Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1000	Norsemen under Leif Ericson land on the coast of North America. They name the country <i>Vinland</i> because they find grapes there		According to an Icelandic saga, Leif Ericson introduces Christianity along the North American coast.
1492	Christopher Columbus lands on Guanahanì, one of the Bahamas Islands, October 12. He names the land San Salvador and claims it for Spain. He also discovers Cuba and Haiti		Columbus discovers the Indians using tobacco in religious ceremonies and as a medicine.
1493	On a second voyage, Columbus lands on Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and other island in the West Indies.		Columbus brings cattle, sugar cane, wheat, and other European animals and plants to the West Indies.
1494	1. Treaty of Tordesillas. The Pope officially divides the non-Christian world between Spain and Portugal establishing a line of demarcation. Portugal may colonize to the east of the line; Spain may colonize to the west of the line.		
1497	John Cabot, Italian navigator in the service of England, reaches the North American coast.		
1498	 On a second voyage, Cabot sails along the New England coast and then south, possibly as far as Maryland. Columbus, on a third voyage, discovers Trinidad. He lands in South America at the mouth of the Orinoco River. 		
1499	Amerigo Vespucci, Italian navigator after whom America is named, explores the northern and eastern coasts of South America.		
1500	Gaspar Corte Real, Portuguese navigator, sails along the east coast of North America.		 Indians in Florida area produce beautiful wood carvings. Indians of Mississippi region attain artistic peak.
1501	On a second voyage, Corte Real, with his brother, explores further south, he is lost during the expedition.		

Year	Poli	itical	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1502	1.	Columbus sails on his fourth and last voyage, hoping to find Asia and Japan. He lands on Honduras and Panama.		
1507	1.	Martin Waldseemüller, German geographer, is the first map maker to call the New World "America."		
1508			First New World sugar mill is established in the West Indies.	
1513	1.	Juan Ponce de León, Spanish explorer in search of the Fountain of Youth, lands on the Florida peninsula and claims it for Spain. Vasco Núñez de Balboa, Spanish conquistador, leads an expedition across the Isthmus of Panama. He becomes the first European to see the Pacific from the New World.		
1517	1.	Francisco Fernández de Córdoba discovers the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico.		
1518	1.	Juan de Frijalva lands on the coast of Mexico and hears of Montezuma's empire.		
1519	 2. 	Hernando Cortés, Spanish conquistador, captures Tenochtitlán (now Mexico City), capital of the Aztec empire. Cortés imprisons Montezuma, the Aztec emperor, who later dies in battle. Alonso Alvarez de Piñeda explores the coast of Gulf of Mexico from Florida to Veracruz.	3. Cortés brings wheat to Mexico from Spain.	
1521	1.	Francisco de Gordillo sails up the Atlantic coast from Florida to South Carolina.		
1524	1.	Giovanni da Verrazano, Italian navigator in the service of France, explores the east coast from Maine to North Carolina. He sails into New York Bay and finds Hudson River.		Spaniard found a school of music in Texcoco, near modern Mexico City.
1525	1.	Esteban Gómez, sailing from Spain, explores the coast from Nova Scotia to Florida.		

