

**UNIT 7 - STUDY GUIDE**  
**World History & Geography 2** Rev.1/20/2011 ©studentsfriend.com  
the 1500s and the 1600s - A Clash of Civilizations

**Overview:** The “modern era” of history began around the year 1500 when the great European voyages of discovery triggered a clash of civilizations. After western Europeans arrived in the Americas, most Native Americans died due to European brutality and diseases. Soon Europeans would bring a third people to the Americas from Africa to serve as slave workers. During the early modern period Europeans also discovered new foods to feed the world, important scientific principles, and a better way to communicate with an improved printing press. Europeans also tore apart the Christian world. Europe had become a powerful force in world history.

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**Essential Question: What is human nature?**

What does it mean to have an open mind? Why might a person not want to have an open mind?  
Why did the Spanish want to establish colonies in the New World?  
Why would people from different branches of the same religion want to kill each other?

**Essential Question: What makes a good society?**

How is the capitalist system good for people when it works properly?  
How can the capitalist system sometimes hurt people?

**Historical Force: How does trade make history?**

What are some ways that trade changed the world during the early modern period?

**Historical Force: How does technology make history?**

How did technology help to end fighting among Japanese warlords?

1. Read for understanding pages 25 through 28 of the *Student's Friend*. Demonstrate your understanding by summarizing KEY POINTS for the 8 main topics on pages 25 and 26 with answers to the questions: What is it? Why is it important? Take NOTES on pages 27 and 28 followed by QUIZZES over these pages.
2. Correctly spell the 16 main topics on pages 25 through 28 of the *Student's Friend*.
3. Locate on a map of the earth the following places: Russia, England, Germany, Portugal, Netherlands, Latin America, West Indies, and China.
4. Why did European diseases wipe out Indians in the New World instead of the other way around?
5. How did China and Japan try to preserve their societies and cultures during this period?
6. What is Greek humanism? How did it return to Europe in the early modern period?
7. Who makes a better ruler: a man or a woman? Your evidence?
8. Where do insects come from?
9. Consider China's isolation from foreigners and Columbus's voyages to the New World. How do these events demonstrate the “Law of Unintended Consequences”?
10. Provide evidence that terrific things and terrible things existed side-by-side in the early modern era.