As You Read: Write the correct words into the crossword puzzle. Some of the answers have multiple words and must be written without a space between words. Spell Carefully.

1. 10 Across: In 1001, Viking sailors led by ________ reached the northern tip of North America. This was the first time in recorded history that Europeans reached the new world.
2. 2 Across: Some historians suggest that Asians continued to cross the Bering Strait into North America after the last ice age ended. Others believe that ancient seafarers from ________ may have traveled to the Americas.
3. 1 Down: Spain wanted a share of the Asian spice trade. King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella agreed to finance a voyage of exploration by Christopher ________, an Italian sea captain who planned to reach India by sailing west across the Atlantic.
4. 11 Down: At dawn of October 12, 1492, Columbus rowed ashore and planted the banner of ________ on the beach of an island in the Bahamas. He had accidently reached the Americas instead of the East Indies, though he never did realize his mistake.
5. 12 Across: Columbus also described the “Indians” he had met, the ________. Columbus promised the Spanish that the Indians could be easily converted to Christianity and could also be used as slaves.
6. 7 Down: Columbus has long been honored as the bold sea captain who “discovered America.” Today, we recognize that ________ Americans had already discovered and settled these lands long before 1492. Columbus never actually discovered anything.
7. 4 Down: Columbus’ daring voyages marked the beginning of lasting ________ among the peoples of Europe, Africa and the Americas.
8. 6 Down: For better or worse, the voyages of Columbus signaled a ________ - a moment in history that changes the world forever.
9. 2 Down: In 1513, Balboa plunged into the jungles of Panama and reached the ________ Ocean. He stood in the crashing surf and claimed the ocean for Spain.
10. 13 Across: The Spanish had no idea how wide the Pacific was until a sea captain named Ferdinand ________ sailed across it.
11. 3 Down: In 1522, only one ship and 18 sailors from Magellan’s crew returned to Spain. They were the first people to ________, or sail completely around, the world.
12. 14 Across: The encounter between the peoples of the Eastern and Western ________ sparked a global exchange of food, medicine, ideas, technology, arts and languages called the Columbian Exchange.
13. 8 Down: Tragically, Europeans also brought new ________, such as smallpox and influenza. Within 75 year, diseases from Europe had killed almost 90% of the people in the Caribbean and Mexico.
14. 9 Down: Today, almost ________ of the world’s food crops come from plants that were first grown in the Americas.
15. 5 Across: Some leaders studied Native American political structures. Benjamin Franklin admired the League of the ________ and urged colonists to unite in a similar way.