CHAPTER 1: Art and Conquest

Multiple-Choice Questions

1. The first Europeans to establish a permanent foothold on the North American continent were:
   a) the English
   b) the Spanish
   c) the French
   d) the Dutch
   e) the Italians

2. In his publications of the late 16th century, Theodore de Bry presented the people of the Americas as:
   a) exotic
   b) innocent
   c) savage
   d) heathen
   e) all of the above

3. The Aztec center of Tenochtitlan was:
   a) a relatively small city with simple dwellings of wood and stone
   b) a major urban center the size of contemporary London with massive stone temples and elaborate palaces and residential neighborhoods
   c) a major urban center the size of contemporary London composed of one-story structures
   d) a site only for worship containing only religious structures
   e) a distribution center for goods from the surrounding region, with only a small permanent population

4. Aztec objects made of gold and silver were received in Europe with:
   a) indifference
   b) a sense that the Aztecs had little artistic skill
   c) great admiration by the King’s court and artists
   d) great admiration by the King’s court but not by artists
   e) outrage by all at the heathen imagery

5. The Spanish were able to defeat the Aztecs because of:
   a) the indecision of the Aztec leader Motecuhzoma II
   b) their superior weaponry
   c) their Aztec translator La Malinche or Doña Marina
   d) their Tlaxcalan allies
   e) all of the above

6. The most visible statements of Christianity in New Spain were:
   a) mission churches
b) mendicant friars
c) prayer books
d) images of Christ made of tropical bird feathers
e) silver chalices

7. The Pueblo cultures are located in:
   a) the southern portion of what is now California
   b) present-day New Mexico, northern Mexico, and some parts of Colorado and Arizona
   c) southern Georgia
   d) just north of Mexico City
   e) northern Florida

8. Which of these people’s ancestors left arguably the most impressive architectural remains?
   a) The Anasazi
   b) The Mogollon
   c) The Hohokam
   d) The Hohokam and Mogollon
   e) The remains of all three are nearly identical

9. The Franciscans who arrived at Pueblo settlements in the late 16th century were disturbed by:
   a) the hygiene of the people
   b) the inclusion of sexual imagery in their art
   c) Pueblo hunting practices
   d) the design of Pueblo houses
   e) the Pueblo diet

10. 18th-century mission churches in Pueblo regions were influenced by:
    a) European architectural traditions only
    b) Pueblo architectural traditions only
    c) European and Pueblo architectural traditions
    d) Apache architectural traditions
    e) no prior architectural traditions—they were a totally new building type

11. The explorations of the French down the Mississippi river at the end of the 17th century caused the Spanish to send soldiers and missionaries into:
    a) Texas
    b) New Mexico
    c) Oklahoma
    d) Florida
    e) Colorado

12. The Spanish first explored the coast of California as early as:
    a) the late 15th century
    b) the early 16th century
    c) the late 16th century
    d) the 17th century
    e) the 18th century
13. The Franciscan friars in California:
   a) respected the culture of the Native peoples
   b) attempted to alter completely the social relations and spiritual beliefs of the Native peoples
   c) slaughtered many Native peoples in a series of escalating battles
   d) converted only those Native peoples who asked to be converted
   e) lived in complete isolation from all Native peoples

14. Who were probably the first Europeans to explore North America?
   a) Norse sailors
   b) The French
   c) The Dutch
   d) The English
   e) The Spanish

15. The shells used to create wampum belts were replaced by European:
   a) metal discs
   b) wooden slats
   c) gold beads
   d) cloth strips
   e) glass beads

16. The emphasis of early French settlements in the 16th century was on:
   a) farming
   b) mining
   c) fur-trading
   d) hunting
   e) textile production

17. Birch-bark was used by the Native peoples of New France to make:
   a) canoes
   b) dwellings
   c) storage containers
   d) cooking containers
   e) all of the above

18. The majority of French colonizers in the 17th and early 18th century settled in the area now known as:
   a) The St Lawrence River Valley
   b) Louisiana
   c) The Great Lakes
   d) Massachusetts
   e) The Ohio River Valley

19. The Mississippian culture flourished in the period:
   a) 400–700 CE
   b) 600–800 CE
   c) 800–1500 CE
   d) 1600–1700 CE
e) 1700–1800 CE

