


**Why did Elizabeth want to explore the world
and how was it possible?**

1) Expanding Trade

A portrait of Queen Elizabeth I, showing her from the chest up. She has red, curly hair and is wearing a white ruffled collar. The background is dark.

As we know, relying just on Antwerp is not ideal, especially after the Trade Embargo of 1563 and the ongoing troubles with Spain and the Netherlands! We probably need to expand our opportunities. We probably need to find some new products to sell as well and new markets!

I also think we need compete with the other European powers in acquiring overseas colonies, I like the sound of an Empire, how about the English Empire?...

John Hawkins and Drake talk about new crops, animal skins and precious metals in the new world! That's where we'll start...

What are the 2 main reason for Elizabeth seeking new markets and products and what new products has she heard of? Answer in full sentences...

"The first reason Elizabeth had for seeking new markets and products to sell was *[add your information here]*. As well as that she also felt it would be beneficial to *[and here]*. Some of the products she had heard of from Drake and Hawkins was *[and here]*"

£££

How will she fund this new exploration & conquest?



Investment: Elizabeth and her courtiers invested their own money into these voyages, whilst risky, the rewards were huge! Elizabeth was sure that there would be much to discover further into America, where there had been little exploration!

Think back to yr8 – What topic did we do that might help understand why this exploration was so successful?

