



13 Colonies Reading Comprehension Series

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The Connecticut Colony

Connecticut was originally settled by Dutch fur traders in 1614. They sailed up the Connecticut River and built a fort near present-day Hartford.

The first English settlers were Puritans from the Massachusetts Bay Colony who arrived in Connecticut in 1633 under the leadership of Reverend Thomas Hooker. After their arrival, several colonies were established including the Colony of Connecticut, Old Saybrooke, Windsor, Hartford, and New Haven. Hartford quickly became an important center of government and trade.

Much of the land settled by the colonists was purchased from the Mohegan Indians. The Pequot tribe, however, wanted the land. Soon, violence erupted between settlers and the Pequots in 1637. In what came to be known as the Pequot War, the Pequots were systematically massacred by not only the settlers, but by Mohegan and Naragansett Indians that had previously warred against them. Pequot lands were subsequently divided among the settlers and other tribes. After the Pequot War, Thomas Hooker led in the drafting of the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut in 1639. The document was a plan for government and is sometimes called America's first Constitution. John Haynes was then chosen as Connecticut's first governor. Finally, in 1662, Connecticut was issued a royal charter, which gave the colony a legal basis and approval from the King.

1.) Connecticut was originally a(n) _____ colony.

- A. English
- B. French
- C. American
- D. Dutch

2.) Based on the first paragraph of the passage, what can we infer about Connecticut?

- A. There was a lot of gold there
- B. There was a lot of furry animals there
- C. There were a lot of settlers there
- D. It was extremely cold

3.) Where did the first English settlers in Connecticut come from?

- A. England
- B. Massachusetts
- C. Dutch Territory
- D. France

4.) How did the Connecticut Colony grow?

- A. Landowners received their land grants from the King of England
- B. Land was purchased from the Mohegan Indians
- C. Connecticut took land from neighboring colonies
- D. The passage doesn't say

5.) What happened to the Pequot lands?

- A. The land was taken by the settlers
- B. The land was taken by other tribes.
- C. Both A and B
- D. Neither A or B

6.) Which of the following questions is NOT answered in the last paragraph?

- A. What happened to the Pequot lands?
- B. What was the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut?
- C. Who was Connecticut's first governor?
- D. How did Hartford grow as a center of trade and government?

7.) The Fundamental Orders of Connecticut....

- A. was drafted by Thomas Hooker
- B. is sometimes called America's first Constitution
- C. was a plan of government for the Connecticut colony
- D. all of the above

8.) Which of the following is TRUE about the relationships in the Connecticut colony?

- A. The Connecticut colony and the Pequots were allies
- B. The Mohegans and Connecticut settlers were enemies
- C. The Mohegans and the Pequots were allies
- D. The Mohegans and Pequots were enemies

9.) Who was Connecticut's first governor?

- A. John Haynes
- B. Thomas Hooker
- C. The King of England
- D. The passage does not say

10.) Which of the following questions would likely be answered by the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut?

- A. The location of various Indian tribes
- B. When the first settlers came to Connecticut
- C. How the leaders of Connecticut would be chosen
- D. What crops would be harvested in Spring

New Haven, Connecticut

New Haven was founded in 1638 by a group of about 500 Puritans who left the Massachusetts Bay Colony in search of a more "perfect" place to worship. The town was originally named Quinnipiac, after the Indians who lived in the region, but was renamed New Haven in 1640. In 1664, New Haven became part of the Connecticut Colony, and was made co-capital in 1701 (it maintained this status until 1873). In 1716, Yale University moved from Old Saybrook to New Haven. Today, it is one of the nation's most prestigious universities.

On April 23, 1775, the Governor's foot guard, a division of the Connecticut militia under the command of future traitor Benedict Arnold, demanded the keys to the Powder House (a place where guns and ammunition were stored) to arm themselves before marching to Cambridge, Massachusetts. Word of the Battles of Lexington and Concord had just reached Connecticut, and the soldiers wanted to join the budding revolution. The event is still celebrated as Powder House Day in New Haven.

In 1792, Yale graduate Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin in New Haven – which made cotton processing 50 times more productive but also increased the demand for slaves.

