**Social Studies 7 – Chapter 1 Hartnett/Covino**

**Important People and Places**

1). **Bering Strait:**

* Located between North America and Asia
* Scientists believe that is where the First Americans crossed into North America

2). **Mound Builders:**

* Also known as the Hopewell People
* They used mounds to bury their dead and have religious ceremonies

3). **Anasazi:**

* Farming culture in the American Southwest (desert – hot and dry)
* Irrigated crops, built homes from adobe and lived in pueblos

4). **Iroquois:**

* Lived in the eastern part of North America
* Part of the League of the Iroquois (Iroquois Confederacy)
* Women held a high position in society

5). **Mayas:**

* Powerful civilization in present day Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador and Honduras
* Powerful priests
* Valued religion, art and learning – studied the stars and created the calendar

6). **Incas:**

* Powerful civilization in the Andes Mountains in South America
* Highly organized government, built roads and bridges, cut terraces into mountainsides to farm and developed irrigation

7). **Aztecs:**

* Powerful civilization in central Mexico
* Built capital city of Tenochtitlan, powerful and warlike
* Worshipped many gods, practiced human sacrifice

8). **Tenochtitlan:**

* Capital city of the Aztecs, built on an island in a shallow lake
* One of the largest with a population of about 300,000 people
* Pyramids, beautiful parks, and a busy marketplace

9). **Vikings:**

* Seafarers from Scandinavia, fierce adventurers
* Founded Vinland in about A.D. 1000 – created a settlement, but left for unknown reasons

10). **Crusaders:**

* Europeans who took part in the Holy Wars known as the Crusades
* Learned about new luxuries such as perfumes, spices and medicines

11). **Marco Polo:**

* An Italian from Venice who traveled around Asia
* Wrote about the treasures of Asia such as carpets, precious stones and splendid woods

12). **Prince Henry:**

* From Portugal – Known as “the Navigator”
* Built a navigation school and taught the finest captains, sailors and scholars about sailing

13). **Bartholomew Dias:**

* Portuguese sea captain 1487
* Sailed around the tip of Africa – named it the Cape of Good Hope

14). **Vasco da Gama:**

* Portuguese explorer who followed Dias’s route around the Cape of Good Hope
* First to find an all-water route to Asia 1497

15). **Christopher Columbus:**

* Italian sailor who sailed for Spain
* Opened the way for other explorers

16). **King Ferdinand & Queen Isabella:**

* King and Queen of Spain
* Sponsored Columbus on his voyages

17). **San Salvador:**

* One of the Bahama Islands located southeast of Florida
* Columbus landed there

18). **West Indies:**

* Part of the Bahama islands
* Columbus landed there and mistook it for Asia