

Columbus, the Indians, and Human Progress, p. 3 - 16

A People’s History of the United States, Howard Zinn

Directions: Read Zinn’s first chapter and respond to questions 1 – 3.

1.

<p>Write down preconceptions about Europe/Europeans (Columbus in particular) OR Americas/Indians</p>	<p>Write excerpts from the passages that support or contest your initial thoughts from column 1.</p>
<p><i>Example: Columbus, like many Europeans, did not know as much about the earth; they thought the world was flat.</i></p>	<p><i>“...like other informed people of his time, he knew the world was round...” p. 4 (CONTEST)</i></p>

2. Write down the TWO most important things you believe Zinn writes about Columbus (include page numbers) that all Americans should know. You can paraphrase his actual writing, as long as you include page numbers.

3. Beginning on page 9, Zinn begins to share some of his fundamental beliefs about the way in which history is written and shared from generation to generation. What do you think is the most important thought about history Zinn is trying to get his readers (you and I) to understand?