1. What happened last?

- A. The capital of Connecticut was moved from New Haven
- B. Yale University moved to New Haven
- C. The Cotton Gin was invented
- D. The Governor's Foot Guard demanded keys to the Powder House

2. What question is not answered in the first paragraph?

- A. Where was Yale University located before it was moved to New Haven?
- B. Why was Quinnipiac renamed?
- C. When was New Haven made co-capital?
- D. Why did settlers come to New Haven?

3. Why did the Puritans settle New Haven?

- A. Because the land was fertile
- B. To be close to Yale University
- C. To find a better place to worship
- D. The Massachusetts Bay Colony was dangerous for them

4. What would be a synonym for “prestigious” as used in the sentence below?

In 1716, Yale University moved from Old Saybrook to New Haven. Today, it one of the nation’s most prestigious universities.

- A. Honored
- B. Expensive
- C. Friendly
- D. Lovely

5. What was the effect of the invention of the Cotton Gin?

- A. People needed better ways to pick cotton
- B. Eli Whitney was a great inventor
- C. The demand for slaves increased
- D. It was invented in New Haven

6. What is missing from the passage?

- A. Information about New Haven’s early history
- B. Information about New Haven’s modern history
- C. Information about when the Cotton Gin was invented
- D. Information about the Governor’s Foot Guard

7. Which is NOT true about New Haven?

- A. New Haven was not the town’s original name
- B. Eli Whitney’s famous invention was made in New Haven
- C. Powder House Day used to be celebrated in New Haven
- D. New Haven became part of the Connecticut Colony in 1664

DELAWARE COLONY Reading Comprehension

The Dutch first settled Delaware in 1631, although all of the original settlers were killed in a disagreement with local Indians. Seven years later, the Swedes set up a colony and trading post at Fort Christina in the northern part of Delaware. Today, Fort Christina is called Wilmington. In 1651, the Dutch reclaimed the area and built a fort near present-day New Castle. By 1655, the Dutch had forcibly removed the Swedes from the area and reincorporated Delaware into their empire. In 1664, however, the British removed the Dutch from the East Coast.

After William Penn was granted the land that became Pennsylvania in 1682, he persuaded the Duke of York to lease him the western shore of Delaware Bay so that his colony could have an outlet to the sea. The Duke agreed and henceforth, Penn's original charter included the northern sections of present-day Delaware, which became known as "The Lower Counties on the Delaware."

The decision by the Duke angered Lord Baltimore, the first proprietary governor of Maryland, who believed he had the rights to it. A lengthy and occasionally violent 100-year conflict between Penn's heirs and Baltimore's heirs was finally settled when Delaware's border was defined in 1750 and when the Maryland/Pennsylvania and Maryland/Delaware borders were defined as part of the Mason-Dixon line in 1768.

Shortly after the incorporation of the "Lower Counties" into Pennsylvania, the sparsely populated region grew isolated from the bustling city of Philadelphia and began holding their own legislative assemblies, though they remained subjects of the Pennsylvania governor. It wasn't until 1776, however, that Delaware had a government completely independent from Pennsylvania. In 1787, Delaware became the first colony to ratify the U.S. Constitution, and hence became America's first state.

1.) The original settlers of Delaware...

- a.) returned to England.
- b.) established a permanent colony.
- c.) were killed by Indians.
- d.) emigrated to Pennsylvania.

2.) The Swedes...

- a.) set up a colony after the Dutch.
- b.) set up their colony after the British.
- c.) never set up a colony.
- d.) set up a colony before the Dutch.

3.) Wilmington, Delaware, used to be known as _____.

- a.) Maryland
- b.) New Castle
- c.) Baltimore
- d.) Fort Christina

4.) Which of the following is the correct timeline for ownership of Delaware?

- a.) Dutch > Swedes > Dutch > English
- b.) Swedes > Dutch > Swedes > English
- c.) Dutch > English > Swedes > English
- d.) Dutch > English > Dutch > Swedes

5.) Why did William Penn want the western shore of Delaware Bay?

- a.) So that settlers could be guaranteed the right to practice their religion
- b.) So his colony had a way to get to the sea
- c.) So his colony could trade with Indians in the region
- d.) So his colony had more land

6.) Disagreements concerning the borders of Delaware resulted in hostilities between...

