

Option P1: Spain and the 'New World', c1490–c1555

Key topic 1: Spain reaches the Americas, c1490–1512

1 Spanish exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spain c1490: the crusading spirit and foreign ambitions. Columbus's attempts to gain sponsorship. The role of Queen Isabella: her desire to spread Christianity and sponsorship of Columbus. Columbus's first voyage of 1492 and the problems encountered.
2 Columbus reaches the Americas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Columbus's actions: exploration of the Bahamas and the Caribbean. The foundation of La Navidad. The impact of contact with Indigenous peoples: the discovery of gold, cotton and tobacco, relations with the Tainos and Caribs. including the first conflict at Samana. The impact of rivalry with Portugal, and the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494).
3 Spanish claims in the Caribbean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Columbus's later voyages and his role as governor in the Spanish settlement. The significance of the establishment of the Spanish colony at Santo Domingo (1496). The effects of Spanish settlement: treatment of Indigenous peoples, effects of smallpox. Development of an imperial policy in relation to the Caribbean: the regulation of further exploration, the establishment of a monopoly on trade, the extension of Spanish authority and the use of slavery. The role of Catholic missionaries.

Subtopic 2

Changes made to simplify teaching:

- 'cotton and tobacco' removed.
- 'including the first conflict at Samana' removed.

Key topic 2: The conquistadors, 1513–c1528

1 The start of an empire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balboa's claim of Spanish authority over the Pacific (1513). The Econquest of Cuba; the founding and significance of Panama. The voyage of Magellan and Spanish claim to the Philippines.
2 The conquest of Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cortes's expedition to Mexico in 1519. Key events of the Spanish conquest of Mexico; the role of Montezuma, the war between Aztecs and Tlaxcalans. The capture of Tenochtitlan and the Aztec surrender.
3 Impact of Spain in the Americas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cortes's actions as Governor and Captain-General of New Spain (1523–28). The consequences of the Spanish invasion for the Aztecs. The founding and significance of a Spanish base at Panama. The role of Pizarro in Panama.

Subtopic 1

- 'Founding and significance of Panama' moved to Subtopic 3 as it does not fit well in the same bullet point as the conquest of Cuba.

Subtopic 3

- 'The role of Pizarro in Panama' removed to simplify teaching.
- Reference to Panama moved from Subtopic 1, and reworded to emphasise that this is the city not the country.

Key topic 3: The Spanish Empire c1528–c1555

1 Pizarro and the conquest of the Incas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact with the Incas (1528); the significance of the death of Huayna Capac.• The voyage of Pizarro (1530), and the significance of the war between Atahuallpa and Huascar.• Key events of the Spanish conquest of Peru: the Battle of Cajamarca and the capture of Atahuallpa, the revolt of the Incas, the siege of Cuzco (1536–37). The impact of the conquest.
2 Expansion of empire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The significance of the discovery of silver in Bolivia and in Mexico.• The role of the viceroys and <i>encomiendas</i> in the Spanish Empire. The role of Las Casas and the significance of the New Laws (1542).• <u>The significance of the discovery of silver in Bolivia and in Mexico.</u> The foundation of La Paz (1548).
3 Impact of the 'New World' on Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The importance of gold and silver for the Spanish economy and to support Spain's European empire. The attacks on Spanish treasure fleets (c1555).• The impact on Spain of the slave trade and goods from the Americas.• The government of the Spanish Empire: the role of the House of Trade and Council of the Indies.

Subtopic 2

Discovery of silver has been merged into the last bullet point because La Paz's foundation is important for the trade route between the silver mines at Potosi and the Pacific, so it makes sense to group these ideas together.

Subtopic 3

'The attacks on Spanish treasure fleets removed' because the topic ends in 1555 and it would not be viable to set a question on an event that starts and ends in this year.