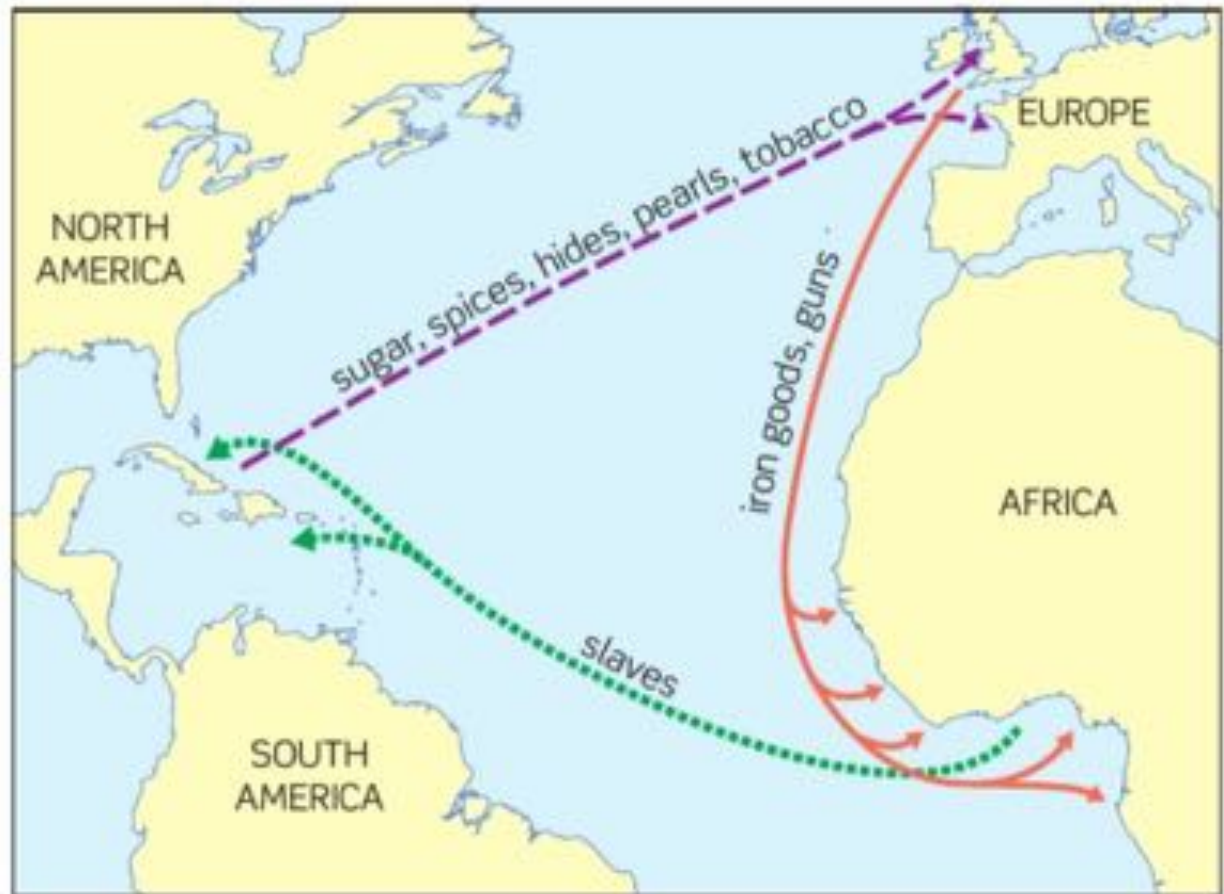


2) Slave Trade

Knighted for his efforts against the Armada, but also his influence as a navigator, slave trader, and the English Navy, especially advising Elizabeth to build smaller more manoeuvrable ships.