Year	Pol	itical	Economic/Technological	Soc	cial/Cultural
1526	1.	Verrazano, sailing from France, explores the West Indies and is killed by the Indians.		2.	Gonzalo de Oviedo y Valdés, Spanish historian, publishes <i>Natural History of the West Indies</i> , which includes a list and description of New World plants and animals.
1528	1.	Pánfilo de Narváez, Spanish conquistador, lands in Florida with colonists from Spain and marches inland in search of gold. His expedition later sails for Mexico. All except Cabeza de Vaca and three others are lost off the Texas coast. De Vaca and his companions will wander through Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona on their way back to Mexico.			
1531			Cultivation of tobacco begins in the West Indies.		
1532			The highly-wrought metal objects of the great Inca civilization are plundered by Spanish treasure seekers.		
1534	1.	Jacques Cartier , French navigator, makes the first of three voyages (1534-42) to the New World. He lands on the Gaspé Peninsula and claims the region for France.			
1536	1.	Seeking a waterway to China (Northwest Passage), Cartier sails u the St. Lawrence River as far as Quebec, then to Montreal.			
1539	1.	Hernando de Soto, Spanish explorer, lands in Florida and leads an expedition inland in search of gold. He travels through parts of Georgia, Alabama, and Arkansas before dying on the banks of the Mississippi River.	First New World printing press is established in Mexico City by Antonio de Mendoza, first Viceroy of Mexico.	3.	First book is printed in Mexico.
1540	1.	Francisco Vázquez de Coronado , Spanish explorer, leads an expedition from Mexico into the American Southwest in search of gold. His lieutenant, Garcia Lopez de Cardenas, discovers the Grand Canyon; Coronado discovers the Pueblos of New Mexico.		2.	Priests traveling with Hernando de Soto baptize their Indian guide. It is the first recorded baptism in the New World
1542	1.	Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, Spanish conquistador, explores the California coast,			

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
	particularly San Diego Bay, and claims the region for Spain.		
1548	Pedro de la Gasca defeats Gonzalo Pizarro at the Battle of Xaquixanguana and restores order to Peru. Pizarro, who led a revolt and became governor in 1544 is executed.		Spanish bring traditions of religious and secular drama to Peru.
1550			Reports of Spanish explorers tell of great temple mounds of wood in southeast North America.
1555	1. French establish a colony at Rio de Janeiro.		
1556			First book with music is printed in the New World by Giovanni Paoli at Mexico City. It is the <i>Ordinary of the Mass</i> .
1562	 Jean Ribaut, French colonizer, lands in Florida and claims the region for France. He sails north and establishes a colony on Parris Island, S. C., which is later abandoned when supplies do not some. 		
1563		John Hawkins, English slave trader, brings tobacco and sweet potatoes from America to England.	3. Construction of the cathedral in Mexico City is begun. This church, in Spanish Renaissance style, is the largest cathedral on the North American continent.
1564	 French Huguenots under René Goulaine de Laudonière establish a colony called Fort Caroline near the mouth of the St. Johns River, Fla. 		Jacques LeMoyne, French Huguenot explorer, paints scenes of Indian life in Florida.
1565	 Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, Spanish colonizer, establishes colony of St. Augustine, Fla. This is the oldest permanent European city in the U. S. Menéndez destroys the French colony at Fort Caroline. 		 Spanish priests found the first Catholic parish in St. Augustine, Fla. Game of billiards is brought to the New World by Spanish settlers.
1566			 Nicholas LeChalleux writes an account of the French in Florida. Jesuits establish a mission in Florida.
1569		Nicolás Monardes, Spanish physician, describes medicinal uses of American plants.	Jesuit missionaries encourage and build on theatrical activities in Peru.

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1576	English begin expeditions to North America in search of the Northwest Passage, a water route around America to Asia. Martin Frobisher makes his first voyage to Arctic regions in search of the passage.		
1577	Frobisher explores eastern passages to Hudson and Baffin Bays on his second voyage to the Arctic.		
1578	Sir Francis Drake, English navigator and admiral, lands on the California coast and claims the region for England.		
1580		1. Cultivation of tobacco begins in Cuba.	
1582	Antonio de Espejo travels down the Conchos River and up the Rio Grande, exploring much of the American Southwest before returning to Mexico in 1583.	2. Richard Hakluyt's <i>Divers Voyages</i> brings American discoveries to the attention of the English-speaking world.	
1583			Bernardino de Sahagún, Spanish friar and linguist, publishes <i>Psalmodia Christians</i> in Mexico City. It contains psalms in the Aztec language set to native melodies.
1584	1. Sir Walter Raleigh , English explorer and writer, sends expedition to explore the New World. Expedition lands in Virginia, which Raleigh names in honor of Queen Elizabeth I, the "virgin queen."		
1585	English colonists sent by Raleigh land on Roanoke Island, N. C., and build a settlement.	2. Iron is discovered in North Carolina.	John White, English artist and surveyor, paints scenes of Indian life in Virginia.
1586	Sir Francis Drake ravages the Spanish settlements in the West Indies and Florida, including St. Augustine. Drake rescues the English colonists on Roanoke Island, who had fared badly and asked to return to England.		
1587	Raleigh sends out another group to colonize Roanoke Island. Virginia Dare is born there, the first white child of English parents born in America.		

