Social Studies Graduation Exam Study Guide
Chapter One: The Pre-Colonial Eras

Name: __________________________________

Directions: Answer the following completely as you read pages 13-20 of the grad exam workbook.

1. What was the name of the Holy Wars waged from 1095-1270 by Europeans on the Muslims in the Middle East for the purpose of regaining the birth place of Jesus, the founder of Christianity?

2. As a result of the Crusades, what items did the Europeans in the West discover?

3. What is the name of the instrument sailors used to find their position from the stars?

4. What is the name of the instrument that used a magnetic needle to indicate direction?

5. What was the name of the new and strong ship developed during the pre-colonial era?

6. What was the time in Europe called when individuals sought to understand the Greek and Roman classics in literature?

7. What was the name of the movement where many people began to test the validity of the practices of the Catholic Church?

8. Who was the leader of the Protestant Reformation to reform the Catholic Church?

9. Who is the Italian explorer, representing Spain, who set out in 1492 to find a new route to Asia?

10. The Columbian Exchange was a mixture of Indian cultures in the New World and the European cultures. List five results of the Columbian Exchange.
   1. 
   2. 
   3. 
   4.
5.
11. What did the Spanish and Portuguese explorers want from the countries of the New World?

12. The Catholic missionaries of Spain and Portugal came to bring Christianity to Native Americans (Indians) in which locations?

13. Where did the French mainly settle in the New World?

14. Where did the English mainly settle in the New World?

15. List the 6 major factors that led to New World exploration.

   1.

   2.

   3.

   4.

   5.

   6.

16. What is the Spanish term for conqueror/explorer?

17. Which conquistador conquered the Aztec Empire in 1519 with the help of only 600 soldiers?

18. Which conquistador conquered the Inca Empire in 1535?

19. Who had better weapons . . . the Spanish or the Native Americans?

20. How did the Native Americans react to seeing fair-skinned people and horses for the first time?

21. Which two diseases did the Europeans pass on to the Native Americans?

22. Which explorer explored the present day area of New Mexico in search of the legendary Seven Cities of Gold?

23. Who was the first European explorer to explore the areas of present day Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi?
24. Which European explorer explored parts of present day Florida in search of the Fountain of Youth?

25. What is the name of the first European city in North America? When was it founded?

26. What island did the Dutch buy from the Native Americans? What is that city known as today?

27. Who is the leader of the first attempt by the English to colonize parts of the New World in 1587?

28. What is the name of the first successful attempt at colonizing by the English? When was this colony founded?

29. The Virginia Company was what type of company?

30. What was the purpose in the founding of Jamestown?

31. Which organization of the Virginia Company limited royal authority and increased citizen participation in the colonial government?

32. Which English colonies have plantations?

33. Many people who came to the English colonies were indentured servants. What is an indentured servant?

34. What three items were parts of the trade of the triangular trade route in the New World? (see map on page 19).

35. What were the two religious groups that separated from the Church of England who settled the New England colonies?

36. What did the Mayflower Compact guarantee?

37. Which religious group settled in Pennsylvania?

38. Which religious group settled in Maryland?

39. Which is the economic system in which a nation’s power is measured by its gold supply and thus needed colonies for gold?