- a.) The governor of Delaware and Lord Baltimore
- b.) the British and French
- c.) heirs of William Penn and heirs of Lord Baltimore
- d.) William Penn and Lord Baltimore

7.) The Mason-Dixon line defined borders between what states? Select all that are true.

- a.) Delaware and Pennsylvania
- b.) Maryland and Delaware
- c.) Maryland and Virginia
- d.) Pennsylvania and New York

8.) In 1776...

- a.) Delaware became part of Pennsylvania.
- b.) Delaware rejected the Mason-Dixon line.
- c.) Delaware established a government independent of Pennsylvania.
- d.) Philadelphia absorbed Delaware.

9.) Delaware became the _____ state to ratify the Constitution.

- a.) second
- b.) first
- c.) third
- d.) fourth

10.) What question is answered in the last paragraph?

- a.) What was the capital of Delaware?
- b.) Who was Lord Baltimore?
- c.) What states border Delaware?
- d.) When did Delaware ratify the Constitution?

GEORGIA COLONY Reading Comprehension

The colony of Georgia, located directly in between the English colony of South Carolina and the Spanish colony of Florida, was the subject of frequent military invasions by both sides until the Yamasee War (1715–1716) left the area devoid of people.

In 1732, James Oglethorpe received a royal charter for the Province of Georgia. It was named after King George I. Oglethorpe imagined the area as a refuge for England's poor people, who were crowded together in debtors' prisons. In 1733, 116 settlers arrived in modern-day Savannah aboard the HMS Anne. Georgia would become the last of the English colonies in the New World. Soon, immigrants throughout the world came to Georgia in the hopes of being awarded generous land grants, and Georgia quickly become a major center for the export of rice, indigo, beef, and pork.

In 1742, British forces, under James Oglethorpe, attacked a garrison of Spanish soldiers near present-day St. Simon's Island in what came to be known as the Battle of Bloody Run. After about an hour, the Spanish were defeated and permanently abandoned their attempts to invade Georgia.

- 1.) **Why was Georgia the subject of many military invasions?**
- a.) It was near the sea.
 - b.) There were different Native tribes in the region.
 - c.) The land was thought to have a lot of gold.
 - d.) it was in between Spanish and English territory.

- 2.) **What does the word "devoid" mean as used in the first paragraph?**
- a.) empty
 - b.) a few
 - c.) filled
 - d.) totally

- 3.) **What happened in 1732?**
- a.) Settlers arrived in Georgia
 - b.) The Yamasee War
 - c.) Georgians under Oglethorpe attacked the Spanish
 - d.) A royal charter for Georgia was granted

- 4.) **At first, James Oglethorpe imagined Georgia as a place for...**
- a.) slaves
 - b.) plantation owners
 - c.) farmers
 - d.) debtors

- 5.) **Georgia was the _____ of the English colonies in the New World.**
- A. richest
 - B. first
 - C. poorest
 - D. last

- 6.) **Why did so many people come to Georgia?**
- a.) Other colonies were too crowded
 - b.) To practice religion freely
 - c.) They hoped they would receive land
 - d.) A lot of people were in debt

- 7.) **Georgia was NOT a center of _____ production.**
- a.) wheat
 - b.) beef
 - c.) indigo
 - d.) rice

- 8.) **Which question is answered in the third paragraph?**
- a.) When did Spain colonize Georgia?
 - b.) When was Savannah established?
 - c.) When did Spain abandon attempts to colonize Georgia?
 - d.) When did England colonize Georgia?

- 9.) **What happened last?**
- a.) The attack near St. Simon's Island
 - b.) 1743
 - c.) Yamasee War
 - d.) HMS Anne arrives in Georgia

- 10.) **Which of the following assumptions IS NOT supported in the text?**
- a.) There seemed to be a lot of fighting and violence in Georgia's early history.
 - b.) Savannah is probably one of the oldest settlements in Georgia.
 - c.) Georgia seemed to become prosperous after immigrants came.
 - d.) Georgia was a bad choice of location if you were a debtor.