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
1588	Second English colony on Roanoke Island disappears. It is known thereafter as the Lost Colony .		2. The first book in English about the English colonies is published. It is <i>A briefe and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia</i> , by Thomas Harriot. Harriot attempts to describe the natural resources to found in America.
1590		 José d'Acosta, Spanish missionary, publishes a natural history of the West Indies and suggests that the differences between American and European animals may be due to mutations. 	
1595	Sir Walter Raleigh leads an expedition 300 miles up the Orinoco River in Venezuela in search of the fabled city of El Dorado.		
1596	Sebastián Vizcaíno, Spanish explorer, makes unsuccessful attempt to colonize southern California.		
1596	Juan de Oñate, Spanish explorer, leads an expedition into New Mexico and claims the region for Spain; he establishes a settlement.		2. The performance of a Spanish play in the area of present-day El Paso is one of the earliest theatrical presentations on the North American continent.
1602	Bartholomew Gosnold, English explorer, sails along the American coast from Maine to Rhode Island. He names Cape Cod and builds a fort on Cuttyhunk, one of the Elizabeth Islands.	Gosnold plants wheat at Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts.	
1603	Samuel de Champlain, French explorer, sails up the St. Lawrence River on the first of many expeditions to the New World.		
1606	Virginia Company of London is granted a charter by King James I to found colonies in America.		A performance of a French theatrical masque in Port Royal, Acadia, is among the first plays presented in the New World.
1607	First permanent English colony in North America is established at Jamestown, Virginia. Captain John Smith holds colonists together through period of hardship.		2. First wedding takes place in Virginia.
1608	Champlain establishes French colony at Quebec.		Captain John Smith's written account of the Virginia colony is considered the first

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
			American book. The work was printed in London. 3. Cargo, consisting of tar, pitch, soap, and glass is shipped from Jamestown, Va., to England. 4. Of the 105 men in Jamestown, 35 are considered gentlemen.
1609	1. Henry Hudson , English navigator then in the service of the Dutch East India Company, explores Chesapeake Bay, Delaware Bay, and the Hudson River as far as Albany.		 The Governor's Palace at Sante Fe is built. It is the oldest surviving non-Indian building in the U. S. Church of England is established by law in Virginia. Captain John Smith requires that the Virginia colonists grow maize (corn).
1610	 Spanish found Santa Fe, N. Mex., on the site of ancient Indian ruins. English colonists at Jamestown endure "starving time," when many die of hunger and disease. 	 Dr. Lawrence Bohun is appointed by the London Company as the first official physician to the colonies. Samuel de Champlain establishes a botanical garden in Canada near Mount Royal (Montreal). 	5. The number of settlers in the colonies is estimated at 210.
1611			 First recorded recreation of European settlers is a game of bowls, played in Jamestown. First Presbyterian congregation is established in Virginia.
1612		 First American bricks are made in Virginia. Captain John Smith publishes A Map of Virginia giving geological features and a description of the area. John Rolfe discovers method of curing tobacco so that large amounts can be exported. 	Dutch use Manhattan Island as a fur-trading center.
1613	English colonists from Virginia destroy rival French colony on Mount Desert Island, Maine.	 Large-scale cultivation of tobacco begins in Jamestown. John Rolfe crosses tobacco from the West Indies with native plants, producing a hybrid that quickly becomes popular in England. 	 Champlain publishes the first account of his explorations in the New World. Reverent Alexander Whitaker writes to London of <i>Good News from Virginia</i> describing an ideal land. Pocahontas is the first Indian convert to Protestant Christianity in Virginia.
1614	John Smith explores the coast of New England, hoping to start a settlement there.		5. First important lottery in the English colonies is held by the Virginia Company. The prize is

