

**Directions: Circle the correct answer.**

1. Growing up, Christopher Columbus was curious and adventurous. He volunteered for his first sea adventure at the age of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. 10
  - b. 14
  - c. 18
  
2. Christopher Columbus believed that \_\_\_\_\_ was the greatest explorer who ever lived.
  - a. Marco Polo
  - b. Ponce de Leon
  - c. Amerigo Vespucci
  
3. Besides adventure, Columbus wanted to try to sail west from Europe to Asia so that he could \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. study Asian culture
  - b. meet people who looked different from him
  - c. establish a way to trade with Asia
  
4. Columbus eventually received the money for his voyage from King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain, but it took Columbus \_\_\_\_\_ to convince them to sponsor him.
  - a. three months
  - b. two years
  - c. six years
  
5. When Columbus reached the New World, he thought he had landed in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. India
  - b. Greece
  - c. Africa

**Directions: Answer the following in complete sentences.**

6. In what ways can Columbus' actions be both celebrated and criticized? Provide examples.

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7. Explain the importance of not judging historical figures by today's standards.

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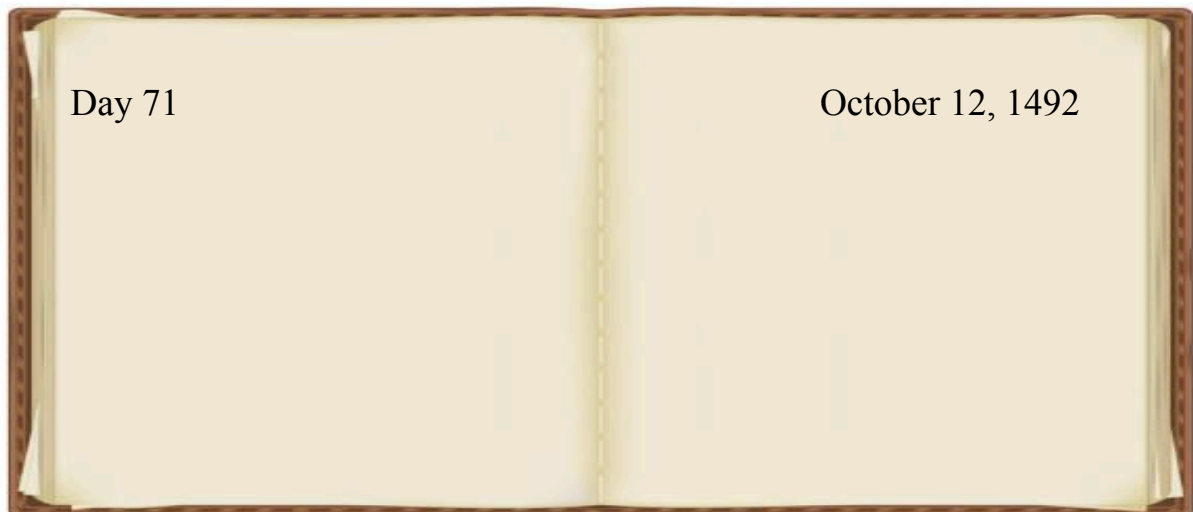
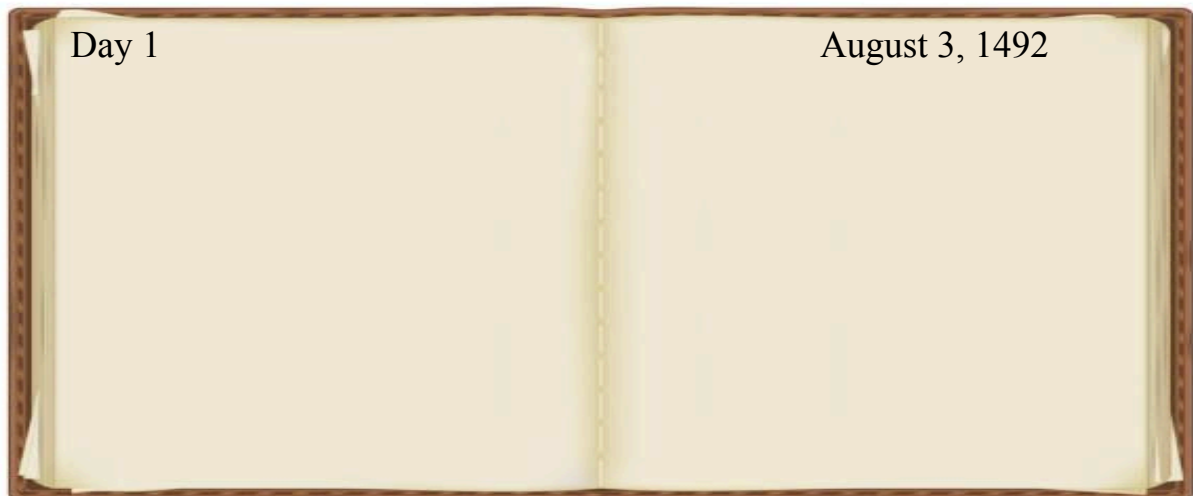
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8. Columbus and his crew left Spain in August 1492 and landed in the New World in October of the same year. How do you think the explorers were feeling at the start of their journey? The day they first spotted land? Imagine you are an explorer aboard one of Columbus' ships and record your thoughts on the journal pages below.



## Christopher Columbus | Answer Key

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### Directions: Answer the following in complete sentences.

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Sample answer: Christopher Columbus was a courageous explorer, and his accomplishments have inspired generations. He made four voyages across the Atlantic Ocean, paving the way for the European colonization of America. He also spread Christianity to Western Civilization. Others believe that Columbus brought slavery, disease, and violence to the New World and that it would have been better if he had not gone there.

7. Explain the importance of not judging historical figures by today's standards.  
Judging historical figures by today's standards can lead to misunderstandings because the values and norms of the past were often very different from what we have today. People like Columbus made decisions based on the knowledge and beliefs of their time, which may not align with modern perspectives. By considering the historical context, we can better appreciate their achievements while also acknowledging their flaws.
  
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Answers will vary.