

Name _____

Age of Exploration Answer Key

Explorer	Country They Sailed For	Main Goal	Major Achievement	Time Period
Christopher Columbus	Spain	Find a faster route to Asia	Landed in the Caribbean, believing he had found Asia	1492–1504
Ferdinand Magellan	Spain	Sail west to reach Asia	First voyage to sail around the world (though he died en route)	1519–1522
Amerigo Vespucci	Portugal and Spain	Explore and map the "New World"	Realized the lands were part of a new continent	1497–1504

Sample Answers for Final Analysis:

1. **Ferdinand Magellan's crew was the first to sail around the globe, even though Magellan died during the voyage.**
2. **Vespucci's discovery was important because he realized the new lands were not part of Asia, but a totally new continent.**
3. **Columbus thought he had found Asia, but Vespucci figured out it was a separate land, which changed how people saw the world.**
4. **They risked their lives to find new trade routes, gain fame and fortune, and satisfy their curiosity about the world.**
5. **(Opinion-based)**

Example: "I think Magellan's achievement was most impressive because it proved the world could be circled by ship, showing the true size of the Earth."