

WORLD HISTORY, WIDENED

Purpose

In 1750, powerful empires and societies across Africa, the Americas, and the Pacific played major roles in shaping regional and global history. While some are well-known, others are often left out of the story. Analyzing even a few characteristics of the societies in these regions can help widen our understanding of the world in the eighteenth century.

Process

1. Read each Clue Card on the next page carefully. Each one describes an empire or state in Africa, the Americas, or the Pacific from 1750.
2. Analyze the clues and see how many you can match with the correct empire or society from the list below. The evidence you need to make these matches can be found in the articles [“Sub-Saharan Africa,”](#) [“Americas in 1750,”](#) and [“Oceania and the Pacific in 1750.”](#)

Sub-Saharan Africa	The Americas	Pacific
Kingdom of Kongo Asante Empire	Spanish Colonies (New Spain/Peru) Portuguese Brazil British Colonies Mapuche People	Māori Tribes Kingdom of Tonga Tokugawa Japan

3. Once all your matches are made and your Clue Cards are labeled, separate them into three bunches by region—sub-Saharan Africa, the Americas, and the Pacific.

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4. Compare the trends across these three regions. Same year, *very* different vibes! What is the biggest similarity you see among these regions? Use evidence from the articles to support your answer.

5. Which region seems like it was most influenced by the rest of the world? Use evidence from the articles to support your answer.