



Dr. Livingstone, I Presume?

Europeans made contact with Africans in the 1400s and traded along Africa's coasts for centuries. However, Europeans had never traveled very far beyond the coasts of the continent. In the mid-1800s Europeans began exploring Africa's interior. One of the most famous explorers was Dr. David Livingstone, a Scottish minister.

Livingstone began exploring Africa in 1841. For 30 years, he went back and forth across the continent.

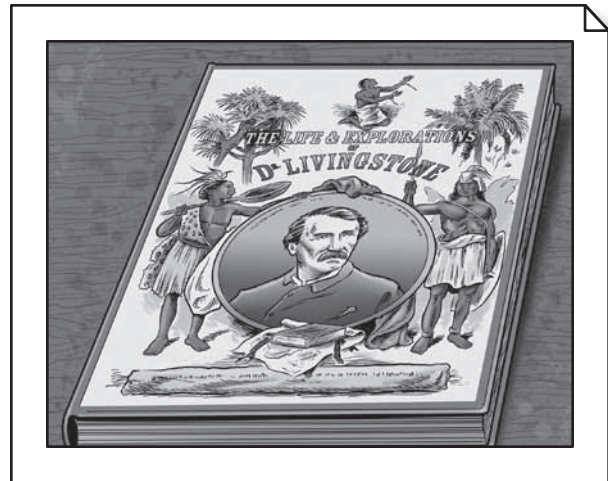
Livingstone's goal was to find places to set up Christian missions. He traveled by foot, canoe, and mule. During his years in Africa, Livingstone had many adventures. For example, he was attacked by a lion and fought African warriors. He got to know the native languages and cultures of the regions he explored. Livingstone fell in love with Africa.

In best-selling books, Livingstone wrote about his adventures and the beauty of Africa. Compared to his peers in Europe, Livingstone wrote about the African people with sympathy and respect. He was against the slave trade, which was still legal at the time of his travels. Livingstone thought opening Africa's interior to Christianity and trade would help to end the slave trade. He said Europeans should send missionaries and merchants to Africa in order to bring civilization to the continent.

During the late 1860s, Livingstone went into central Africa looking for the source of the Nile River. Nobody heard from him for several years, and people thought he had died. A journalist named Henry Stanley went looking for Livingstone, and in 1871, found him. Stanley greeted Livingstone with a phrase that is now famous: "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"

Stanley did not share Livingstone's sympathy for Africans. He went on to work for King Leopold II of Belgium. Leopold hired Stanley to explore the Congo River Basin and arrange trade treaties with African leaders. The Congo was home to valuable natural resources, like copper and rubber. Leopold said he wanted to make life better for Africans. But, he was most interested in conquering areas and making a profit. When Leopold claimed the Congo, other European countries raced to start their own colonies in Africa.

By 1914, Africa had been divided up by Great Britain, Belgium, France, Italy, Germany, Spain, and Portugal. Africans were given little or no control over the governments of the colonies. Liberia and Ethiopia were the only free states left.





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Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer, and write the letter in the box.

1. Europeans began exploring Africa's interior in the _____.
- A. mid-1400s
 - B. late 1400s
 - C. early 1800s
 - D. mid-1800s

2. One of the most famous explorers was _____.
- A. Henry Stanley
 - B. Dr. David Livingstone
 - C. King Leopold II
 - D. Napoleon Bonaparte

3. Livingstone's goal in exploring Africa was to _____.
- A. put an end to the slave trade
 - B. find natural resources, like copper and rubber
 - C. find places to set up Christian missions
 - D. become familiar with native African languages

