**Before we begin…**

In the space below, tell me everything you’ve learned about Christopher Columbus in the past. Be prepared to share your answers with the class.

**Resource #1: 1960’s Children’s Cartoon**

**Question 1.** According to this cartoon, what did Christopher Columbus accomplish? (i.e. why is he important?)

**Question 2.** How similar is this portrayal of Columbus to what you wrote at the top of this sheet? Did you learn anything new? Explain.

**Question 3.** Based on his portrayal in this cartoon, would you say that Christopher Columbus is a hero/how would you describe his historical impact? Why?

**Question 4.** How might this cartoon influence/shape a child’s opinion of Columbus?

**Resource #2: Excerpts from Christopher Columbus’ personal journal**

**Question 1.** According to Columbus’ journal, what were the native Taíno people of the Caribbean like?

**Question 2.** Based on his writing, what does it seem Columbus intended to do with the native peoples?

**Question 3.** Look at the last passage in this resource. What does Columbus’ primary goal in the New World appear to be?

**Question 4.** What new information did you learn about Columbus from his personal account?

**Resource #3: Passage from Michele de Cuneo’s letter**

**Question 1:** Briefly summarize what you learned about Columbus and the Spanish explorers in this excerpt.

**Resource #3: Excerpts from Bartolome de las Casas’ *History of the Indies***

**Question 1:** According to de las Casas, how did Columbus and the Spanish explorers treat the native people of the Caribbean? (Be detailed!)

**Question 2.** Had they done anything to deserve such treatment? What does de las Casas say that makes you say that?

**Question 3.** What sorts of labor were the natives forced to perform for the Spanish? Why did they force them to do this?

**Question 4.** Based on de las Casas’ writing, what was the ultimate impact of Columbus’ arrival in the Americas on the native TaÍno population?

**Question 5.** Have you ever read any account of Christopher Columbus like this? Why do you think these details are absent from most stories of Columbus (such as the cartoon we watched at the beginning)?

**Final Assignment**

Based on the information from today’s lecture and the primary sources we analyzed, do you believe Christopher Columbus should be remembered as a hero? Georgia is one of the 29 U.S. states that still recognizes Columbus Day as an official holiday. Do you agree with that? Write 1-2 full paragraphs (minimum 5 sentences for each paragraph) explaining your answer. You must use detailed evidence (specific examples) from the readings and lecture to support your stance (I recommend using quotes!) Please write your response on another sheet of paper.