APWH Chapter 16 Reading Guide Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The World Economy

1. What commodity became the global currency of the early modern period? How did the discovery of sources of this commodity in the Americas impact European developments?

*The West’s First Outreach: Maritime Power*

1. What two historical events had increased European awareness of developments in the larger world since 1100? What route was typically used to transport luxury goods from Asia to Europe?
2. List the technological improvements that allowed Europeans to make further voyages.
3. What three incentives inspired Portuguese rulers such as Henry the Navigator to finance expeditions? What allowed Vasco de Gama’s fleet to be successful in plugging into the Indian Ocean trade network?
4. Which government supported Christopher Columbus’ journey to the Americas? Who successfully traveled around the world first?
5. What European countries would challenge Portugal and Spain’s dominance in exploration by the late 16th century? Describe the trading companies supported by these countries’ governments.

*Toward a World Economy*

1. What Afro-Eurasian diseases killed off many Native Americans? What New World crops spread widely throughout the Old World, and how did this impact demographics? What animals were brought to the New World?
2. Describe typical patterns of the extent of European control over areas along the Indian Ocean.
3. Define mercantilism, and explain how mercantilist policies influenced European economic developments.
4. Describe trading patterns between core European nations and dependent economies.
5. For what reasons did coerced labor systems spread widely in this era?
6. Explain why China’s participation in international trade was limited. What was the overall Japan response to European expeditions?
7. What did eastern Europe primarily contribute to the world economy? What labor system developed as a result?

*Colonial Expansion*

1. Which European country supported expeditions that defeated the Aztecs and Incas?
2. In what fundamental ways did North American colonies differ from other European colonies?
3. Why didn’t Europeans settle in the African interior? What technology did they trade with Africans, and with which groups of Africans did European merchants primarily interact?
4. What three different responses to the changes to the world economy brought about by Europe characterized the Early Modern Era?