



Explorers











KEY VOCABULARY

1	Circumnavigate	To sail or fly around and make the circuit of by navigation.
2	Culture	The ideas, customs, and social behaviour of particular people or a society
3	Emperor	The male supreme ruler of an empire.
4	Explorer	A person who investigates unknown regions.
5	Hajj	The pilgrimage to Mecca, which every adult Muslim is supposed to make, at least once in his or her lifetime. It is the fifth of the Pillars of Islam.
6	Mecca	A city in the capital of Hejaz, in Saudi Arabia. The birthplace of Muhammad; spiritual centre of Islam.
7	Mission	An important goal or purpose that is accompanied by strong conviction.
8	Pilgrimage	A journey, especially a long one, made to some sacred place.
9	Sheikh	The father of a tribe or family.
10	Spiritualist	A person who is concerned with the spiritual side of things.
11	Voyage	A long journey by water to a distant place.

KEY PEOPLE

1	Alexandra David-Neel		She was a spiritualist explorer with a fascination for Buddhism and the orient.
2	Ibn Battuta		Ibn Battuta was a Muslim Moroccan scholar, and explorer, who widely travelled the medieval world.
3	Mary Kingsley		She was a scientific explorer, who explored animals, plants and their habitats. She collected specimens and shared her findings through reports.
4	Matthew Henson		He was an African-American explorer, who with Commander Robert Peary sought to be the first to the geographical North Pole.
5	Sir Francis Drake		He was an English explorer, who became the second person ever to circumnavigate the globe.

KEY EVENTS OF IBN BATTUTA'S LIFE

1304		Ibn Battuta was born in Tangier, Morocco.
1325		Aged 21, he rode out of Tangier on a donkey, the start of his journey to Mecca.
1326		Ibn Battuta entered Mecca in mid-October, a year and four months after leaving home. He took part in ritual experiences and talking with diverse people from every Islamic land.
1328		Ibn embarked on a sea voyage to visit Oman.
1342		He was appointed the sultan's envoy to the Chinese emperor.
1349		He returned to Tangier. Ibn stayed in Tangier only a few days before leaving to visit North Africa, Spain, and West Africa (Mali).
1354		Ibn Battuta dictated an account of his journey called 'The Journey.'
1368/ 1369		He died; the place of his death is not known, nor the location of his grave.