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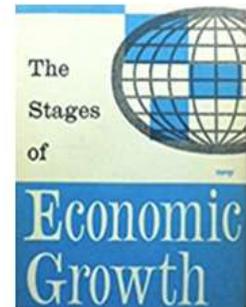
# European Colonial Expansion & Its Aftermath

## The Historical, Ecological and Cultural Consequences of 1492



An Interactive Online Teaching Initiative  
created for  
IvyMind Consulting, LLC  
as a project of the  
**Young Scholars Online Learning Initiative**  
by  
Timothy C. Weiskel

Research Director, Cambridge Climate Research Associates  
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**Instructions:** In a separate document please respond to these questions. To start with, “copy-and-paste” each question into a document of your own, and then write a brief response to each question.

\* Then, save your file on your computer with the filename:

“20180706 - [Name] - Questions for Session 1”

\* Finally, upload this file to the [2018- Colonialism Participants folder](#) with your name on it.

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### Questions for Session 1 – 6 July 2018

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1) Western professional historians often divide the human past into four large periods covering many millennia or centuries. These periods are distinct from one another largely by the kinds of activity characteristic of human behavior in each period.

What are these major categories used by Western professional historians? What are the two most recent of them? What are their distinguishing characteristics in the minds of professional historians?

In your view what are some of the limitations of this kind of “periodization” of the historical past?

2) In the lecture you saw four examples of historical phenomena from what is often referred to as “Earth History.” What were the four examples given? What were these four phenomena? What time periods did the graphs or maps representing the data cover?

*[A Larger Question to Keep in Mind: How do trends and changes in Earth History experience, perceived or expressed in human history?]*

3) What is meant by the “*Athropocene?*” When is it thought to have “begun?” What is its distinguishing feature in human history.

4) The “Modern World” has largely been characterized across the globe by the increased use of energy – largely drawn from non-renewable resources. These resources are not being renewed at anything close to the rate at which they are being destroyed or consumed. In the long run, what do you think happens to cultures that have developed cultural habits of consumption of non-renewable resources as those resources are not “renewed?”