

THE COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE

Directions: Read and annotate the article, "The Columbian Exchange," answer the six review questions below, and then prepare for a Socratic Seminar discussion of the question, "How did the Columbian Exchange impact Old World and New World populations, and was that impact positive or negative?"

1. Approximately how many Native Americans died from new diseases brought by Europeans? Why were these diseases so deadly to them?

2. Having domesticated animals is generally seen as an advantage for the Europeans. In what way did keeping domesticated animals harm Europeans?

3. What do you think was the deadliest weapon of the Europeans and why?

4. How did La Salle's observations differ from De Soto's? Why?

5. What foods only existed in the Americas, not Europe, before 1492? Did this surprise you? Why?

6. Without understanding the role of disease in their success, how did European settlers interpret and understand the fact that wherever they went, the Natives died off?