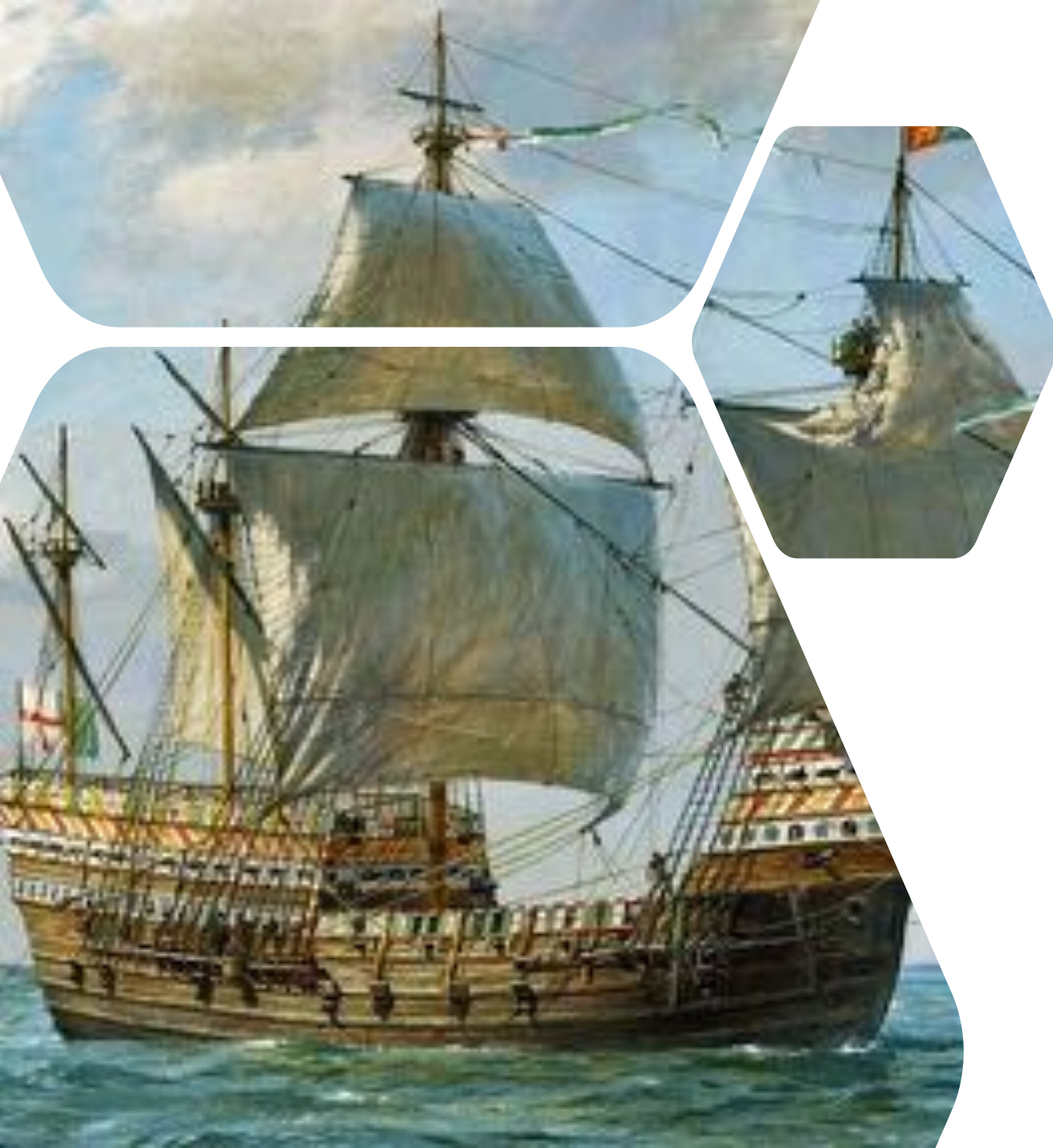
He brought home with him, after selling the African slaves **ginger**, **animal hides**, **sugar** and **pearls**, making huge profits for himself and his investors.

