Study Guide for Latin American History Quiz (On level)

1. The Zapatista’s are a group of Mexican’s who support improved rights and living conditions for Mexico’s indigenous people. On January 1, 1995, the Zapatista’s revolted by taking over several towns after NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) came into effect. That Zapatista’s felt NAFTA would hurt the farming industry. The Zapatista’s are located around Chiapas, Mexico. They are important to history because they were able to bring about change for the Mexican farmers and other poor indigenous people.
2. The Columbian exchange is a term used to describe the enormous widespread exchange of plants, animals, foods, human populations (including slaves), communicable diseases, and ideas between the Eastern and Western hemispheres that occurred after 1492. The Columbian exchange occurred in the 15th and 16th centuries with trade going from Europe to Africa to the America’s and back to Europe. The Columbian exchange is important because it allowed exposure of different foods and plants, and raw materials. Manufactured goods would leave Europe and be traded for slaves and raw materials. The slaves and raw materials would be taken to the America’s and be traded for other raw materials. Those raw materials would be taken back to Europe to be manufactured.
3. Indigenous people came to the America’s by way of the Bering Land Bridge.
4. Africans were viewed as a good source of labor because they were immune to European diseases, had knowledge of agriculture, were used to tropical climate, and had no idea where to go if they escaped.
5. Economically, slavery worked for plantation owners because the slaves had children, which could be sold for profit.
6. Descendants of slaves can still be seen today through the cultural blending and intermarriage of different ethnic groups.
7. Like Adolf Hitler, Raul Castro took advantage of the unhappiness of the people of the nation to gain power
8. The poor people of Cuba supported the revolution while the upper classes were against it.
9. Simon Bolivar was called the “George Washington is South America”.
10. Toussaint L’Ouverture was called the “Black Napoleon”.
11. Miguel Hidalgo was called the “Father of Mexican Independence”.
12. Bolivar, L’Ouveture, and Hidalgo all wanted freedom and rights for their people. They fought against a European power in order to accomplish their mission. All three men were able to gain freedom and rights for their people and are revered for their work in accomplishing this task.
13. Hernan Cortez defeated the Aztec and their leader, Montezuma II.
14. Francisco Pizarro defeated the Inca and their leader, Atahualpa.
15. Conquistadors explored the new world in hopes of finding gold, silver, and other riches.
16. Disease was the most powerful weapon in defeating the indigenous people of Latin America.