Topic 2.4
Developments in Europe
The World Is Flat
Changes In Europe

- By the 1500s, America had been discovered and Europe was growing very quickly
  - Population was increasing
  - Universities established (More knowledge)
  - More wealthy
  - Making technological advances that encouraged exploration (Map construction, navigation)
Changes in Europe

- New technologies included...
  - Using astronomy and mathematics in navigation allowed sailors to calculate their position when no land in sight
- Before this,
  - Long voyages not possible
- Improvements in shipbuilding also allowed for exploration
Exploration

- Had always traded with Asia and Africa
- With new technology, wanted to find quicker routes to Asia
Competition emerged between European countries (Portugal and Spain)

Portugal followed coast of Africa into Indian Ocean

Spain sent Christoffa Corombo) Christopher Columbus west across Atlantic
Around the same time, England funded Zuan Caboto (John Cabot) to cross North Atlantic

- Thought to be quicker route

- Both were looking for China, when they “stumbled” on Americas
England was disappointed when Cabot returned without spices from China.

He did find Newfoundland waters full of fish.

As news spread, countries began travelling to NL to fish in the summer.
Value of Fish

- Most fish was salt cod
- Saltfish was valuable because…
  - Inexpensive source of protein
  - Long time before it spoiled (if cured right)
  - Lightweight (easily transported)