Mankind: The Story of All of Us
Episode 7: New World
from The History Channel Series Mankind: The Story of All of Us

History Channel episode description: The Americas develop rapidly as the Aztecs build the biggest city on the planet. On the other side of the world, a Turkish sultan uses cannons to conquer Constantinople. The East feeds Europe with spices; explorers are driven to find new commodities and new lands. Columbus, Cortez and others reach the Americas, starting a battle for that continent. The consequences are dire for indigenous peoples.

VIKINGS EXPLORE THE AMERICAS

63. What allowed the Vikings to navigate the most treacherous waters on earth?

64. From Scandinavia, warriors storm through ______________________, raiding, settling, founding new cities, ______________________ the northern world.

65. Who were the first Europeans known to land in the Americas?

66. Thorvald Eriksson. Legendary _______________________. A hero whose exploits are remembered in ________________________ legend.

67. This land belongs to the Innu, descendants of the first ________________________ who came into America ________________________ years before.

68. How many Native Americans live in the Americas?

69. The Innu are expert ________________________, armed with stone-tipped arrows. Swift. Silent. ________________________

70. What is the Viking weapon of choice?

71. Thorvald Eriksson. The first European to ________________________ on American soil. It will be ________________________ years before another European sets foot in the New World.

AZTEC CIVILIZATION

72. In the Americas, no ________________________ tools or horses. No wheeled vehicles. Yet America’s people engineered great ________________________ thousands of years before the Egyptians. They mapped the ________________________ with as much accuracy as any astronomer in Europe.

73. True or False. Tenochtitlan, the capital of the Aztec Empire, was larger than London, Paris, or Rome.

74. What was the Aztec civilization dedicated to?

75. At its heart, a stone ________________________ 100 feet high, where sky, ________________________, and underworld meet.
76. To keep the _______________ in balance, the Aztecs believe they owe a debt of _______________ to their gods.

77. Aztec men are trained to _______________ from puberty. The fiercest become Jaguar _______________. Their weapons, not metal, but obsidian, volcanic _______________. So sharp, some surgeons today _______________ it over steel.

78. What was Tlahuicole's weapon? _______________

79. True or False. Tlahuicole was a captive warrior in Tenochtitlan fighting for his life.

80. The Aztecs have created one of the most sophisticated _______________ on the planet. A great city with laws against drunkenness, _______________, and adultery. Compulsory _______________ three and a half centuries before the United States. A city of philosophers, _______________, mathematicians.

81. What do the Aztecs believe their gods need? _______________

82. The warrior who cuts (Tlahuicole) down will get to wear his flayed _______________ for twenty days. His family will eat his _______________, giving them the status of gods.

83. True or False. Aztec priests only sacrifice a small number of adults per year during one of their most important ceremonies.

84. Tlahuicole's beating _______________ offered to the god of sun and war, Huitzilopochtli, guardian of the _______________. In return, the Aztecs believe, his blood will guarantee a bountiful _______________.

85. What crop do the Aztecs grow that will become key to mankind's future?

THE FALL OF CONSTANTINOPLE

17:30

86. True or False. Constantinople, eastern capital of the Christian world, was founded by Rome's first Muslim emperor, Constantine.

87. Hagia Sophia was the largest what of its day?

88. True or False. In 1453, Constantinople is under siege by an army of 70,000 Ottoman Turks, led by Sultan Mehmet the second.

89. If Mehmet can take Constantinople, he will control the key _______________ routes between east and west, and the city's vast trade in _______________.

90. What dried berry makes up two-thirds of the spice trade into Europe?

91. What major obstacle does the Sultan face as he tries to capture Constantinople as the jewel of a new Islamic Empire?

92. What is the key to the future of war?

93. If the _______________ of Constantinople fall under bombardment by the Turks, the world will _______________ be the same again. _______________ cannons. Dedicated _______________ working in shifts. Cool. Clean. Reload. _______________. Each cannon packed with up to _______________ stone balls...Pounding the city, round the clock for _______________ days.

94. True or False. Mehmet captures Constantinople, renames Istanbul, and because he is hostile to the west, forces Europeans to search for a new route to the riches of the east.
DIAZ TRAVELS AROUND THE TIP OF AFRICA

95. True or False. Diaz was a wealthy nobleman searching for a new route to Africa around the southern tip of India.

96. What has Diaz been using to navigate?

97. Caught in a ________________ off the coast of Africa, searching for a new ________________ to the east, Diaz has two options: risk death on the ________________, or head out into the ________________ Ocean and the unknown.

98. What becomes key to a new of exploration? ________________

99. Out of sight of land for ________________ days. No idea what lies ahead. His ________________ are useless. Lost at sea. His fate now turns on a powerful force of nature ________________, the waves. An ocean gyre, a vast circular ________________, caused by prevailing winds working against the rotation of the ________________, creating a conveyor belt of water ________________ times more powerful than the Mississippi River.

100. Diaz claims the land in the name of ________________ and country. It will become known as the Cape of ________________. The key to a new ________________ route to the east, bypassing Constantinople. A direct passage to ________________. Within 50 years, it becomes one of the busiest ________________ lanes in the world.

COLUMBUS DISCOVERS THE AMERICAS

101. October 12, ________________. A date seared onto the hard drive of humanity. ________________ sailors discover land. Leading them, an Italian:

______________

102. Christopher Columbus underestimated the distance to travel to China from Spain by how many miles? ________________

103. Monarchs from what country finance Columbus’s expedition?

104. After five weeks at sea, Columbus finally reaches land that he believes to be Japan, but which in fact where? ________________

105. True or False. The Bahamas are home to the Taino people.

106. Living in a different ________________ for thousands of years, the people of the Americas have immunity to a deadly threat: ________________.

107. What is Columbus on the search for?

108. Columbus returns to Spain a ________________. His journeys open floodgates. All of ________________ wants a piece of the Americas.
CORTES CONQUERS TENOCHTITLAN

109. 28 years after Columbus, the lust for _________________ is about to change the destiny of the New World, through the ambitions of one man: _________________.

110. How many European adventurers did Cortes lead? ________________

111. True or False. Aztec emperor Montezuma is the richest most powerful man in the Americas and rules over 25 million people.

112. True or False. Montezuma turn Cortes away from his palace.

113. What was Cortes’s plan? ________________

114. What are Montezuma’s treasuries filled with? ________________

115. True or False. The people of Tenochtitlan try to rescue their emperor from Cortes.

116. True or False. Montezuma was murdered by his own people, but Cortes escaped.

117. What lethal time bomb did the Spanish leave behind?

118. 11 months after his _________________, Cortes returns, his victory complete. He’s hijacked the mighty _________________ Empire. An empire of _________________ million brought down by just _________________ men.