20. A Native American animal hide painted with geometric, abstract designs is an indication that:
   a) the hide was influenced by European fashion
   b) the hide was probably painted by a woman
   c) the hide came from the Mississippi Valley
   d) the hide was probably painted by a man
   e) the hide was painted for trade with Europeans

21. John White’s watercolors produced during the Roanoke expedition of 1585 provided information about:
   a) local flora and fauna
   b) Algonquian architecture
   c) Algonquian physical features
   d) Algonquian dress
   e) all of the above

22. Pocahontas did which of the following?
   a) Stayed with the English and converted to Christianity
   b) Stayed with the English but did not convert to Christianity
   c) Converted to Christianity but soon left the English
   d) Brought several Englishmen to live with the Powhatan
   e) Had nothing to do with the English

23. The most popular genre of painting in 17th-century New England was:
   a) still life
   b) landscape
   c) historical scenes
   d) religious painting
   e) portraiture

24. The Puritans preferred portraiture styles associated with the court of:
   a) Queen Elizabeth I and King James I of England
   b) King Charles I of England
   c) King Charles V of Spain
   d) King Louis XIV of France
   e) King Louis V of France

25. The naturalistic modeling of the faces in the Freake portraits is drawn from:
   a) English portraiture
   b) French portraiture
   c) Spanish portraiture
   d) Italian portraiture
   e) Dutch portraiture

26. Puritan towns were often laid out according to the model of:
   a) the New Jerusalem
   b) London
c) Babylon

d) Norwich

e) Amsterdam

27. Bacon’s Castle is modeled after:
   a) French chateaux
   b) English village architecture
   c) English manor houses
   d) Algonquian wigwams
   e) Norman castles

28. Colonial women were mainly responsible for:
   a) assisting their husbands with their business dealings
   b) making furniture
   c) producing textiles (e.g. clothing, linens, quilts) and domestic duties
   d) running town governments
   e) leading religious services

29. Samplers were used to teach:
   a) embroidery stitches
   b) the alphabet
   c) spelling
   d) moral virtue
   e) all of the above

30. The Native American in Benjamin West’s *The Death of General Wolfe* (1770) is modeled after:
   a) portraits of British nobility
   b) Classical prototypes found in Greek and Roman sculpture
   c) portraits of colonial merchants
   d) statues of British kings
   e) depictions of Jesus Christ

**True or False Questions**

1. Theodore de Bry used the written accounts of British, Dutch, and French explorers and the images of such artists as John White and Jacques Le Moyne de Morgues to produce an accurate written and visual account of the Native peoples of the Americas.

2. Coatlicue was a powerful Aztec deity who symbolized both birth and death and who was often represented as a combination of both animal and human forms.

3. French, Spanish, and British encounters with the peoples of the Americas resulted in a greater self-consciousness about their identity as “Europeans.”

4. The Aztecs knew for sure, from the moment they saw Cortés, that he was their god Quetzalcoatl, who was returning after a long exile.
5. The painted books or codices produced by Aztec artists working with Spanish friars in the 16th century contain accurate renditions of life before the arrival of the Spanish.

6. While indigenous converts to Christianity worked within the religious institutions of New Spain, they were forbidden from being employed in the colony’s secular institutions.

7. The Pueblo peoples of the 16th century lived in vast cities spread across the floors of major valleys in what are now the states of Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado.

8. Mission churches in Pueblo communities were often positioned on the edge of the town because of mutual distrust between the Spanish and the Pueblo peoples and to accommodate future expansion.

9. The main difference between the mission churches in New Mexico and Texas was their size—the ones in Texas were much smaller.

10. The Native peoples of California prior to the arrival of the Spanish in the 16th century shared a common culture and language.

11. The design elements on Chumash baskets from the 17th and 18th centuries were primarily abstract geometrical shapes or highly stylized plant or animal motifs.

12. The League of the Iroquois was conceptualized by its members as a vast longhouse stretching from west to east.

13. The wampum belts created by the Iroquois and Algonquian were considered precious religious objects, preserved in special containers, and brought out only for religious ceremonies.

14. The Ursulines and Jesuits in New France met with some success during the 17th century in their efforts to convert the indigenous populations to Christianity.

