

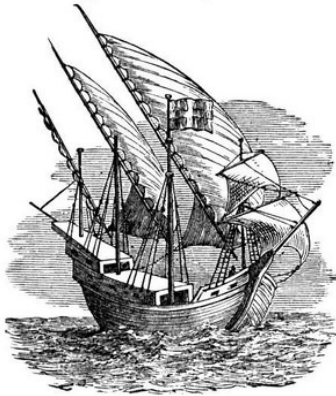
## Age of Exploration Cloze

**Africa**  
**Exploration**  
**profits**

**Americas**  
**gold**  
**spice**

**caravel**  
**lateen**  
**trade**

**Discovery**  
**lucrative**  
**wind**



*A caravel*

Beginning in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, Europeans began exploring the globe in what had become known as the *Age of* \_\_\_\_\_ or the *Age of* \_\_\_\_\_. One important cause for this burst of exploration was the desire to find alternative \_\_\_\_\_ routes to India and China.

European explorers wanted to bypass Italian, Turkish, and Arab traders who had a monopoly on the \_\_\_\_\_ trade. This spice trade was highly \_\_\_\_\_, earning huge \_\_\_\_\_ for successful traders. Pepper, for example, was worth its weight in \_\_\_\_\_.

Portuguese and Spanish explorers were among the first to venture out into the Atlantic Ocean in search of direct trade routes to Asia. The Portuguese sailors explored the coast of \_\_\_\_\_ hoping to circumnavigate that continent and find a direct route to India. Spanish explorers on the other hand sailed across the Atlantic Ocean until they eventually stumbled upon the \_\_\_\_\_.

One great technological innovation that aided European explorers was the \_\_\_\_\_, which was a type of ship with triangular sails called \_\_\_\_\_ sails. This kind of ship allowed European sailors to sail into the \_\_\_\_\_.