, *C* or *D*.

Christopher Columbus was a famous explorer. He came from Genoa, a seaside city in the north of Italy. When he was a boy, Columbus knew he wanted to become a sailor, and he first went to sea when he was only 14 years old.

In Columbus's time, getting to Asia was very important for Europeans. This is because Asia had wonderful things that Europeans wanted to buy. Europeans knew of two different ways to get to Asia: over land through the east or by sea around the coast of South Africa. But both these journeys were difficult, dangerous and took a very long time.

Columbus had an idea to sail west, instead of south, across the Atlantic Ocean because he thought he could reach Asia more quickly and easily this way. Columbus told the king of Portugal about his idea and asked him to give him ships for his voyage. The king said no. He asked the kings of France, and England. But they said no too. After many years, the king and queen of Spain agreed to help Columbus.

In August, 1492, Columbus set sail from Spain. Two months later, he landed on an island in the Americas. This landing was one of the most important in European history. It was the start of the Europeans living in America. But Columbus didn't understand he was in a new part of the world! He was certain he was in India. This is the reason he called the natives who lived in the Americas 'Indians'.

Columbus returned to the Americas three more times during his lifetime. Each time, he believed he was in Asia. During his life, Columbus never realised he was in a new part of the world. Even though Columbus was wrong about being in Asia, people today still consider Christopher Columbus a great explorer.

1 Christopher Columbus
- **A** didn't decide to become a sailor until he was an adult.
- **B** first saw the sea when he was 14 years old.
- **C** lived by the sea when he was a child.
- **D** moved to Italy when he was little.

2 In Columbus's day, Europeans
- **A** didn't know an easy way to get to Asia.
- **B** sold lots of things to Asia.
- **C** could reach Asia quickly.
- **D** could only get to Asia by land.

3 Columbus's idea to get to Asia quickly was
- **A** to sail from Portugal.
- **B** to sail south.
- **C** to use new ships.
- **D** to sail west.

4 Columbus finally crossed the Atlantic with the help of the
- **A** Spanish king.
- **B** Portuguese king.
- **C** English king.
- **D** French king.

5 When Columbus arrived in the Americas,
- **A** he didn't know what to call the native people.
- **B** he was sure he was in India.
- **C** there weren't any people there.
- **D** there were already people from Europe there.

6 From the text, we know that Columbus
- **A** went back to America three times.
- **B** discovered a new part of Asia.
- **C** discovered a new way to reach Asia.
- **D** was a bad explorer because he didn't find Asia.

Points: _____
6 x 2 12

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Writing

H Write a postcard to your friend telling them about your summer holiday (60-80 words). Include:

- where you are and who is with you
- when you arrived
- the places you visited and your favourite place
- when you are coming back home
- how you feel about the trip

Hi Alma,

Words:_____ Points: _____/20

LIVEWORKSHEETS