

name: _____

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Exploring the Seas with the Astrolabe



The _____ was an essential tool during the Age of Discovery. It helped sailors navigate the vast _____ by measuring the altitude of the sun or stars above the horizon. This ancient device was first developed by _____ in the Hellenistic world and was later improved by Islamic astronomers. With the astrolabe, explorers could determine their _____, a crucial piece of information when there were no landmarks in sight. The instrument was made of brass and was quite _____, making it easy to use aboard ships. Famous explorers like _____ and Vasco da Gama relied on the astrolabe to chart their courses to new lands. It was not only used for navigation but also for astronomical _____, helping to map the night sky. The introduction of the astrolabe to European navigators came through the _____ world, where it had been refined and its use in navigation perfected. Its adoption marked a significant advancement in _____ science, enabling longer and more accurate voyages. Despite its importance, the astrolabe was eventually replaced by more precise instruments like the sextant. However, its legacy in the history of exploration and _____ remains undisputed. The astrolabe symbolizes the human desire to explore the unknown and the ingenuity required to navigate the _____ oceans.

world's

Columbus

nautical

latitude

oceans

scientists

compact

navigation

observations

Islamic

astrolabe