Sir John Hawkins

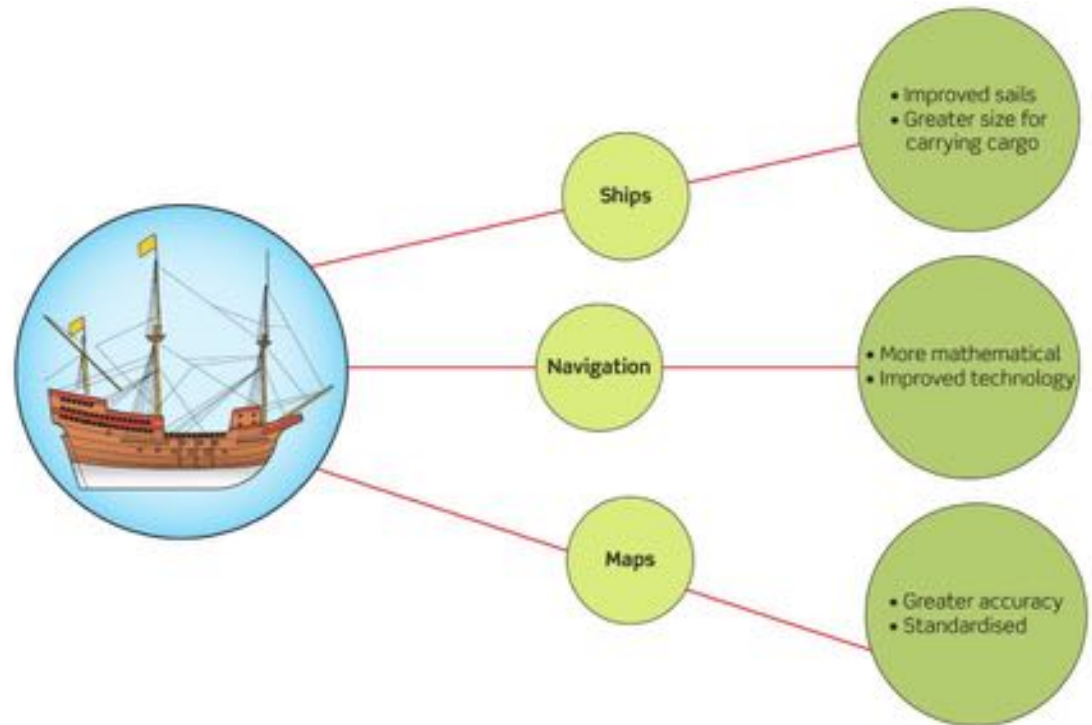


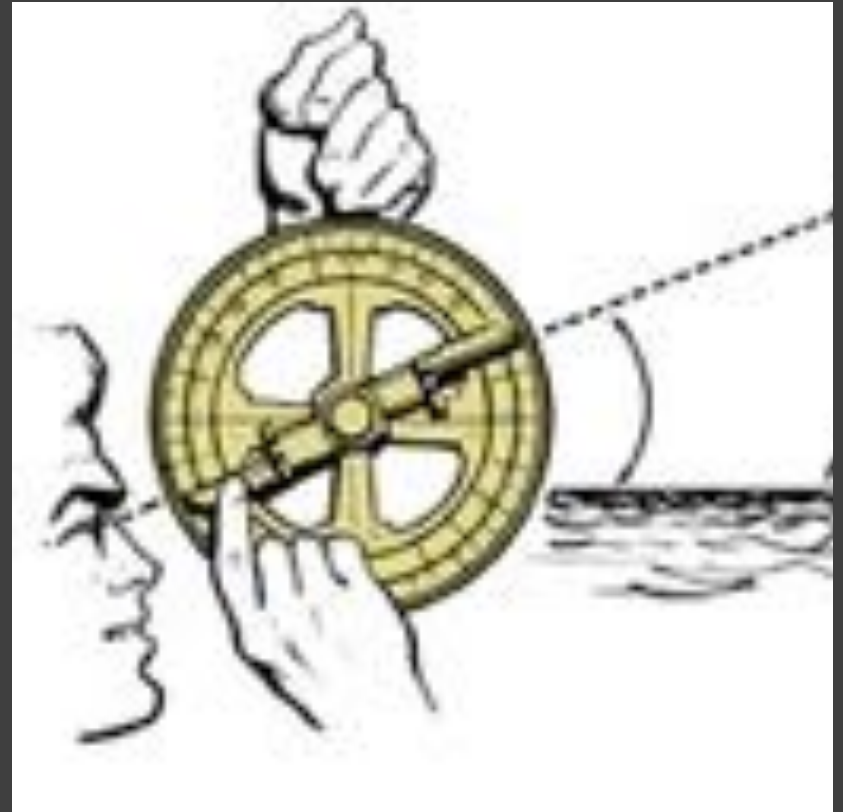
3) Adventure

Many young Elizabethans, especially from the Gentry and nobility, went on voyages of discovery in the hopes of making their fortunes and adventure.



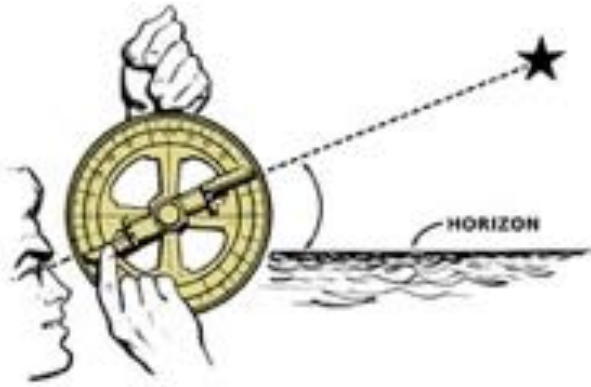
Stick this into
your books (on a
clean page),
we'll annotate
some extra
detail as we go...





4. New technology

Navigation was becoming more precise. New methods of navigation were published in books. For example, by 1584, it was much simpler to accurately calculate the direction of a ship. Voyages were much safer, more direct and faster.




Astrolobes: A circular instrument used by sailors to help with navigation

Quadrant: Similar to an astrolobe, but in the shape of a quarter circle



These inventions allowed for longer and more accurate voyages using the stars. These journeys were recorded and printed using the printing press for others to follow.



Improved navigation and records of voyages led to more accurate maps. The **Mercator** map used longitude and latitude to accurately plot where lands were. Explorers now had a more realistic map to plan their voyages and the printing press brought about a **standardised** map reducing mistakes.

