**SS6H1 Study Guide**

1. Europe’s influence in the **New World** was growing rapidly.

2. Cheap labor was needed to continue cultivating (farming) **sugar cane and** **coffee**.

3. The Spanish and Portuguese landowners first tried to use the **indigenous populations** as a labor.

4. However, the Europeans brought too many **diseases** which devastated native populations.

5. The Spanish and Portuguese began importing slave labor from **West Africa.**

6. This became known as the **Transatlantic Slave Trade**.

7. Conditions on these ships were horrible! Many of the slaves died before making it to the **New World**

8. The slaves from Africa were forced to work on plantations called **Haciendas** throughout Latin America, as well as in gold and diamond mines in Brazil.

9. The movement of peoples, agricultural commodities, diseases, and cultures between the Old World and New World during the European Age of Exploration is called the **Colombian Exchange** after Christopher Columbus.

10. The Colombian Exchange is a 15th century example of **globalization**

11. Religion and Languages from the **Iberian Peninsula** spread throughout Latin America

12. Spanish and Portuguese are classified as **Romance** Languages

13. Spain and Portugal were officially **Roman Catholic** during the age of exploration and colonization

14. 1952- **Fulgencio Batista** is the Dictator of Cuba. Cuba isn’t doing well but they do have a relatively friendly relationship with America (Sugar Industry)

15. 1959- Fidel Castro led the Cuban Revolution. He became the new leader and declared Cuba as a **communist state.**

16. America responded to Fidel’s takeover by placing an **embargo** on Cuba, which blocked the island’s sugar exports to American Markets.

17. The **Soviet Union** then got involved and agreed to purchase Cuba’s sugar as well as provide Cuba with weapons and military training.

18. During the Cold War, the Cuban Government agreed to allow the USSR to build a **missile launching complex** on the island.

19. This was discovered by US intelligence in 1962, sparking a 13-day standoff known as the **Cuban Missile Crisis**

20. Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev argued that the placement of the missiles in Cuba was aimed at countering the presence of American missiles in **Italy and Turkey**.

21. The Soviet government also claimed the move was in response to the failed American-backed coup against Fidel Castro at the **Bay of Pigs** one year earlier.

22. The **Kennedy** administration diffused the situation through diplomatic means, the Cuban Missile Crisis was the closest the Cold War had ever come to being a Third World War.

23. US-Cuban relations remained tense for the next **half century**.

24. Only recently have diplomatic relations been **normalized**.

25. **Barack Obama** became the first US President to visit Cuba in 88 years.

26. **Poverty, drugs, and emigration** are all issues Latin America is currently facing.