HOUSE OF BURGESSES Reading Comprehension

As the settlement of Jamestown became more successful, the strict rules and harsh consequences doled out by governors, such as Thomas Dale, quickly became outdated and unnecessary. In 1619, George Yeardley was elected the new governor of Virginia. Yeardley's primary goal as governor was to ensure that Virginians would have the same rights as those living in England. Yeardley quickly established the first representative government (officials to represent the people) in the New World and scheduled annual meetings in which laws and rules based on popular will were formulated.

The first meeting of the House of Burgesses (representative government) occurred on July 30, 1619. The House of Burgesses was made up of 22 men - 2 men representing each of Virginia's 11 "plantations" or counties. The major goal of the House of Burgesses was to change the law as imposed by Thomas Dale. Yeardley signed off on the changes, which effectively ended martial law in Jamestown and resulted in newfound freedoms among the settlers. The House of Burgesses effectively represented the first form of democracy to ever reign in the New World. It resulted in the formation of new social and economic institutions such as Virginia's undemocratic slave-labor workforce.

1.) Who was elected as Virginia's new governor in 1619? _____

2.) What was George Yeardley's primary goal as governor?

- a.) To ensure everyone was safe
- b.) To ensure everyone got along with the Indians
- c.) To ensure Virginians had the same rights as people in England
- d.) To ensure he got a lot of gold

3.) What is a representative governor?

- a.) A government which represents England
- b.) A government which represents officials
- c.) A government with officials that represent the people
- d.) A government which is unfair to the people

4.) The House of Burgesses was made up of _____ officials.

- a.) 11
- b.) 2
- c.) 22
- d.) 1

5.) The major goal of the House of Burgesses was to...

- a.) change laws that had been made by the former governor.
- b.) to find 22 representatives.
- c.) to make money for England.
- d.) to make money for the new colony.

6.) Which of the following is NOT true?

- a.) Thomas Dale was governor before George Yeardley.
- b.) The House of Burgesses was the first democracy in the New World.
- c.) The House of Burgesses was made up of 11 representatives for each of the colony's 2 plantations.
- d.) It was important for the governor to ensure that his people had the same rights as the people in England.

7.) Which of the following is NOT true?

- a.) Some of the representatives in the House of Burgesses were women.
- b.) The first meeting of the House of Burgesses occurred in the summer of 1619.
- c.) The creation of the House of Burgesses resulted in the formation of a slave-labor workforce.
- d.) Plantations = Counties

8.) What does "outdated" mean in the following sentence?

As the settlement of Jamestown became more successful, the strict rules and harsh consequences doled out by governors, such as Thomas Dale, quickly became OUTDATED and unnecessary.

- a.) a new date
- b.) replaced by another date
- c.) old and inappropriate
- d.) fun

9.) Which happened last?

- a.) Winter of 1618
- b.) George Yeardley became governor
- c.) The House of Burgesses was formed
- d.) Winter of 1619

10.) Which happened second?

- a.) The slave-labor workforce was formed.
- b.) George Yeardley became governor.
- c.) The House of Burgesses was formed.
- d.) 1620

Indigo in South Carolina

In the 1600s and 1700s, Charleston, South Carolina, was an important port for the trading of rice, tobacco, and indigo. While most people could easily explain the first two products, most have no idea what indigo is, other than a dark blue color.

Indigo is a dark blue dye that can be made from the "peas" of certain tropical plants. Indigo was used to dye clothes blue. It was very valuable to plantation owners and farmers in South Carolina because it could grow on land that was not suited for tobacco or rice. Indigo would prove to be South Carolina's second most valuable crop. Some called it "blue gold." Over time, however, indigo production in South Carolina declined. After the Revolutionary War, English merchants started getting indigo from India. South Carolina farmers, however, weren't too sad. They soon turned their attention to growing a far more valuable crop --- cotton.