5) Maps



Key terms

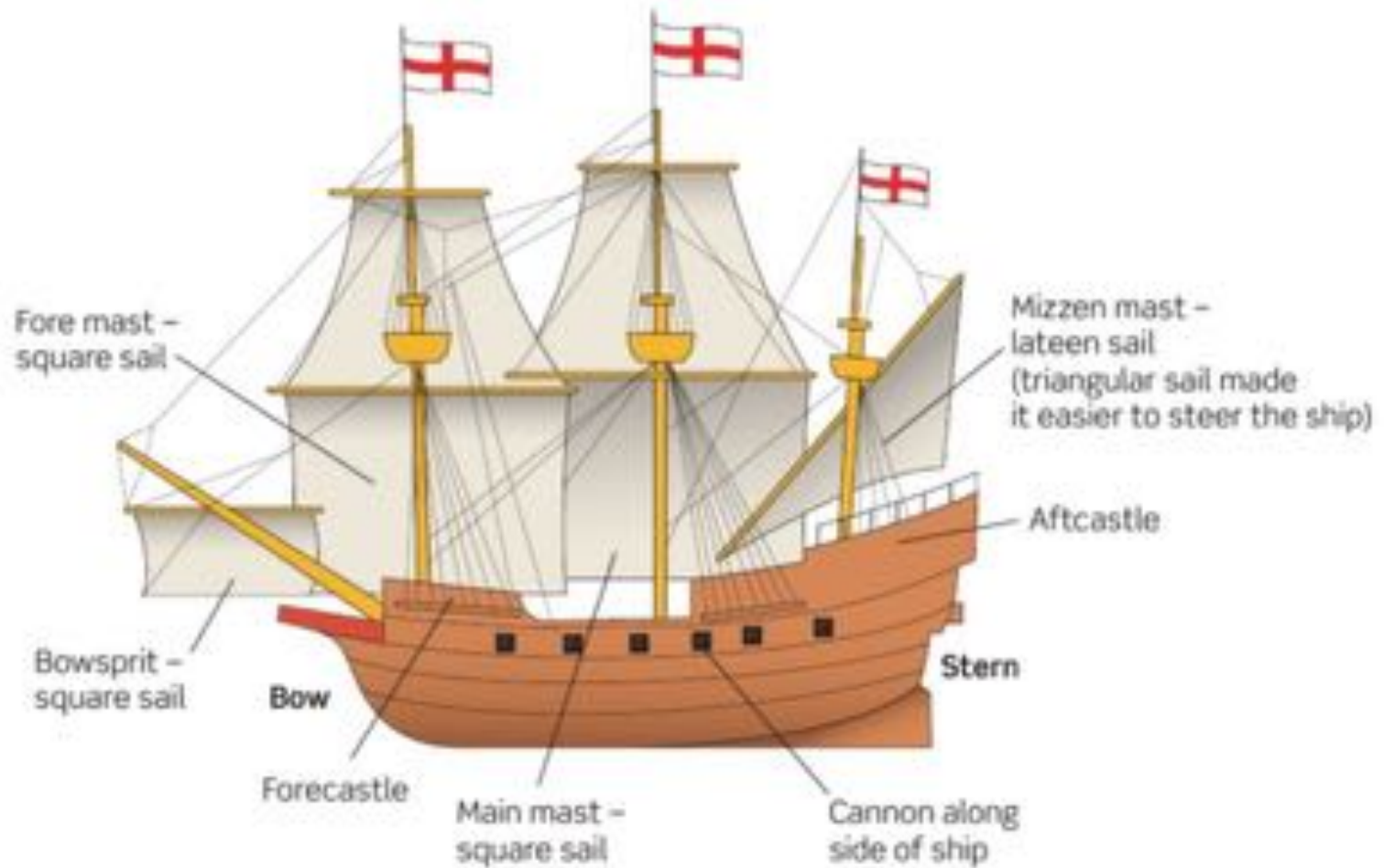
Longitude*

How far east or west you are.

