Age of Discovery and Imperial Expansion



During the Age of ______, European explorers set sail to find new lands and trade routes. The Portuguese navigator, _____ da Gama, successfully found a sea route to India, opening up new opportunities for trade and wealth. This era was marked by the intense competition among European powers, including ______, Portugal, and later, England and France. They sought to establish colonies and exert their influence over indigenous . In the Americas, Christopher landed in what he believed was India, but was actually a new continent. This led to the colonization of the _____ by Spain and other European countries. The Spanish conquistadors, such as _____ Cortés and Francisco Pizarro, conquered vast territories and rich civilizations like the Aztecs and _. The ______ of goods like spices, silk, and precious metals enriched the European economies, but it also led to negative impacts such as the ______ trade. Indigenous populations were decimated by diseases brought by Europeans, against which they had no immunity. The Age of Discovery not only expanded the geographical knowledge of Europeans but also laid the groundwork for the modern ______ system of trade and imperialism. It was a time of great ______ and discoveries, but also of exploitation and conflict.

