

# HISTORY OF SPAIN

## Notes

### A. Inhabitants

#### 1. Iberians and Celts

- a. earliest inhabitants
- b. cave dwellers

#### 2. Phoenicians and Greeks

- a. occupied Spain from about 1200 B.C. to 900 B.C.
- b. were sailors
- c. established colonies and trading posts along the Mediterranean coastline

#### 3. Romans

- a. ruled Spain from 200 B.C to 400 A.D.
- b. built bridges, roads, and aqueducts (a bridge that carries water)
- c. introduced their language, Latin, from which present-day Spanish is derived

#### 4. Visagoths

- a. Germanic tribe that defeated the Romans in 409 A.D.
- b. invaded Spain from the north, defeating the Romans

#### 5. Moors

- a. invaded Spain from the south in 711 A.D.
- b. developed sciences (medicine, mathematics, astronomy, etc.)
- c. devised an irrigation system by means of a waterwheel
- d. introduced Arabic words into the language (mostly words beginning with **al-**)
- e. driven out of Spain in 1492

### B. Heroes of the Reconquest (reclaiming the land from the Moors)

#### 1. Pelayo

- a. first leader of Reconquest
- b. initiated the first battle against the Moors (718)

#### 2. El Cid

- a. national hero
- b. continued the struggle against the Moors (1094)

## **C. Important Rulers**

### **1. Isabella and Ferdinand**

- a. “the Catholic Rulers”
- b. completed the Reconquest by driving Moors from Granada (1492)
- c. helped Columbus in the discovery of America

### **2. Charles V**

- a. grandson of Isabella and Ferdinand
- b. most powerful king of Spain (1516-56)
- c. during his reign Spain ruled most of Europe and the New World

### **3. Philip II**

- a. son of Charles V
- b. “the weak king”
- c. his “Invincible Armada” (naval fleet) was defeated in an attempt to invade England in 1588

## **D. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries**

### **1. War of Independence**

- a. 1808-1814
- b. Spain wins freedom against French rule

### **2. Spanish American War**

- a. 1898
- b. Spain was defeated by United States
- c. Spain lost Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippine Islands

### **3. Spanish Civil War**

- a. 1936-1939
- b. General Franco overthrew the republic and set up a dictatorship

### **4. Post-Civil War**

- a. Spain was isolated from the rest of the world while General Franco was dictator
- b. General Franco died in 1975
- c. Juan Carlos became king of Spain in 1975
- d. Spain became a constitutional monarchy (has a symbolic king with elected officials that actually run the country)