

New World Travelogue

Travelogue entry # 1

You have heard of the success of finding the “New World” from the journey of Columbus, and you are preparing on setting out for your own exploration to the “New World.”

Your first entry should include:

1. What are your motives for exploration? (Must be historically accurate and connect to Spain)
For example: “I’m leaving to get a piece of the wealth Cortes has found after meeting the Aztecs.”
2. What you are leaving behind? For example: Did you leave behind a family? Pets? A bad/good job? Grandparents? Nothing? (that is an option too!)
3. Concerns you may have about what awaits you; include details about possible dangers you may encounter on your journey. For example: Are you worried about someone back home? Are you afraid of your future interactions with the Amerindians (Aztec/Mayan/Inca)? Are you concerned the ship(s) won’t make it to the Americas?

This is where you create the back story for your character. I want you to be creative! Make your character come alive! I want to read journals of learned scholars that have travelled the great oceans to explore new lands!

Travelogue entry # 2

You have arrived in the New World, and have met a group of natives that are known as the Mayans, Incans or the Aztecs. After your 5-week journey across the Atlantic Ocean, you are tired, but very excited to interact with these people. After spending several days with the Amerindians, you sit down and decide to add an entry to your journal.

Include the following:

- First impressions of the Native people (Mayan, Aztec or Incan)
- Something you admire about their culture (Civilized)
- Something you dislike about their culture (Savage)
- If you believe them to be more savage, or more civilized and why
- What do you think they think about you? (The Spanish would have had horses, worn armor, and had guns)
- You have just received orders from an incoming ship from Spain that you and your crew are to conquer and enslave the natives. Discuss your personal thoughts on this in your journal.

Travelogue entry #3:

You have now been in the Americas for 25 years. The natives that haven't died from disease have been forced to work for you (the Spanish) either mining for silver and gold, or working on farms growing tobacco, coffee, or sugar. You have started to notice the changes taking place in the Americas and back home in Europe because of this Columbian Exchange.

Describe your emotions and thoughts about your success in defeating and enslaving the Native Americans.

Talk about the changes that you have noticed in both worlds, and what your thoughts are about these changes (you would probably be excited about some of the new world goods).

After describing the benefits to both sides, explain who you think benefitted most from the Columbian Exchange: the New World, or the Old World, and why.

Describe personally how your life has changed because of the Columbian Exchange (This is your chance to make your character unique through the use of accurate historical information).

Travel Log Entry #4: Triangular Trade

You have to decide what your future will be! Explain your opinion so far on what you have seen during your journey!

Mention the natives and your original thoughts, and how they have changed or stayed the same

Mention the Columbian Exchange and the Atlantic Slave trade, and how you feel about each now that they are in full swing

Mention your motives, and how they have changed or stayed the same from the beginning of the journey

Will you stay in the new world? Will you return to Spain?