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
	 Adriaen Block, Dutch navigator, explores Long Island Sound, Connecticut River, and Narragansett Bay; he makes a map of the region. Dutch build a fur-trading post called Fort Nassau at Albany. English colonists destroy the French colony at Port Royal, Nova Scotia. 		4500 English crowns.
1615	Franciscan friars (monks) arrive in Quebec and begin French missionary activity.		
1616	William Baffin, English explorer, searches for the Northwest Passage, sailing far into Baffin Bay.		 Captain John Smith writes Description of New England telling of the excellent farming and fishing conditions and including the first accurate map of the area. Oil painting of Pocahontas is done by anonymous artist. Smallpox epidemic kills almost all of the Indians in New England.
1617		Tobacco becomes the major industry in the New world. 50,000 lbs. are exported to England.	Criminals in England are transported to Virginia as punishment.
1618		1. Colonists begin growing wheat in Jamestown.	 Women arrive in Virginia. This brings stability to the settlement. Dancing, fiddling, card playing, hunting, and fishing are forbidden on Sunday in Virginia.
1619	 House of Burgesses, first colonial legislature, meets for the first time in Jamestown. Dutch ship carries first Negroes to Jamestown and sells them as slaves to colonists. 		 3. Population of Virginia is approximately 2000. 4. Everyone is required to attend religious services on the Sabbath in Virginia.
1620	 Pilgrims, chartered by the Virginia Company of London to settle in Virginia, reach the coast of Cape Cod after a hard, three-month voyage on <i>Mayflower</i> from England. They establish a colony at Plymouth, Mass. Pilgrims sign Mayflower Compact, the first basis of government established in the 		 Pilgrims bring with them Henry Ainsworth's <i>Psalm Book</i> for us at religious services. It is the first music book in the country. A library is established in Virginia in conjunction with plans for a college. Pilgrims in Massachusetts, called Separatists, reject the Church of England. They practice

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
	American colonies.		"Congregationalism," based on the teachings of Calvin, and establish a Congregational Church at Plymouth.
1621	 William Bradford is elected governor of Plymouth Colony on the death of the first governor, John Carver. Plymouth Colony makes a treaty with Massasoit, chief of the Wampanoag Indians. Peace is kept for 20 years. 	3. First American blast furnace for processing iron is established at Falling Creek, Va.	 4. Governor Bradford of Plymouth Colony is shocked to find newcomers to the settlement playing games in the street on Christmas day. He stops the games by taking their equipment. 5. Pilgrims celebrate their first year in the New World.
1622		Indians destroy blast furnace.	2. Mourt's Relation, compiled by George Morton from notes and memoranda of William Bradford and Edward Winslow, contains the first published first-hand accounts of the voyage of the Mayflower and the landing at Plymouth.
1623	 English build settlements at Dover and Portsmouth, N. H. Dutch West India Company is established for the purpose of trading and colonizing in the New World. 		3. Women and children arrive in new England to join their husbands and fathers. They are feasted with "a lobster or a piece of fish without bread or anything else but a cup of spring water." Lobsters and fish are essential to the diet of early settlers.
1624	Dutch establish colony of New Netherlands, with the town of New Amsterdam (now New York City) at the lower tip of Manhattan. Dutch families also settle at Fort Orange (now Albany) and on the Delaware River.	2. Cattle are introduced into New England by Edward Winslow, founder (later, governor) of Plymouth Colony.	3. Captain John Smith publishes a <i>General History</i> of the New England and Virginia colonies. This contains the famous story of Pocahontas.
1625			Dutch publishers put out <i>New World</i> , an account of all Dutch colonies including New Amsterdam.
1626	Peter Minuit with new Dutch colonists arrives at New Amsterdam and builds 30 houses. He buys Manhattan Island from the Indians for trinkets worth \$24.		 Plymouth colony passes first conservation laws limiting the cutting and sale of colonial lumber. Plymouth requires the approval of the governor and the council to sell or transport lumber out of the colony.
1627	English establish settlement in Barbados. French, Dutch, and English begin settling the Wet Indies region and fighting for control of		3. About 1500 children kidnapped in Europe are brought to the colonies. Many become great successes. One 6-year-old, kidnapped by a

