

Name:

7th Grade ()

Date:

Early Explorers Comprehension Worksheet

Directions (1): Circle the right answer.

1. **What made the Phoenicians successful traders?**
 - a) They were skilled farmers.
 - b) They were expert shipbuilders and sailors.
 - c) They lived in the mountains.
 - d) They avoided long journeys.
2. **Why did Viking farmers explore new lands?**
 - a) To steal treasure and capture slaves.
 - b) To find new farmland because Scandinavia had poor soil.
 - c) To trade silk and spices.
 - d) To avoid the Silk Road.
3. **What was the main product traded along the Silk Road?**
 - a) Gold
 - b) Silk
 - c) Horses
 - d) Spices
4. **Who was the first European explorer to travel the entire length of the Silk Road?**
 - a) Prince Henry
 - b) Marco Polo
 - c) Meriwether Lewis
 - d) Sacagawea
5. **What role did Sacagawea play in the Corps of Discovery?**
 - a) She was the leader of the expedition.
 - b) She was a translator and peacekeeper.
 - c) She financed the expedition.
 - d) She mapped the entire route.

Directions (2): Write True or False next to each sentence.

1. The Phoenicians traded only within their own communities. _____
2. Viking raiders were only interested in stealing treasure and capturing slaves. _____
3. The Silk Road was a safe and easy route for traders. _____
4. Prince Henry of Portugal was known as Henry the Navigator. _____
5. Sacagawea was paid for her services in the Corps of Discovery. _____

Directions (3): Fill the blanks with the correct answers.

1. The Phoenicians lived on the Mediterranean coast of modern-day _____ and _____.
2. The Vikings came from _____, a region in northern Europe.
3. The Silk Road was used from around _____ BCE until _____.
4. Marco Polo's journey along the Silk Road took him _____ years.
5. The Corps of Discovery was created by President _____ in _____.

Directions (4): Answer the following questions.

1. Why did the Phoenicians become successful traders?

2. What were two reasons Vikings went on voyages?

3. What challenges did traders face on the Silk Road?

4. How did Prince Henry of Portugal contribute to the Age of Exploration?

5. What was the significance of Marco Polo's journey along the Silk Road?

6. Why was Sacagawea important to the Corps of Discovery?

7. What impact did the Age of Exploration have on the world?

Directions (5): Match the explorer or the group with their contribution.

Phoenicians _____

Vikings _____

Marco Polo _____

Prince Henry _____

Sacagawea _____

Options:

- A. First European to travel the entire Silk Road.
- B. Expert shipbuilders and traders in the Mediterranean.
- C. Explored new lands for farming and raided Europe.
- D. Helped the Corps of Discovery as a translator and peacekeeper.
- E. Sent expeditions to explore Africa's west coast.