1. Which was not a crop grown in South Carolina?

- A. tobacco
- B. corn
- C. cotton
- D. rice

2. Why do you think indigo was called "blue gold"?

- A. Because it has blues and gold in it
- B. Because there were different kinds of plants that could be used to make indigo
- C. Because it was blue; and valuable like gold
- D. Because English merchants began getting it from India

3. Why was indigo such a valuable crop to farmers?

- A. Because it could only be grown on land with tobacco
- B. Because it could only be grown on land in which tobacco and rice were already being grown
- C. Because it could be grown on land that tobacco and rice could not be grown on
- D. Because people in India wanted it

4. Which is true?

- A. South Carolina farmers were upset that English merchants began getting indigo from India
- B. Indigo was less valuable as a crop to South Carolina farmers than tobacco and cotton
- C. After the Revolutionary War, English merchants began buying cotton in India
- D. South Carolina merchants turned to growing cotton after English merchants began getting indigo from India.

JAMESTOWN (part 1) Reading Comprehension

Despite the failure of the Lost Colony at Roanoke, King James I was eager to start a permanent English settlement in North America. He granted charters to a pair of English companies to establish those settlements. While one of the two companies was unsuccessful in establishing a colony in present-day Maine, the other, known as the London Company, led by Captain Christopher Newport, sailed to Virginia and established a settlement on a swampy peninsula on the James River.

While the chosen location certainly provided good cover from the potential ambushes of local Indians, its swampy climate led to horrible diseases such as dysentery and malaria. Jamestown further suffered from poor and corrupt leadership and a population of men that were unfit for life in the wilderness. Many were there for the opportunity to make a lot of money and refused to participate in building shelters or collecting food. Settlers constantly bickered with each other and found relatively little in the way of natural resources or wonders to send back to England.

Because Jamestown was built on traditional hunting grounds of the Algonquin Indians, trouble arose soon after their arrival. By the winter of 1607, only 38 out of the original 104 settlers were still alive. Food shortages were making unbearable situations even worse. Jamestown was on the brink of collapse until John Smith formulated plans to procure Indian corn and other foods via trade. Smith's first excursions were extremely successful, and he returned to the beleaguered colony with large quantities of corn and beans. On one of his excursions, however, he was ambushed by Indians and taken to the great Chief Powhatan. Smith used his charm and persuasion to convince Powhatan that the settlers were peaceful and did not intend to build a permanent settlement at Jamestown. Smith was subsequently returned to Jamestown and gained influence among the colonists.

In winter of 1608, Jamestown remained a desperate settlement with serious leadership problems and a food shortage. John Smith became hated by much of the so-called leadership. Despite at least one attempt on his life, Smith was named president of the Jamestown Council because of his previous experience and because he was one of the few colonists who knew what it took to survive at Jamestown.

For the next year, Smith managed the colony about as well as it could be managed. He forced all colonists to work and contribute to the colony as a whole. He imposed badly needed discipline and even staged shooting contests and drills to scare local Indians who were surely spying on them. Besides managing Jamestown, John Smith procured food from local Indians for European trinkets and goods. Despite Powhatan's demand for guns, John Smith refused to trade them and often burned villages and stole food when Indians would not trade. Smith's power terrified the Indians, who came to think of him as virtually indestructible. Powhatan rightfully saw him as the life force of Jamestown and sent his warriors on countless missions to kill him. While John Smith escaped death many times with firepower, Powhatan's daughter, the princess Pocahontas, took a special liking to him, and informed him in advance when her father would send warriors after him.

1.) What question is answered in the fourth paragraph?

- a.) Who tried to kill John Smith?
- b.) Why was John Smith named president of the Jamestown Council?
- c.) Who else was considered for president of the Jamestown Council?
- d.) On what date was John Smith named president of the Jamestown Council?

2.) What did John Smith refuse to trade to the local Indians?

- a.) digging tools
- b.) guns
- c.) horses
- d.) food

3.) How did John Smith act when the Native Americans refused to trade with him?

- a.) peacefully
- b.) fairly
- c.) The passage does not say.
- d.) violently

4.) What does the word “procured” mean in the following sentence:

Besides managing Jamestown, John Smith procured food from local Indians for European trinkets and goods.

- a.) threatened
- b.) obtained
- c.) grew
- d.) stole

5.) How did John Smith gain “influence” among the settlers?

- a.) They saw he had excellent leadership qualities.
- b.) He was easy on the colonists and understanding of their laziness.
- c.) His persuasiveness with Powhatan likely saved the colony from attack.
- d.) He threatened them.

6.) What can you INFER about why Powhatan wanted to kill John Smith?