15. The shape of the caribou-hide coats produced by the Montagnais, Naskapi, and Cree in the Quebec-Labrador peninsula remained the same from the arrival of the French in the 16th century through to the 20th century.

16. The major temple mound at the Mississippian site of Cahokia was aligned with the position of the sun at the equinoxes.

17. The Powhatan confederacy that inhabited the region explored by John Smith in the early 17th century built temple structures filled with objects made of skins, copper, pearls, and beads.

18. The Protestant theologian John Calvin wrote that artists should paint the key religious figures in the Bible—e.g. God the Father, Jesus, Mary—in all their glory.

19. The Puritans used the grid plan as both a system for the equitable distribution of land and a diagram of moral order.
20. The distinctive features of the Elizabethan-Jacobean style are linear two-dimensionality, shallow space, and decorative patterning.

21. In the 17th century the southern British colonies were, like the northern colonies, predominantly Puritan and critical of the King of England.

22. Boys and girls in 17th-century New England had equal access to education.

23. One of the most common spaces for visual artistic expression among Native peoples in the 17th and 18th centuries was the human body.

24. Benjamin West’s *Penn’s Treaty with the Indians* (1771–72) is an accurate representation of the clothing, headgear, and ornaments of the Lenni Lenape or Delaware peoples with whom Penn signed a treaty in 1682.

**Essay Questions**

1. Both Aztec and Spanish societies included individuals trained to represent political and religious beliefs in painted form. Compare and contrast the ways in which each group was trained, the kinds of imagery that they produced (style, content, medium), the ways in which these images were used, and where they appeared.

2. Female religious figures played a powerful role in both Spanish and Aztec societies, in particular Coatlicue and the Virgin Mary. Discuss how these two figures came together in the conquest of the Aztec empire and the subsequent establishment of the colony of New Spain.

3. Discuss the similarities between the pre-conquest architecture of central Mexico and the Pueblo and Mississippi architecture of the 9th through 13th centuries (e.g. Chaco Canyon, Cahokia) and the theories that have been presented to explain these similarities.

4. Discuss the ways in which the lives of the Pueblo peoples changed after the arrival of the Spanish, and how these changes affected the imagery and architecture they created and/or were surrounded by.

5. There are many examples of the combining of European and indigenous iconographies and styles in the painting produced throughout the territories of New Spain. Discuss three examples of such “sycretism,” providing a detailed description of both the images and the communities within which they circulated.

6. Compare the social, religious, economic, and political organizations and visual cultures of the Native populations of the central valley of Mexico and the St Lawrence River Valley. Discuss the implications of the differences you identify for the Europeans (the Spanish and the French) who attempted to conquer and settle these regions beginning in the 16th century and to convert the indigenous populations to Christianity.

7. The anthropologist Ruth Phillips describes the origin of the embroidered birch bark items
produced by the Ursuline nuns as “a true contact zone event.” Discuss what she means by this. Also discuss what it meant for Native people to take over the production of these items in the 19th century.

8. Discuss the ways in which Theodore de Bry’s A brief and true report of the new found land of Virginia (1590) influenced European perceptions of the Americas. Pay particular attention to the ways in which de Bry used the drawings of John White in his engraved illustrations.

9. Discuss the ways in which the relationship between religion and art in New England was different from the relationship between religion and art in New France and New Spain.

10. Compare the city plans of 17th-century Puritan towns and the 16th-century Aztec city of Tenochtitlan. Discuss both the physical layout and the symbolic significance of this layout.

11. Compare and contrast the iconography and technical methods used to make samplers and birch bark boxes. Discuss how they functioned in the lives of the women who made them.

12. Discuss the ways in which Benjamin West’s Penn’s Treaty with the Indians (1771–72) and Frère Luc’s France Bringing the Faith to the Indians of New France (c. 1675) represent the encounters between Europeans and Native peoples. What is the relationship between these images and the historical events of the period in which they were produced?

Slide Comparisons

In each case students are asked to compare style, subject matter/iconography, medium, and the context in which each work was produced (e.g. who commissioned it and why, who would have seen it, how it would have been interpreted at the time it was produced). Supplemental questions can be added to focus on particular themes represented in the pairs of works.