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
	the islands. 2. Swedish company is granted charter for first colony in America.		sailor and sold in America, later marries his master's daughter and inherits his fortune.
1628	Puritans led by John Endecott arrive at Massachusetts Bay and settle at Salem.		 William Bradford describes May Day dancing and merrymaking in the Colonies. The festivities are later banned. Dutch Reformed Church is founded at New Amsterdam.
1629	 Endecott becomes governor of the Salem colony, which receives more settlers from the Massachusetts Bay Company, an English-chartered colonization company. Dutch West India Company grants special rights to rich persons willing to transport colonists to New Netherlands (now New York and New Jersey). Much land is granted along the Hudson, Connecticut, and Delaware rivers. 		 First ordained minister arrives at Plymouth, Mass. First non-Separatist Congregational Church is established at Salem, Mass.
1630	1. John Winthrop , with members of the Massachusetts Bay Company, founds a settlement at Boston. Puritans from England begin the " Great Migration " to Massachusetts and Connecticut.		 John Winthrop, first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, begins a detailed journal which he keeps until his death. It is a prime source of information about life in early New England. William Bradford begins History of Plymouth Plantation, the first account of a Puritan settlement in New England. First church is founded in Boston. Population in the colonies is estimated at 5700. First criminal executed in the colonies is hanged for murder.
1631		 Cultivation of tobacco begins in Maryland. Blessing of the Bay, the first ship built in America is launched. 	3. Boston has its first serious fire. Because of it, Cambridge, Mass., prohibits wooden chimneys and thatched roofs on houses.
1633	Dutch build trading post on Connecticut River near what is now Hartford.		In New England, strong liquor, games, and dancing are not allowed at inns and taverns.
1634	Roman Catholic colony is founded in Maryland under patent granted to Cecilius Calvert, 2 nd Lord Baltimore.		 Boston purchases 45 acres of land to use as a military training field and a common pasture. A schoolmaster arrives in New Amsterdam and establishes the first school.

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
			4. Puritans in Massachusetts forbid the wearing of clothes with Silver, gold, silk, or lace.
1635	English build Fort Saybrook at the mouth of the Connecticut River. English compete with Dutch for control of the region.	John Winthrop, Jr., governor of Connecticut, opens the first American chemical plant in Boston to produce Saltpeter for gunpowder.	 English clergyman Richard Mather keeps a journal of his voyage to America. A hurricane strikes the Plymouth Colony. Boston Public Latin School is founded.
1636	 Roger Williams, English minister banished (1635) from the Puritan colony at Salem, founds Providence, R. I., on land bought from the Indians. Thomas Hooker, Puritan minister unhappy with the strict religious rule in Massachusetts, founds Hartford, Connecticut. 		 The house of Adam Thoroughgood near Norfolk, Va., is built. Today it is the oldest house in the English-speaking colonies. Pension Act is passed in Plymouth Colony. A soldier who is maimed will be supported by the Colony for the rest of his life. Rhode Island is the first colony to grant complete religious freedom. Harvard College is founded in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
1637	Pequot Indians of Connecticut are nearly wiped out by colonial forces, thus stopping four years of Indian raids against English traders and settlers. Pequot War is first Indian War in New England.		2. Taunton, Mass., is founded by an "ancient maid" of 48. Unmarried women have a difficult time making a living, and marriages usually take place early. After they reach 25, unmarried women are often ridiculed and restricted by law.
1638	 Swedish settlers in Dutch ships found Fort Christina (now Wilmington(, Del. Puritans settle New Haven, Conn. Anne Hutchinson, banished (1637) as a heretic from Massachusetts Bay Colony, founds town of Pocasset (now Portsmouth), R. 		 The Swedish settlement along the lower Delaware contributes the log cabin style of architecture. The first almanac in the English colonies is published. Construction of Old College at Harvard is begun. First Lutheran congregation is established by Swedish settlers in Delaware. Colonial justice is harsh: A New Amsterdam man, having drawn a knife on another person, is sentenced to throw himself into the water from the yardarm of a ship 3 times and to receive 3 lashes from each sailor.
1639	Connecticut Colony adopts the Fundamental Orders , one of the first written legal documents in the New World.	First colonial printing press is established at Harvard College in Cambridge, Mass.	3. New England laws governing men's clothing show the attire of the day: men are censured for wearing "immoderate great breeches,"