- a.) Powhatan wanted to control the Jamestown colony.
- b.) He hated that his daughter took a special liking to him.
- c.) John Smith was disrespectful to his people.
- d.) He believed killing John Smith would eventually lead to the death of the colony.

7.) John Smith was _____ to the early survival of the Jamestown colony.

- a.) creative
- b.) nominal
- c.) indispensable
- d.) burdensome

8.) Which of the following was NOT a problem the settlers encountered at Jamestown?

- a.) bad leadership
- b.) disease
- c.) food shortages
- d.) freezing cold weather

9.) What did John Smith convince Powhatan of?

- a.) That the settlement was peaceful and not permanent
- b.) That more English were coming to the settlement
- c.) That the settlers were just trying to find food
- d.) That the settlers were trying to establish a permanent settlement

10.) How did the “leadership” of Jamestown feel about John Smith?

- a.) Most people thought he was tolerable.
- b.) Many hated him.
- c.) The passage gives no clue to the answer of this question.
- d.) They obviously loved him.

JAMESTOWN (part 2) Reading Comprehension

The Jamestown colony flourished under the strict rule of John Smith. Nevertheless, the London Company (which was now called the Virginia Company) had formed a new government that was to be led by Thomas De La Warr. The new charter issued by the Virginia Company called for the appointment of a governor rather than a president. John Smith, who nearly died after igniting himself in a canoe, returned to England for good. Since De La Warr was unable to make the trip immediately, Thomas Gates was named interim governor. Unfortunately, Gates' ship wrecked off the coast of Bermuda, and he was unable to resume the trip until new ships were built.

Meanwhile, the Virginia Company was in the process of reformulating its philosophy on potential profits in Jamestown. By 1609, it became obvious that profits would have to be realized over a long-term basis rather than immediately. The Virginia Company began reorganizing business possibilities to resemble those that had been successful in controlling the populations in Ireland. They proposed to bring England to the New World by sending families to Jamestown. Families were promised their own parcels of land for seven years of communal labor at Jamestown. This, the Virginia Company believed, would cause colonists to have a permanent stake in the welfare of the community as a whole, which would result in increased productivity and profit. Those that were not wealthy enough to pay their passage to the New World would have their trip subsidized (paid for) in exchange for seven years of labor. Those individuals became servants.

With John Smith out of the picture, and with the lack of a visible leader at Jamestown (because of Gates' shipwreck), Powhatan saw an opportunity to rid himself of the white settlers once and for all. Hence, Powhatan ordered his people to stop trading with the settlers. Without any leadership, and more specifically without the leadership of John Smith, the settlers once again became complacent and stopped contributing to the welfare of Jamestown. Trading teams that departed from Jamestown to Powhatan's lands rarely returned and were presumed dead. Without corn from the Algonquins, with settlers who refused to work and with Powhatan's warriors seemingly closing in around them, the winter of 1609–1610 became known as the "Starving Time." Colonists were forced to eat cats and dogs, and some were even executed for digging up human corpses to eat. When Gates finally arrived in 1610, only about 60 of the 500 settlers were still alive. Gates decided to abandon the settlement and nearly set sail with the remaining settlers for England. While Powhatan and his people celebrated wildly, Thomas De La Warr arrived with three fully supplied ships with a mission to stay indefinitely.

De La Warr and Gates reestablished the tough discipline that had led the colony to success under John Smith. Under the set of rules developed by Gates and enforced by Sir Thomas Dale (the future governor of Virginia), settlers would be brutally punished for breaking the rules. Settlers were shot, burned at the stake, and hung at the gallows. Such transgressions as cursing carried physical torture or public humiliation as consequences.

During this time, relations with the Indians worsened. The settlers were still dependent on the Indians for food and became more and more violent in their quests to obtain it. The Indians, in turn, responded in kind, resulting in a bloody series of killings on both sides.

1.) What does the word “indefinitely” mean in the following sentence?

While Powhatan and his people celebrated wildly, Thomas De La Warr arrived with three fully supplied ships with a mission to stay indefinitely.

- a.) for a long time
- b.) for a short time
- c.) for no time
- d.) under certain conditions

2.) According to the business philosophy of the Virginia Company of London, settlers would be productive if...