Latitude*

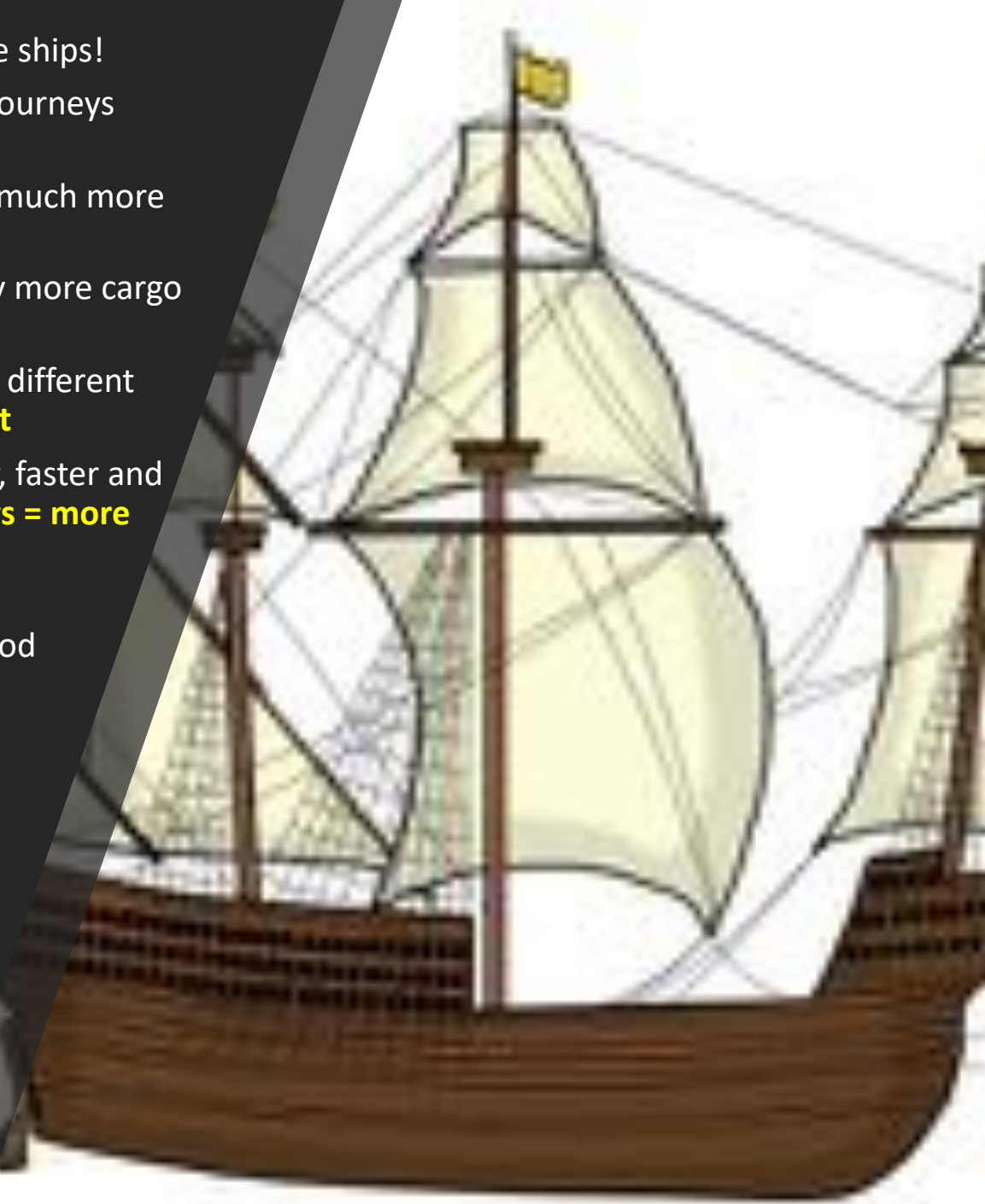
How far north or south you are.

6) Ship design



- New shipyards were built meaning more ships!
- Larger more stable ships meant longer journeys were possible
- Lower forecastles and aftcastles meant much more stable in rough seas
- Larger ships also meant they could carry more cargo
= more profit
- Faster more manoeuvrable ships due to different sail types **= more journeys = more profit**
- More masts and sails allowed for longer, faster and more accurate voyages. **= more journeys = more profit**
- Better fire power due to the canon technology on gun decks allowed for good defences against piracy and the Spanish

Add the following information to your previous diagram



Place all of today's work under one of the following categories:

Economic £££	Political	Printing	Ship Design	Technology



Who was Sir Francis Drake and what did he do 1577-80?



Was this a particularly wise thing for Drake and Elizabeth to do when relations with Spain were clearly getting worse?

Drake's Aims:

To raid Spanish colonies in the Pacific and break their control in the 'New World'

Revenge on the Spanish following a violent attack on Drake and Hawkins earlier in 1568 at St Juan de Ulua, killing 325 of their sailors returning home with only 15 left!

Make maximum profits for himself, courtiers and of course Elizabeth

In the end, Drake returned with £400,000+ (Half a billion £ today)

Drake becoming the first Englishman to circumnavigate the globe was a bonus of the expedition



What does Drake's log tell us of his adventure?

