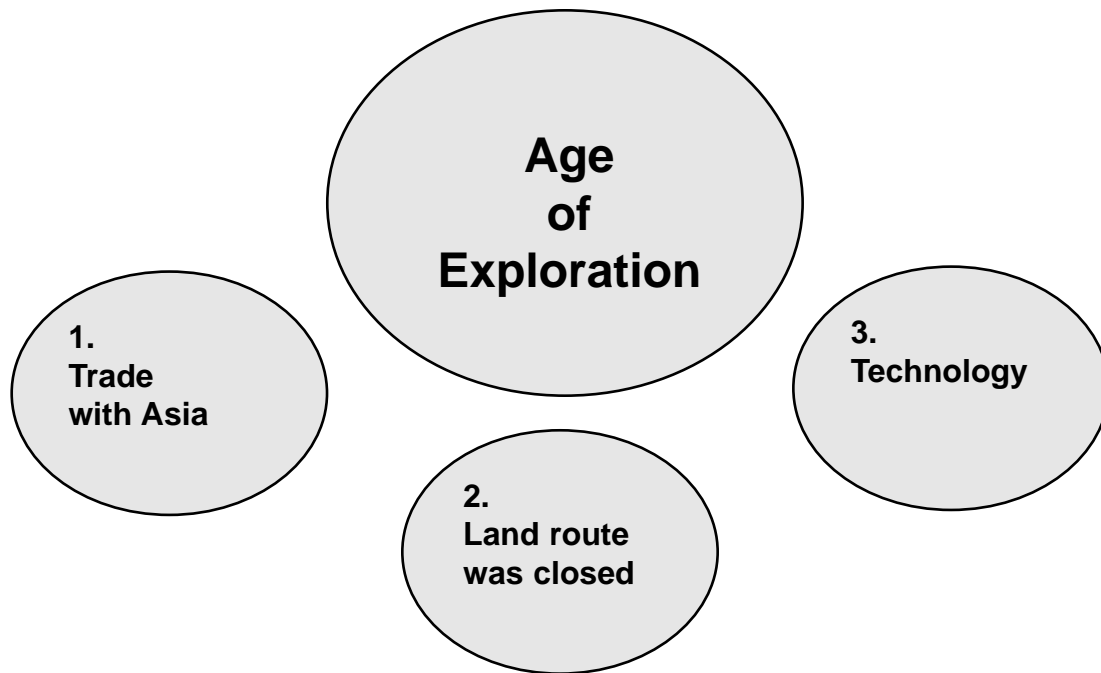




The Causes

During the Age of Exploration, the Europeans sailed to other continents.
Why?



Trade with Asia

Silks & Spices
Europeans wanted to trade with Asia, especially India and China.

They wanted silks and spices.

Since the Middle Ages, they had been trading with Asia along the Silk Road.

Land route closed

Silk Road closed
In 1453, the Silk Road came to a screeching halt for European traders.

The Ottoman Turks captured Constantinople.

From then on, the land route to Asia was closed to the Europeans.

So Europeans tried to find a sea route to Asia.

Sea route possible

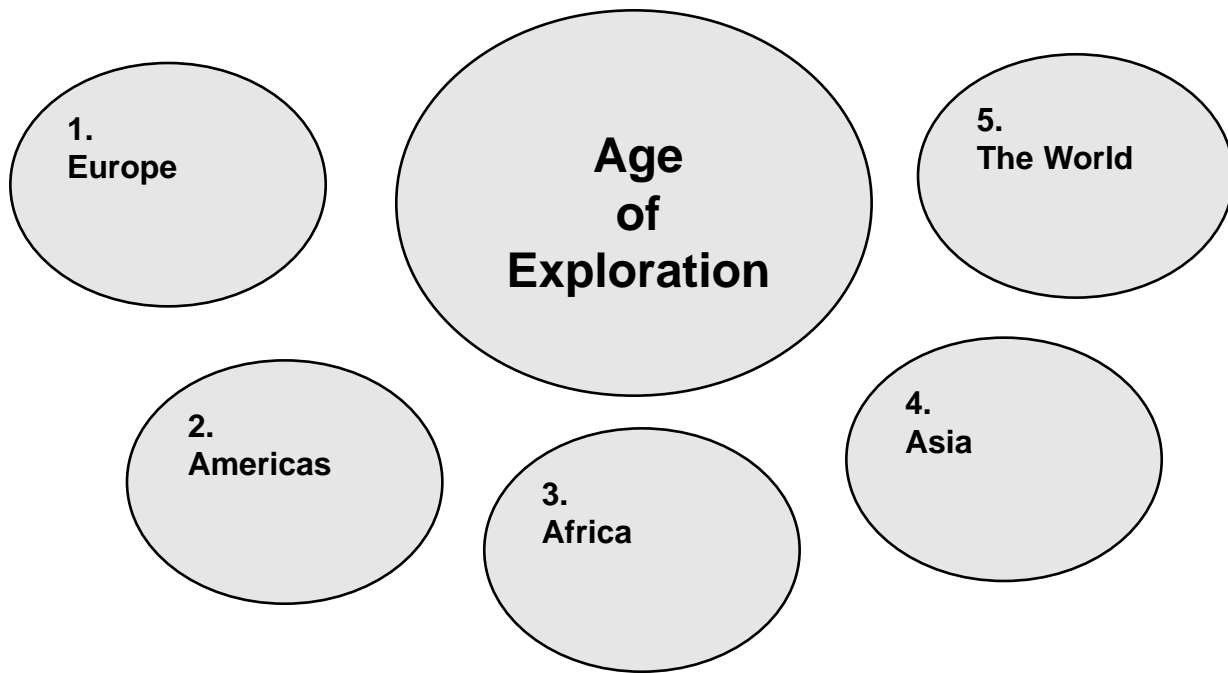
Technology
Thanks to new technology, the Europeans could make ocean voyages.

1. The caravel ship
2. The magnetic compass
3. The astrolabe determined latitude.



The Results

What were the results of the Age of Exploration?



Europe	Americas	Africa	Asia	The World
<p><u>The Atlantic trade</u> From then on, Europe focused on trade across the Atlantic.</p> <p><u>Atlantic Ocean</u> Spain controlled this ocean.</p> <p><u>Treaty of Tordesillas</u> In 1494, the pope gave Latin America to Spain; Brazil, Africa and Asia to Portugal.</p> <p><u>Cartography</u> Mapmakers made new maps!</p>	<p><u>Columbian Exchange</u> Trade between Europe and the Americas. The Caribbean became a major trading hub.</p> <p><u>Epidemics</u> Native peoples died of European diseases, like smallpox.</p> <p><u>Cultural change</u> Spain imposed its language, religion, culture, politics, (and forced labor) on its subjects.</p>	<p><u>The Atlantic Slave Trade</u> The Europeans enslaved Africans to work in the Americas.</p> <p>The Portuguese launched the slave trade.</p> <p>The majority of slaves were sent to sugar plantations in Brazil and the Caribbean.</p>	<p><u>Trading posts</u> The Portuguese set up trading posts in Africa and Asia.</p> <p>Later, the Europeans set up colonies: British in India. French and Dutch in Southeast Asia.</p>	<p><u>Imperialism</u> The European powers carved up Asia, Africa, and the Americas.</p> <p><u>Colonialism</u> Each had an empire of colonies. Each adopted the culture of the mother country.</p> <p><u>The Commercial Revolution</u> Mercantilism.</p>