4. King Leopold II claimed _____.
- A. the Congo
 - B. Liberia
 - C. Ethiopia
 - D. the Nile River Valley

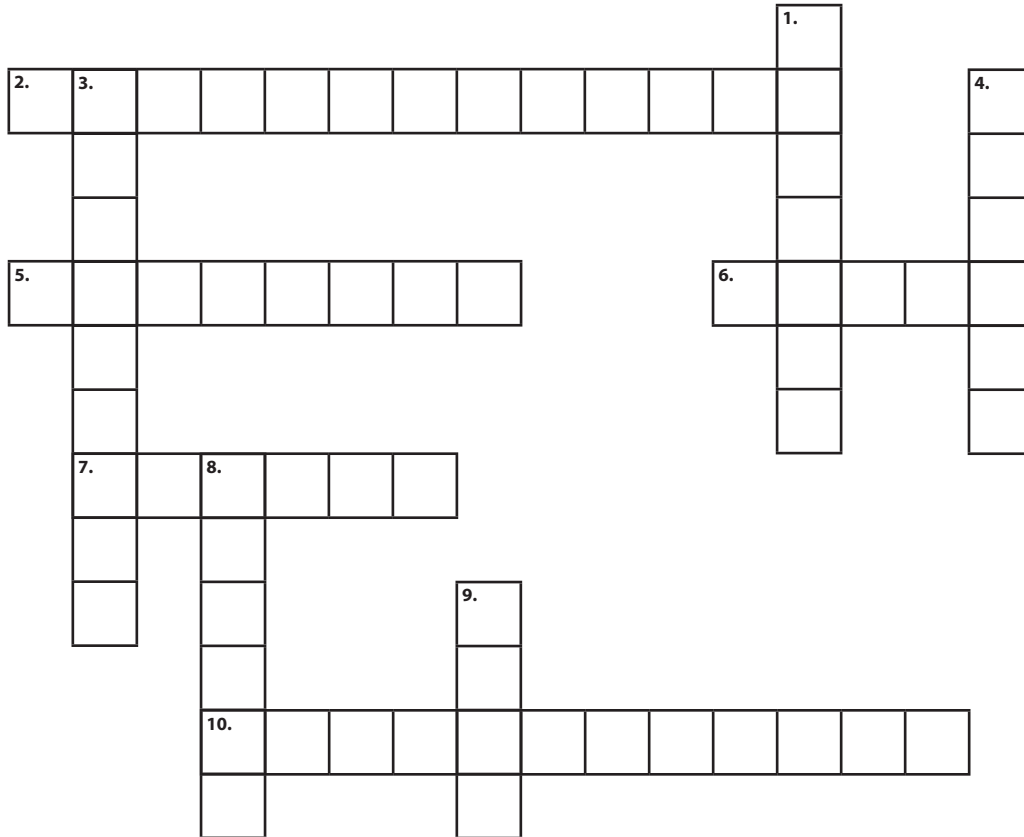
5. By _____, Africa had been divided up by European powers.
- A. 1400
 - B. 1800
 - C. 1880
 - D. 1914



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Crossword Puzzle

Write the best answer in each blank, and complete the crossword puzzle.



ACROSS

2. _____ was attacked by a lion and fought African warriors during his travels.
5. When Leopold claimed the Congo, other European countries raced to start their own _____.
6. Stanley was hired to explore the _____ River Basin.
7. Until the 1800s, Europeans had never traveled far beyond the _____ of Africa.
10. Livingstone said Europeans should send missionaries and merchants to Africa in order to bring _____ to the continent.

