# Louisiana Sample Questions 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

1. This chart shows the motivations of European nations to explore the world.



## Which motivation completes this chart?

- **A** to spread Christianity
- **B** to study Native American cultures
- **C** to decrease trade
- **D** to protect natural resources

## 2. This is an excerpt from a letter written by Thomas Harriot, an English explorer, in 1585.

Within a few days after our departure from every such [Indian] town, the people began to die very fast, and many in short space; in some towns about 20, in some 40, in some 60, and in one [town, 120], which in truth was very many in respect of their numbers.

### Based on this excerpt, what caused death among Native Americans?

- **A** Native Americans focused on finding gold instead of taking care of their people.
- **B** Europeans exposed Native Americans to deadly diseases.
- **C** Rival tribes attacked Native American villages that had contact with Europeans.
- **D** Civil war led to violence in Native American villages.

Read and study the sources about two indigenous cultures of the Americas. Then use the sources and your knowledge of history to answer the questions.

#### Source 1

By working together, [the Inca] people...created such wealth that the Spanish were astonished with what they encountered. Every citizen was required to contribute with his labor, and refusal or laziness was punishable with the death penalty. Labor was divided according to region, agriculture would be centralized in the most productive regions, ceramic production, road building, textile and other skills according to [leadership]. The government collected all the surplus after local needs were met and distributed it where it was needed. In exchange for their work, citizens had free clothing, food, healthcare and education.

Source: Peru Cultural Society, 2010

#### Source 2

Advancements Made by the Mayan Civilization
chocolate
primitive rubber
concept of zero
class system

## 3. Based on Source 1, how did the Incan people exemplify the characteristics of civilization?

- **A** They divided and specialized labor across social classes.
- **B** They depended on natural resources.
- **C** They formed military alliances and trade partnerships.
- **D** They created public education systems.

## 4. Sources 1 and 2 are evidence of what situation in early American indigenous cultures?

- **A** Technological advancements aided the development of complex societies.
- **B** Resource scarcity limited interactions among indigenous cultures.
- **C** Construction of transportation systems hurt the economies of complex societies.
- **D** European exploration prevented the development of unique indigenous cultures.