Video Assignment
“Christopher Columbus: Explorer of the New World”
An A&E Biography

Please answer each question with a short analytical essay. A short essay is approximately 2 to 4 paragraphs. You must support your conclusions with information pulled from the video to properly answer each question. The essay must be typed on a word-processor, on white paper, font 11 pt Ariel or similar, 1 inch margins, name/ date/reading/class as the top header.

Please type the question and then the answer to the question. Please number your questions. Do not double-space your answers.

Questions:

1. Why did Columbus want to go west, where did he get his idea for going across the Atlantic? What forces (social and political) were forcing Europe in that direction? What did Columbus rely on for his deductions about moving west, and were did he derive his practical experience?

2. Traveling across the Atlantic “to China” became an obsession. How did Columbus succeed in getting ships to attempt his venture? Why do you think Columbus starts to believe his destiny is god given? How does this help Columbus?

3. Where did Columbus land in the New World? Describe the encounter of peoples in the New World. What were the impressions between both groups?

4. “Columbus was a man of his times.” Provide and explain three examples that demonstrate this statement?

5. Was Columbus truly a great and visionary man or just a pawn in the play that would unfold in the New World? Did Columbus have a strong charisma? Was he successful or unsuccessful?