1. Frontispiece to Theodore de Bry, A briefe and true report of the new found land of Virginia, 1590 [1.4]
   Simon van de Passe, Pocahontas, c. 1616 [1.65]

2. Anonymous, Aztec, Coatlicue, late 15th century [1.8]
   Anonymous, Aztec, La Virgencita del Nuevo Mundo (The Virgin of the New World), c. 1521–40 [1.10]

3. Church and chapel of the Augustinian Monastery, Epazoyucan, Hidalgo, Mexico, 16th century [1.11]
   San Xavier del Bac, Arizona, 1783–97 [1.31]

4. Simón Pereyns, retablo, Franciscan monastery church, Huejotzingo, Puebla, Mexico, 1580 [1.12]
   Anonymous, known as the Laguna santero, retablo, San José, Old Laguna Pueblo, New Mexico, c. 1760–1846 [1.22]

5. Anonymous, Aztec, Coatlicue, late 15th century [1.8]
   Anonymous, Virgin of the Rosary known as La Conquistadora, c. 1625 [1.28]
6. Maria Marta (Lapulimeu), *Chumash Presentation Basket*, early 1800s
Anonymous/Quebec Ursuline Convent, *Birch Bark Box*, late 18th century

7. Attributed to Frère Luc (Claude François), *France Bringing the Faith to the Indians of New France*, c. 1675 [1.1]
Benjamin West, *Penn’s Treaty with the Indians When He Founded the Province of Pennsylvania in North America*, 1771–72 [1.85]

8. Anonymous, altar cloth with the Holy Family, before 1682 [1.46]
Lydia Hart, *Adam and Eve*, 1744 [1.81]

9. Anonymous, probably Montagnais, painted caribou-skin coat, c. 1700 [1.48]
Anonymous, Powhatan, “Powhatan’s Mantle”, before 1656 [1.63]

10. Reconstruction of the main plaza, Tenochtitlan, Mexico, c. 1500 [1.6]
Mississippian, reconstruction of the mounds at Cahokia, Illinois, c. 1100 CE [1.53]

11. Artist unknown, *Elizabeth Freake and Baby Mary*, c. 1671 and 1674 [1.67]
Henrietta Dering Johnston, *Mrs. Samuel Prioleau*, 1715 [1.80]

Henrietta Dering Johnston, *Colonel Samuel Prioleau*, 1715 [1.79]

Thomas Smith, *Self-portrait*, c. 1680 [1.74]

14. San Estevan, Acoma Pueblo, New Mexico, 1629–42 [1.20]
St. Luke’s, Isle of Wight County, Virginia, 1632 [1.69]

15. Church and chapel of the Augustinian Monastery, Epazoyucan, Hidalgo, Mexico, 16th century [1.11]
Mulberry Plantation, Moncks Corner, South Carolina, 1714 [1.77]

**ANSWER KEY**

Numbers in parentheses are references to relevant pages in the textbook.

**Multiple-Choice Questions**

1. B (p. 19)
2. E (p. 19)
3. B (pp. 20–21)
4. C (p. 22)
5. E (p. 24)
6. A (p. 26)
7. B (p. 28)
8. A (p. 29)
9. B (p. 32)
10. C (p. 32)
11. A (p. 38)
12. B (p. 43)
13. B (p. 44)
14. A (p. 46)
15. E (p. 49)
16. C (p. 49)
17. E (p. 51)
18. A (p. 54)
19. C (p. 55)
20. B (p. 58)
21. E (p. 60)
22. A (p. 62)
23. E (p. 64)
24. A (p. 64)
25. E (p. 67)
26. A (p. 66)
27. C (p. 70)
28. C (pp. 72–73)
29. E (p. 73)
30. B (p. 77)

**True or False Questions**

1. False (p. 19)
2. True (pp. 22–23)
3. True (p. 23)
4. False (p. 24)
5. False (p. 24)
6. False (p. 24)
7. False (pp. 28–30)
8. True (p. 33)
9. False (pp. 38–39)
10. False (pp. 43–44)
11. True (p. 44)
12. True (p. 48)
13. False (p. 48)
14. True (p. 50)
15. False (p. 53)
16. True (p. 56)
17. True (p. 61)
18. False (p. 63)
19. True (p. 66)
20. True (p. 67)
21. False (p. 69)
22. False (p. 73)
23. True (p. 75)
24. False (p. 78)