DOWN

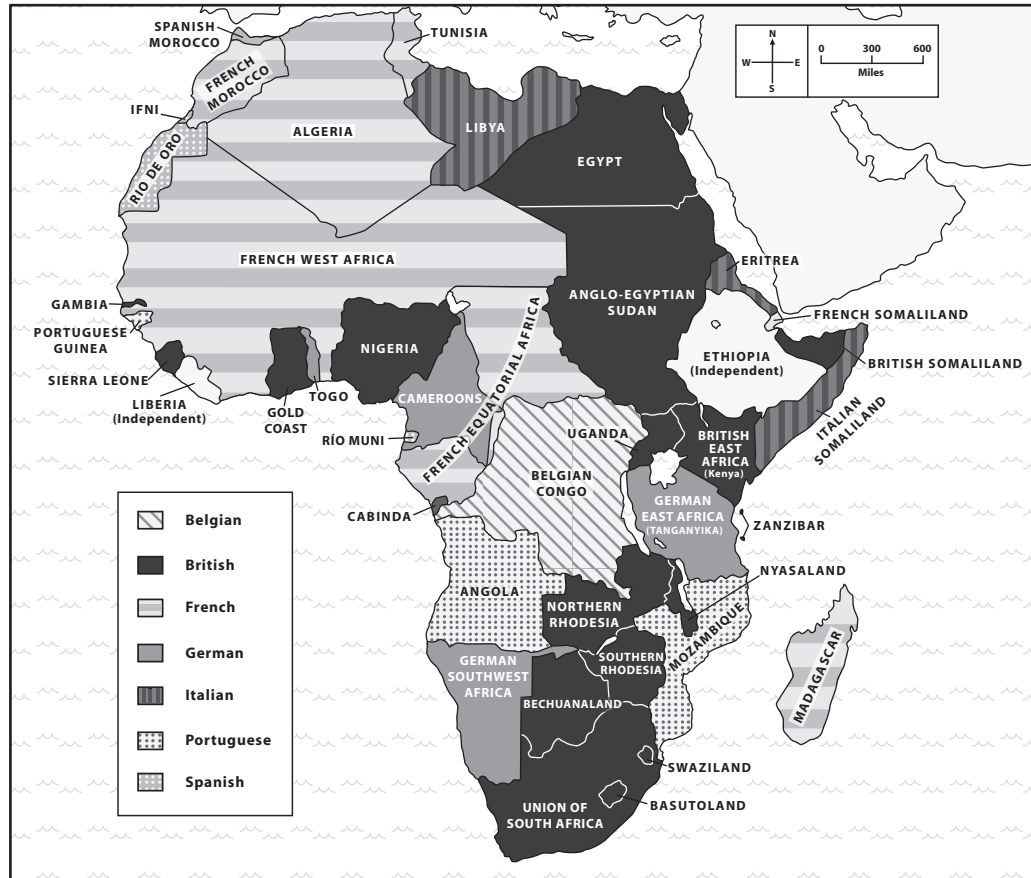
1. _____ was most interested in conquering areas and making a profit.
3. Africa was home to natural _____, like copper and rubber.
4. Compared to his peers in _____, Livingstone wrote about the African people with sympathy and respect.
8. Livingstone wrote about the beauty of _____.
9. Livingstone went into central Africa looking for the source of the _____ River.



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Map – Imperialism in Africa

Use the map to answer the following questions. Write the answers in complete sentences.



1. Which European country controlled most of northwest Africa?

2. Which European country controlled Egypt?

3. What do Ethiopia and Liberia have in common?



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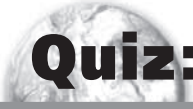
Extension Activities

Choose one of the following activities to complete. Write the answer in complete sentences.

- 1. Dr. David Livingstone viewed Victoria Falls in 1855. What is Victoria Falls? Look in your textbook, on the Internet, or at the library to find out three facts about Victoria Falls.

- 2. Ethiopia was one African nation that successfully stood up to the Europeans. Look in your textbook, on the Internet, or at the library to find out three facts about Ethiopia.

- 3. Dr. David Livingstone explored Africa for 30 years. Would you like to spend that much time learning about something? Explain your answer.



Quiz: Dr. Livingstone, I Presume?

True/False

Decide if each statement is true or false, and write “true” or “false” in the blank.

- _____ 1. Livingstone’s goal in exploring Africa was to find places to set up Christian missions.
- _____ 2. King Leopold II claimed the Congo.
- _____ 3. By 1914, Africa had been divided up among several European powers.
- _____ 4. Until the 1800s, Europeans had only traveled in the African interior.
- _____ 5. Africa had many natural resources, like copper and rubber.

Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer, and write the letter in the box.

6. _____ was hired by King Leopold II to explore the Congo River Basin.
- A. David Livingstone
 - B. Henry Stanley
 - C. Prince Klemens von Metternich
 - D. Prince Henry the Navigator

7. While in Africa, David Livingstone _____.
- A. became familiar with native African languages
 - B. was attacked by a lion
 - C. fought African warriors
 - D. all of the above

Short Answer

Answer the following question in complete sentences.

8. How did David Livingstone feel about Africa?