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
			broad shoulder-bands, capes, and double ruffles; silk roses are worn on shoes. 4. A women of Plymouth, Mass., convicted of adultery is sentenced to be whipped and to wear a badge with the letters "AD" on her left sleeve. If found in public without the badge, she is to be branded on the face with a hot iron.
1640			 The first book issued in the Colonies is the <i>Bay Psalm Book</i> for use at church services. It contains no music, but suggests 48 melodies to which psalms might be sung. Published in Cambridge, it has a preface by Richard Mather. Public land in Newport, R. I. Is given to support a school. Income from the land is to be used to educate poor children.
1641	 General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony adopts legal code, which asserts the authority of church magistrates and contains hints of growing colonial independence. 	A patent is issued in Massachusetts for making salt.	
1642	1. French establish settlement at Montreal.		 Governor William Berkeley builds the first Virginia mansion, "Greenspring," near Jamestown. Education is made compulsory in Massachusetts, with fines imposed if it is neglected. First Dutch Reformed Church is founded in New Amsterdam.
1643	Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth, Connecticut, and New Haven colonies form New England Confederation for common defense against the Indians and to resist possible Dutch and French intrusion.	 First American wool mill is established in Rowley, Mass. Winthrop is the first to bring a telescope to America. 	First restaurant or "cook's shop" opens in Boston.
1644		First successful ironworks in America is established on the Saugus River near Boston.	2. Roger Williams, a staunch advocate of religious freedom, publishes <i>The Bloody Tenent</i> , defending liberty of conscience.
1646			Massachusetts' heresy law makes death the

Year	Political	Economic/Technological	Social/Cultural
			punishment for any person who denies that the Holy Scriptures are the Word of God. 2. Because of the danger of fire, Massachusetts makes smoking unlawful within 5 miles of a town. 3. First Protestant service for Indians is held in Massachusetts.
1647	 Peter Stuyvesant arrives in New Amsterdam and begins harsh rule as governor of the Dutch colony of New Netherlands. Rhode Island General Assembly drafts code of civil law that separates church and state. 		 Massachusetts requires all towns of 50 families to provide a teacher to teach reading and writing. Towns of 100 families must establish a Latin grammar school. Massachusetts forbids Catholic priests to enter any Puritan colony.
1648			 Margaret Jones of Charlestown, Mass., is the first person in the colonies to be executed as a witch. Shoemakers and coopers (barrel makers) in Boston are allowed to meet as a group of workers. Margaret Brent, a landowner and an attorney, asks for a vote in the Maryland Assembly, an unheard action by a woman at this time. Her request is rejected.
1649			Maryland Assembly passes the Act of Toleration for Christians.
1650	English and Dutch try to decide respective boundaries of their American colonies.	2. Iron is exported from Lynn, Mass., to England.	 3. Anne Bradstreet, the first poet in New England, publishes a volume of verse in London, <i>The Tenth Muse</i>. 4. Population in the colonies is estimated at 52,000.