



## Christopher Columbus

Columbus made his first voyage from Spain to the "New World" in 1492. At the time of his arrival about one million people lived in America. He called these native people "Indians" because he thought that he had reached the coast of India. He never knew that in fact he had discovered a continent between Europe and Asia.

**voyage:** boat journey

**native:** person born in a certain country

## The Pilgrim Fathers

In 1620 this group of English settlers sailed from England on a ship called the *Mayflower*. Three months later they landed at Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts and founded one of the earliest European colonies in America. During the first winter, over one half of the settlers died. The rest survived, though, and with advice from local "Indians", they learned how to farm and catch fish. The following November, after their first successful harvest, they celebrated with a special "Thanksgiving" dinner.

**settler:** colonist

**to sail:** go by ship

**to found:** to start the building of



**advice:** opinion about what to do

**to celebrate:** do sth. to show that a day is important



## The Slave Trade

During the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, over 6 million men, women and children were transported from West Africa to America. There, they were forced to work on farms which produced cotton, tobacco and rice. Today's African Americans are the descendants of these 6 million slaves.

**trade:** buying and selling of goods

**century:** one hundred years

**to force:** zwingen

**descendant:** child and grandchild of

## The War of Independence

For over 150 years after the Pilgrim Fathers landed at Plymouth Rock, America was governed by England. Colonists in the New World paid taxes to London and had to accept its laws. Then, on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 1776, the Americans made a "Declaration of Independence". The result was six years of war which ended in victory for the Americans led by George Washington.

**pilgrim:** He travels as an act of religious devotion

**tax:** money for the government



## Did they know it? Did they have them?

<b>Columbus</b>	compass	GPS	gun	brandy
<b>The Pilgrim Fathers</b>	umbrellas	rifles	hats	boots
<b>The slaves</b>	chains	cabins	freedom	work
<b>George Washington</b>	glasses	horses	matches	tobacco
<b>The natives (the Indians)</b>	firearms	potatoes	tents	canoes

## Multiple Choice:

**It's the popular menu for Thanksgiving Day:**

- Hamburger
- Turkey
- Muesli

**This is the beginning of the "Declaration of Independence":**

- We, the People...
- I, the King...
- Why me?

**Columbus had three ships:**

- Olympic, Oceanic, Titanic
- Nina, Pinta, Santa Maria
- Huey, Dewey, Louie

**The enslaved African people in America created their own music:**

- Rock'n Roll
- Spirituals and Gospels
- Honky Tonk