

Discover Maritime History – The Rise of a Maritime Empire (lesson 1)

Lesson	Lesson Title	Resources
1	The Rise of a Maritime Empire	Lesson plan PowerPoint Worksheet – printed (1 per student) Internet access
Learning objectives		
All:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand that commercial maritime activity was linked to military capability and the expansion of England as a global power - Be able to recall four key examples of this – requisitioning of mercantile vessels, voyages of discovery, privateering in the Anglo-Spanish war, establishment of EIC 	
Most:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be able to explain what requisition was - Be able to explain what the voyages of discovery were - Be able to explain what privateering was - Be able to explain what the EIC was 	
Some:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand the different role these key examples played in the establishment of England as a global power and evaluate/discuss which had the biggest impact 	
Activity		Timing
Starter:		5 mins
<p>Slide 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explain that the aim of this program is to provide an introduction to English maritime history - Note lesson objectives <p>Slide 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allow students to discuss questions on the board 2-3 minutes - Open to group discussion to answer questions 		
Main:		5 mins
<p>Slide 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Having defined maritime history – now explain that this course focuses on commercial not naval maritime history - Use checkpoints on slide to explain difference (note both military and commercial vessels were armed because being at sea was very dangerous – piracy, hostile ships from enemy countries etc.) - OPEN DATABASE AND EXPLAIN TO STUDENTS THAT THE DATABASE CONTAINS DETAILS OF C.40,000 COMMERCIAL VOYAGES PUT TOGETHER BY ACADEMICS AT A UNIVERSITY – LINK ON SLIDE - And then finally emphasise that commercial maritime activity is tied to naval and broader history of England for various reasons, 4 examples of which we will see in this lesson - In particular, commerce is linked to the expansion of England as a global maritime empire 		
Slide 4:		10 mins
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Play video that explains early establishment of British Empire 		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Note the video is embedded on the slide so you should be able to play within the slide. If that fails, there is a link at the bottom. **note once you move to the slide with the video, give it 5-10 seconds to load and for the play button to appear!**	
<p>Slide 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Note that we saw several ways in the video that commercial maritime activity helped imperial expansion- Can the students pinpoint the factors that were highlighted in the video?<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Voyages of discoveryo Privateeringo Establishment of EIC	5 mins
<p>Slide 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Talk about three factors that were highlighted and add that we are also going to talk about the requisitioning of ships for war- Do they know what requisition means?- If not, explain that it is an official order that forces a civilian to give up property or materials (in this case ships) to a government (in this case the monarchy)	5 mins
<p>Slide 7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Students to fill in worksheet, working through the rows of boxes linking them together to obtain definitions and impacts (see example completed worksheet below)	10-15 mins
<p>Plenary:</p>	
<p>Slide 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Recap: What have we learnt? Discuss with group, highlight following in particular:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Maritime history is the study of human interaction with the seao This course focuses on commercial maritime history (i.e. trade and commerce) rather than navalo Commercial maritime activity played a role in military capabilities and English expansiono We have 4 examples of how these things could interact<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Requisition of ships▪ Privateering▪ Voyages of discovery▪ East India Company	5 mins

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Match the boxes, working from the first line to the last. You can do this either by colour coding the corresponding boxes or marking corresponding boxes with a symbol/number/letter.

If you finish, try to think about which of the impacts played the biggest role in allowing England to expand.

REQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL SHIPS	VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY	PRIVATEERING	EAST INDIA COMPANY
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<p>Definition: Practice of merchants attacking and capturing enemy vessels during times of war, as sanctioned by the government (“legal privacy”).</p>	<p>Definition: Government issued order for merchants/mariners to give up ships for use in warfare.</p>	<p>Definition: Private company established in 1600 which was granted a monopoly over trade with the East Indies.</p>	<p>Definition: Commercial journeys made to countries previously unexplored by Europeans.</p>
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<p>Impact 1: Allowed government to increase military capacity during times of war.</p>	<p>Impact 1: Gave England political power in the east, gradually taking full control of India and later handing it over to the English government as a formal colony.</p>	<p>Impact 1: Brought wealth to the country through trade in highly desirable products, such as tobacco and sugar, and through the transportation of slaves.</p>	<p>Impact 1: Meant that the government could take out hostile vessels and reduce enemy soldiers without expending their own soldiers/vessels.</p>
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<p>Impact 2: Allowed England to establish armed bases in regions of strategic importance.</p>	<p>Impact 2: Could provide merchants with huge (stolen) wealth which was often loaned to the government to help fund warfare.</p>	<p>Impact 2: Allowed England to gain control over vital and lucrative trade routes involving trade in textiles, spices, and tea.</p>	<p>Impact 2: Reduced long-term costs of war by decreasing need for a large standing navy.</p>
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<p>Impact 3: Forced local Indian rulers to pay exceptionally high taxes creating continual revenue stream into England.</p>	<p>Impact 3: Acted as a display of dominance over other European countries, demonstrating English skill, capacity and drive to expand.</p>	<p>Impact 3: Gave government access to ships of large range of sizes and types that were useful for a range of tasks and could be used to form large convoys.</p>	<p>Impact 3: Interrupted enemy trade, reducing their wealth and reducing their available ship fleet.</p>
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