

**The Portuguese Explorers**

**THINKING COMPETENCY ACTIVITY**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION & WONDER #1:**

Why do you think the Portuguese were so determined to keep exploring the oceans around the Coast of Africa even if there were risks like 'falling off the earth', disease, and the unknown? List your reasons...

**QUESTION & WONDER #2:**

Why do you think Prince Henry the Navigator (a royal family member in Portugal) was never allowed to actually go to sea on a caravel and explore? Why could a prince not go exploring? List your ideas....



**QUESTION & WONDER #3:**

Why would the crew of these ships have reason to be scared and want to return to Portugal? List your reasons...

**QUESTION & WONDER #4:**

Look at p.250 of your textbook...What were the tools needed to navigate ocean exploration? How did they know where they were going? List the navigational tools and which ones you think were the most important...

**QUESTION & WONDER #5:**

Using your notes and the map on page 255 of your textbook- examine both Dias and Da Gama's routes. In your opinion, which explorer was more daring and brave? Why? Identify who you think and list reasons why you think so....

**RETHINK Question #1:**

Do you think about the following statement: "Vasco Da Gama was a good leader and captain because he was ruthless." What would Machiavelli (who wrote the Prince) say about this statement? Give me your opinion on this statement AND what you think Machiavelli would have said about it too.



**Rethink Question #2:**

Do you think it was a good idea for Da Gama to return to India with warships and attack? Who did this benefit? Did he want to do this or was this just his job? Were his reasons justified for attacking, hanging local fishermen, and being barbaric to the people of Calicut, India? What do you think?....

**Rethink Question #3:**

If the roles had been reversed, and Prince Henry the Navigator went to India instead of Da Gama, do you think the Prince would have used war ships and murder to get what he wanted? Explain what you think....