- a.) they loved their governor.
- b.) they were threatened with death.
- c.) they had a stake in the community as a whole.
- d.) they were promised gold.

3.) When did Powhatan decide to stop trading with the colonists?

- a.) When John Smith was gone.
- b.) When he realized Jamestown had no real leader.
- c.) Both A and B
- d.) Neither A or B

4.) What is the general theme of the passage?

- a.) The colony would have been more successful with more discipline.
- b.) The settlers were unfair to the Powhatan Indians.
- c.) Pocahontas took a special liking to John Smith.
- d.) The Jamestown colony constantly struggled to survive in its early years.

5.) Under the leadership of John Smith, the Jamestown colony...

- a.) disintegrated
- b.) split
- c.) thrived
- d.) flourished

6.) According to this passage, at what point were the settlers no longer dependent on the Powhatan Indians for food?

- a.) After the Starving Time
- b.) After the arrival of Thomas De La Warr
- c.) After discipline was reestablished at Jamestown
- d.) By the end of this passage, the settlers were still dependent on the Powhatans for food.

7.) What happened last?

- a.) The Starving Time
- b.) Gates decides to abandon the settlement.
- c.) John Smith departs.
- d.) Thomas de La Warr arrives.

8.) When Thomas Gates returned to the Jamestown settlement, _____ of the settlers were alive.

- a.) few
- b.) most
- c.) all
- d.) none

9.) Profits from the settlement of Jamestown would come...

- a.) quickly
- b.) immediately
- c.) never
- d.) eventually

10.) How did the settlers respond after the departure of John Smith?

- a.) They continued to work hard for the welfare of the settlement.
- b.) They decided to return to England.
- c.) They became lazy and selfish again.
- d.) They responded by carrying on the rules of John Smith.

The Virginia Colony (Jamestown) Part 3 Reading Comprehension

During the winter of 1612–1613, Samuel Argall devised a plan to kidnap Powhatan's favorite daughter, Pocahontas, who was visiting friends near Jamestown. Argall bribed two Indians with some copper kettles to lure Pocahontas onto an English ship. Although Pocahontas was suspicious, she boarded the ship and was kidnapped. Argall planned to ransom Pocahontas, but Powhatan was unwilling to meet the demands of the English. Negotiations dragged on for over a year, during which time Pocahontas grew accustomed to life among the English. In captivity, she converted to Christianity, was baptized, and in 1614, married the wealthy tobacco planter John Rolfe. The marriage of Rolfe and Pocahontas resulted in a truce between the Indians and the English. Although Powhatan was unhappy with the marriage and truce, as he realized it would result in the expansion of the English settlement, he grew tired of the fighting and felt powerless to stop it.

Despite the truce, Jamestown remained a dismal place for most of the settlers. Food shortages and disease were rampant in Jamestown. Because Rolfe's tobacco crop showed such promise for profit, many settlers began growing their own, though few reserved space for corn. Tobacco became the cash crop of the Jamestown settlement. In 1614, conditions improved for settlers when Thomas Dale, using his powers as governor, began transferring some of the land to private ownership. In order to continue growing tobacco, the Virginia Company needed a substantial workforce. Through “the headright system,” English settlers were guaranteed 50 acres of land in return for three years of labor. Heads of families that came to the New World were guaranteed 50 acres of land for each person they brought over. With their own lands, settlers began to build houses, tend to their land, and grow crops, which resulted in a new hope and inspiration for a successful colony.

Unfortunately, Jamestown's future was not bright. Powhatan's successor, Opechancanough, attacked the white settlements near Jamestown in order to prevent the settlers from taking more land for tobacco. It was a surprise attack, as the warriors approached the settlements as if they were preparing to trade. The attacks decimated the settlements and resulted in the deaths of 347 settlers, including John Rolfe. The attacks were especially surprising considering the peaceful relations that had reigned for many years. Although the Indians were driven back and eventually completely defeated, in 1624, as a result of the high mortality rates at Jamestown and the colony's poor financial state, King James revoked the colony's charter and made Virginia a possession of the Crown.

1.) Which of the following DID NOT happen to Pocahontas while she was kidnapped?

