

Stanley and Livingstone Homework

1. Why did Henry Morton Stanley originally travel to Africa?
2. What was the significance of Stanley's first words to Livingstone: "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"
3. Why had Livingstone traveled to Africa?
4. Explain why Livingstone had made several difficult journeys into the interior of Africa.
5. Describe Stanley's expedition in 1874.
6. What do you think is the significance of Livingstone and Stanley in history?

Stanley and Livingstone: British Explorers of Africa

Stanley and Livingstone were two British explorers who excited the Western world with their travels in Africa. Henry Morton Stanley (1841-1904) went to Africa to find David Livingstone (1813-1873) in 1869. Livingstone was known to be exploring the interior of the continent. But no one had heard from him in several years, and so the *New York Herald* sent Stanley to find him. Stanley's search ended on Nov. 10, 1871, when he met Livingstone at the town of Ujiji, on Lake Tanganyika. Stanley greeted him with the now-famous words: "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"

Livingstone's discoveries. David Livingstone was born in Blantyre, Scotland, near Glasgow. He received a medical degree from the University of Glasgow and joined the London Missionary Society. The society sent him to southern Africa. There he worked to convert Africans to Christianity and to end the business of selling captured Africans as slaves.

Livingstone made several difficult journeys into the interior, mapping the land and searching for navigable rivers that British missionaries and traders could use. In 1849, he arrived at Lake Ngami, in what is now Botswana. In 1851, Livingstone traveled to the Zambezi River, on the border between present-day Zambia and Zimbabwe. He became the first European to cross Africa during an amazing journey between 1853 and 1856. On this trip, Livingstone started at the Zambezi and went north and west across Angola to Luanda on the Atlantic Ocean. On the return journey, he followed the Zambezi to its mouth, in what is now Mozambique. In 1855, during the return, Livingstone became the first European to sight Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River. He named the falls for Britain's Queen Victoria.

From 1859 to 1863, Livingstone led a large expedition across Africa's interior. He became the first European to see Lakes Nyasa and Chilwa, in what is now Malawi. In the late 1860's, Livingstone began to explore the Lake Tanganyika region. He learned more about African customs, geography, and the slave trade than any other European of his day. His discoveries led to a great competition among European nations for control of Africa.



Stanley's explorations. Henry Morton Stanley was born in Denbigh, Wales, and was baptized John Rowlands. He spent most of his youth in a workhouse for orphans. At the age of 17, he sailed as a cabin boy on a ship to New Orleans. There Henry Hope Stanley, a cotton dealer, adopted him. The young Stanley joined the Confederate Army during the American Civil War (1861-1865). He was soon captured. Stanley joined the Union Army to get out of prison but was discharged soon afterward because of poor health. He joined the Union Navy in 1864. In 1865, Stanley deserted and became a newspaper reporter. During the late 1860's, he covered Indian wars in the American West and a British military campaign in Ethiopia. But his best-known assignment was to find Livingstone.

After their meeting, Stanley became interested in Livingstone's hope of finding a source of the Nile River south of the known source in Lake Victoria. Stanley postponed his plans to rush home with news of the great explorer and stayed with him until March 1872.

After Livingstone's death in 1873, Stanley decided to carry on his friend's work in Africa. In 1874, Stanley led an expedition of about 350 people into the interior. The group explored Lake Victoria and other lakes. Then Stanley followed the Congo River all the way west to its mouth at the Atlantic Ocean. He reached the ocean in 1877 after many hardships. By then, more than two-thirds of his company had died or deserted.

In Stanley's later years, he continued to explore Africa. He helped establish the Congo Free State, an area ruled by King Leopold of Belgium. In 1888, near Lake Albert, he reached Emin Pasha, a colonial ruler whom African rebels had cut off from civilization. Stanley served in the British Parliament from 1895 to 1900. He was knighted in 1899.

Robert I. Rotberg, "Stanley and Livingstone," *World Book Online Americas Edition*,
<http://www.worldbookonline.com/ar/?/na/ar/co/ar529300.htm>, March 31, 2003.