



Christopher Columbus

Columbus made his first voyage from Spain to the "New World" in 1492. At the time of his arrival about one million people lived in America. He called these native people "Indians" because he thought that he had reached the coast of India. He never knew that in fact he had discovered a continent between Europe and Asia.

voyage: boat journey

native: person born in a certain country

The Pilgrim Fathers

In 1620 this group of English settlers sailed from England on a ship called the *Mayflower*. Three months later they landed at Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts and founded one of the earliest European colonies in America. During the first winter, over one half of the settlers died. The rest survived, though, and with advice from local "Indians", they learned how to farm and catch fish. The following November, after their first successful harvest, they celebrated with a special "Thanksgiving" dinner.

settler: colonist

to sail: go by ship

to found: to start the building of



advice: opinion about what to do

to celebrate: do sth. to show that a day is important



The Slave Trade

During the 17th and 18th centuries, over 6 million men, women and children were transported from West Africa to America. There, they were forced to work on farms which produced cotton, tobacco and rice. Today's African Americans are the descendants of these 6 million slaves.

trade: buying and selling of goods

century: one hundred years

to force: zwingen

descendant: child and grandchild of

The War of Independence

For over 150 years after the Pilgrim Fathers landed at Plymouth Rock, America was governed by England. Colonists in the New World paid taxes to London and had to accept its laws. Then, on 4th July, 1776, the Americans made a "Declaration of Independence". The result was six years of war which ended in victory for the Americans led by George Washington.

pilgrim: He travels as an act of religious devotion

tax: money for the government



Did they know it? Did they have them?

Columbus	compass	GPS	gun	brandy
The Pilgrim Fathers	umbrellas	rifles	hats	boots
The slaves	chains	cabins	freedom	work
George Washington	glasses	horses	matches	tobacco
The natives (the Indians)	firearms	potatoes	tents	canoes

Multiple Choice:

It's the popular menu for Thanksgiving Day:

- Hamburger
- Turkey
- Muesli

This is the beginning of the "Declaration of Independence":

- We, the People...
- I, the King...
- Why me?

Columbus had three ships:

- Olympic, Oceanic, Titanic
- Nina, Pinta, Santa Maria
- Huey, Dewey, Louie

The enslaved African people in America created their own music:

- Rock'n Roll
- Spirituals and Gospels
- Honky Tonk