The student will demonstrate knowledge of European explorations in North America and West Africa by

a) describing the motivations for, obstacles to, and accomplishments of the Spanish, French, Portuguese, and English explorations.

Motivations for the explorations
- Economic—Gold, natural resources, and trade
- Religious—Spread Christianity
- Competitions for empire and belief in superiority of own culture

Obstacles to the explorations
- Poor maps and navigational tools
- Disease and starvation
- Fear of the unknown
- Lack of adequate supplies

Accomplishments of the explorations
- Exchanged goods and ideas
- Improved navigational tools and ships
- Claimed territories (see countries below)

Regions of North America explored by Spain, France, and England
- Spain: Francisco Coronado claimed the Southwest of the present-day United States for Spain.
- France:
  - Samuel de Champlain established the French settlement of Québec.
  - Robert La Salle claimed the Mississippi River Valley for France.
- England: John Cabot explored eastern Canada.

Regions explored by Portugal
- The Portuguese made voyages of discovery along the coast of West Africa.
b) describe cultural and economic interactions between Europeans and American Indians that led to cooperation and conflict, with emphasis on the American Indian concept of land.

The interactions between American Indians and Europeans sometimes led to cooperation and other times resulted in conflict.

Cultural interactions
- **Spanish**
  - Conquered and enslaved American Indians
  - Brought Christianity to the New World
  - Established missions
  - Introduced European diseases to American Indians
- **French**
  - Established trading posts
  - Spread Christian religion
- **English**
  - Established settlements and claimed ownership of land
  - Learned farming techniques from American Indians
  - Traded with American Indians
- **American Indians**
  - Taught farming techniques to European settlers
  - Believed that land was to be used and shared but not owned

Areas of cooperation in economic interactions
- Europeans brought weapons and metal farm tools.
- Trade
- Crops

Areas of conflict
- Land
- Competition for trade
- Differences in cultures
- Diseases
- Languages differences

---

c) identify the location and describing the characteristics of West African societies (Ghana, Mali, and Songhai) and their interactions with traders.

Ghana, Mali, and Songhai each dominated West Africa in sequence from 300 to 1600 A.D. (C.E.).

African people and African goods played an important role in European interest in world resources.

Ghana, Mali, and Songhai dominated West Africa one after another from 300 to 1600 A.D.

Ghana, Mali, and Songhai were located in the western region of Africa, south of the Sahara Desert, near the Niger River.

Ghana, Mali, and Songhai became powerful by controlling trade in West Africa.

The Portuguese carried goods from Europe to West African empires, trading metals, cloth, and other manufactured goods for gold.