Spain’s Empire in the Americas
Chapter 2 Section 2

I. Spanish Conquistadors
   A. Conquistadors
      i. Soldiers or adventurers
   B. Cortes
      i. 1519 Cortes attacked Aztecs in Mexico
      ii. Aztec leader Montezuma was defeated
      iii. Spanish take gold and create New Spain
   C. Pizarro
      i. 1532 Pizarro attacked Incas in Peru
      ii. Incan leader Atahualpa is killed
      iii. Spanish conquer Incan Empire
   D. Why were Spanish Victorious
      i. Technology
         a. better armor
         b. better guns and cannons
      ii. Spanish had horses
      iii. Incas and Aztecs were unpopular with Native Americans.

II. Spanish Explorers in North America
   A. De Leon
      i. 1513 discovers Florida
         a. first Spanish person in United States
   B. Cabeza de Vaca
      i. explored Florida and southern coast of US to Texas
         a. Cabeza de Vaca was helped by Estevanico, an African slave
      ii. most explorers died or became slaves to Native Americans
      iii. When return to Europe told of cities filled with gold
         a. inspires more explorers
   C. Coronado
      i. explores American southwest
         a. looking for cities of gold
   D. De Soto
      i. explores American southeast
         a. looking for cities of gold
      ii. discovers Mississippi River
III. Colonizing Spanish America
   A. Harsh Life for Native Americans
      i. Spanish create mines, ranches and plantations
         a. use Native Americans for labor
      ii. Encomiendas
         a. Spanish given right to demand labor and taxes from Native Americans
      iii. Bartolome de las Casas
         a. argued against cruel treatment of Native Americans
      iv. Missions
         a. religious settlements
         b. designed to convert Native Americans to Christianity
            i. San Diego, San Antonio, San Francisco

IV. The Trade in Humans
   A. Native Americans were not enough labor
      i. died or ran away
   B. Slave trade
      i. 1517 Spain begins bringing slaves from Africa
V. Society in Spanish Colonies
   A. Social structure based on blood and where you were born
      i. Peninsulares
         a. Spanish born in Spain
         b. had most rights, power, money
      ii. Creoles
         a. Spanish born in New World
         b. mostly merchants and plantation owners
      iii. Mestizos
         a. mix of Spanish and Indians
         b. some success but could not rise in society
      iv. Mulattos
         a. mix of Spanish and African
      v. Native Americans and Africans
         a. kept at bottom of society.