USI.4a Motivation, obstacles, and accomplishments of European exploration in North America and West Africa

**European Exploration in North America & West Africa**

**3 G’s of Exploration**
1. Gold/Economic – European nations wanted to obtain gold and other new riches to make them the richest nation
2. God/Religious – European nations wanted to spread Christianity throughout the world
3. Glory/Power – European nations wanted to have the biggest empires with the most land and to spread their culture to other areas of the world because they believed their cultures were superior (the best)

**Obstacles to Exploration**
1. Poor maps and navigational tools
2. Disease and starvation
3. Fear of the unknown
4. Lack of adequate (good) supplies

**Accomplishments of Exploration**
1. Exchanged goods and ideas
2. Improved navigational tools and ships
3. Claimed territories for their country