Drake set out with five ships, but returned with only one, his own Golden Hind. There had been an attempt at mutiny, and one sailor had been executed.



- Drake and his crew survived by raiding Spanish ships and colonies.
- They kept detailed logs of information, which they could later share with other sailors.
- Drake landed in a bay to repair his ship and was treated with great hospitality by the native Americans. Drake named the region **Nova Albion** (San Francisco today) and declared Elizabeth I it's Queen, thus becoming England's first **colony** in the New World – The Indian's feelings were not considered.
- When Drake returned, Elizabeth I knighted him on board the Golden Hind. Philip II was furious - he regarded Drake as a pirate and was angry at Elizabeth.
- Stories of the explorers **encouraged others to go on voyages** eg Native Americans eating their own sick; gold, silver and many riches to be had!
- Gathered a lot of information about the Americas, useful for the attempted colonisations being planned in the coming years
- Also boosted confidence that a Spanish attack could be defeated!



How significant was Drake's voyages?



Francis Drake

Damaged English-Spanish relations

- Relations worsened as Drake attacked Spanish ships and colonies.
- Elizabeth I knighted Drake, making Philip II very angry. Philip II of Spain thought that Drake was a pirate.

Encouraged further exploration

- Drake's log books and accounts of the Pacific coast of North America were shared with other sailors.
- It is thought Drake might have reached modern Vancouver (Canada).

Encouraged colonies

- Drake had been welcomed by the Native Americans he met at Nova Albion (California). This suggested Europeans could settle, and even rule there.
- Drake returned from the Americas with wealth and reports that encouraged other explorers to continue trying to build settlements there.

Revision – Using the information in this document and any other resources you find...

Some other useful websites:

- <http://www.elizabethan-era.org.uk/the-age-of-exploration.htm> main page, follow links scrolling down the page
- <http://www.elizabethan-era.org.uk/sir-francis-drake.htm>
- <http://faculty.history.wisc.edu/sommerville/123/123%20271%20exploration.htm>
- <http://faculty.history.wisc.edu/sommerville/361/361-19.htm>
- <https://spark.adobe.com/page/nndK4HRQaxk7F/>

Create a report / newspaper / movie (or whatever else you prefer) on the significance of Drake's circumnavigation of the globe.

It should include:

- Drake's circumnavigation of the globe 1577-1580
- Reasons for going to the pacific
- Treasures he returned with in 1580
- Significance of Drake's voyage

Activities



- 1 List all the positives and negatives that you can find that happened during and after Drake's circumnavigation of the globe.
- 2 Explain why Philip II was angry that Elizabeth I knighted Drake.
- 3 Imagine that you are a sailor having returned from Drake's circumnavigation of the globe. Write two or three diary entries about what has happened and why this journey was so important. You should say why the journey has been so hard, what the high points of the voyage were and what happened at Nova Albion.

Summary



- Trade was the driving force behind voyages of exploration.
- Undermining Spain's position in the New World was another important reason for voyages of exploration, especially as English-Spanish relations were getting worse.
- New technology made ships better at undertaking longer journeys.
- New technology also led to more accurate maps and navigation.
- Printing enabled the reproduction of standardised maps, navigation manuals and accounts of the fabulous riches to be found in the New World, encouraging more exploration.
- Drake's circumnavigation of the globe began as a mission to attack Spanish colonies.
- Nova Albion encouraged the English to attempt the further colonisation of North America.
- Drake's circumnavigation was extremely profitable and encouraged more investment in voyages of exploration.

Checkpoint



Strengthen

- S1 Give two reasons why there were voyages of exploration during Elizabeth I's reign.
- S2 How did improved technology help encourage long voyages?
- S3 Give one reason why Drake circumnavigated the globe 1577–80.
- S4 Give one consequence of Drake's circumnavigation of the globe.

Challenge

- C1 Which technological development do you consider the most important in encouraging voyages of exploration and why?

If you are not confident about any of these questions, form a group with other students, discuss the answers and then record your conclusion. Your teacher can give you some hints.