

CHAPTER-4 | The Colonial Era in India**QUIZ
PART-02**

1. Which European nation first arrived in India by sea in 1498?
A. Spain
B. Portugal
C. France
D. Britain (B)

Explanation: Vasco da Gama of Portugal reached Calicut in 1498, establishing the first sea route from Europe to India.

2. Which European power established Goa as a colony?
A. British
B. French
C. Portuguese
D. Dutch (C)

Explanation: The Portuguese captured and established Goa as their colonial base, introducing trade and Christian missions.

3. The Dutch primarily settled in:
A. Calicut
B. Malabar Coast and Bengal
C. Goa only
D. Delhi (B)

Explanation: The Dutch East India Company (VOC) set up trading posts along the Malabar Coast and in Bengal for spices and textiles.

4. Which European power competed with the British for trade in India?
A. Spain
B. France
C. Portugal only
D. Germany (B)

Explanation: The French East India Company became a major competitor of the British East India Company, especially in south India and Bengal.

5. Which city became the main trading base for the British East India Company?
A. Mumbai
B. Madras
C. Calcutta
D. Goa (C)

Explanation: Calcutta became the primary British trading base in Bengal, facilitating commerce and administrative expansion.

6. Why did European powers focus on coastal regions in India?
A. Access to hinterland only
B. For trade and naval control
C. To convert populations exclusively
D. For military garrisons only (B)

Explanation: Coastal regions allowed Europeans to establish ports, control maritime trade, and defend their trading interests.

7. Which European power was known for its naval strength in India?
A. Portugal
B. Netherlands
C. France
D. Britain (B)

Explanation: The Dutch had a strong navy that enabled them to control trade in the Indian Ocean and protect their commercial interests.

8. Which European nation allied with local rulers to gain advantages in India?
A. France
B. Portugal only
C. Britain only
D. Spain (A)

Explanation: The French often allied with local rulers and Nawabs to strengthen their trading position and military influence.

9. The main trade items Europeans sought from India included:
A. Textiles, spices, and indigo
B. Horses only
C. Tea exclusively
D. Coal only (A)

Explanation: Europeans imported Indian textiles, spices, and indigo, which were in high demand in Europe.

10. The competition among European powers in India eventually led to:
A. Peaceful trade settlements only
B. Military conflicts and territorial control
C. Complete isolation of India
D. Decline of Indian kingdoms immediately (B)

Explanation: Rivalries between the Portuguese, Dutch, French, and British led to battles, alliances with Indian rulers, and eventual expansion of colonial control.