- a.) She had a child.
- b.) She converted to Christianity.
- c.) She got married.
- d.) She grew accustomed to life among the settlers.

2.) Why was Pocahontas kidnapped?

- a.) So John Rolfe could marry her.
- b.) Because the settlers believed Powhatan would meet their demands to get her back.
- c.) So they could bring her back to England.
- d.) To unite the Powhatans and settlers.

3.) As a result of the marriage between Pocahontas and John Rolfe...

- a.) hostilities ceased temporarily between the Powhatans and settlers.
- b.) war was imminent.
- c.) the Powhatans and settlers became rich.
- d.) Powhatan finally met the ransom demands of the settlers.

4.) Powhatan was _____ with the marriage between his daughter and John Rolfe

- a.) pleased
- b.) unhappy
- c.) surprised
- d.) mortified

5.) Ultimately, Powhatan felt _____ concerning the growth of Jamestown.

- a.) excited
- b.) pleased
- c.) disappointed
- d.) powerless

6.) _____ became the cash crop of the Jamestown colony.

- a.) Corn
- b.) Cotton
- c.) Beans
- d.) Tobacco

7.) As part of the headright system, colonists were guaranteed _____ for _____.

- a.) food; land
- b.) land; food
- c.) food; labor
- d.) land; labor

8.) Who was guaranteed 50 acres of land under the headright system?

- a.) Anyone who came over to Jamestown from England.
- b.) The heads of families
- c.) The heads of families who brought at least one settler from England to Jamestown.
- d.) Settlers who tended their own lands and who grew food for other settlers.

9.) Why were Jamestown and the colony of Virginia made possessions of the Crown?

- a.) The colony's high mortality rate.
- b.) The colony was making incredible profits.
- c.) The colony could no longer grow tobacco.
- d.) John Rolfe was killed.

10.) As more settlers arrived in Jamestown...

- a.) they crowded into existing settlements.
- b.) relations with the Powhatans improved because of the increase in trade.
- c.) less land was available for the Powhatans.
- d.) the settlement of Jamestown became more profitable in the eyes of the British Crown.



The Massachusetts Colony

The colony of Massachusetts was founded in 1620, when the Pilgrims arrived from England and formed the Plymouth Colony. Although the Pilgrims were ravaged by disease and hunger, they managed to write the Mayflower Compact, a local government that established rules and regulations in order to ensure the colony's survival.

Upon their arrival, local Wampanoag Indians, led by Chief Massasoit, taught them to plant crops. About half the original passengers on the Mayflower survived. In 1620, the Pilgrims and Indians celebrated the first Thanksgiving, though it was certainly not the type of celebration we have today.

In 1629, Puritans founded the Massachusetts Bay Colony in Boston. The Puritan colony grew quickly and soon became the economic and religious center of Massachusetts. Unlike the Pilgrims, who came to Massachusetts for religious freedom, the Puritans came for religious purification, and were intolerant of other religious groups. Many religious groups were banned from Massachusetts and several dissenters exiled by the Puritans, such as Roger Williams and Joseph Hooker, founded other colonies.

1.) Who arrived in Massachusetts in 1620?

- A. Pilgrims
- B. Wampanoags
- C. Joseph Hooker
- D. Roger Williams

2.) Which of the following best describes the Mayflower Compact?

- A. A small army
- B. A small government
- C. A small ship
- D. A small weapon

3.) Which of the following words best describes the Wampanoag Indians in how they acted toward the Pilgrims?

- A. Tiresome
- B. Illegal
- C. Suspicious
- D. Helpful

4.) _____ of the passengers on the Mayflower survived at Plymouth.

- A. Most
- B. All
- C. None
- D. Some

5.) The Pilgrims were _____ equipped for life in the New World.

- A. Well
- B. Poorly
- C. Totally
- D. Sort of

6.) The Massachusetts colony would soon be dominated by...

- A. the English
- B. the Pilgrims
- C. the Indians
- D. the Puritans

7.) Pilgrims came to America for _____ and Puritans came to America for _____.

- A. religious purification; religious purification
- B. religious freedom; religious freedom
- C. religious purification; religious freedom
- D. religious freedom; religious purification

8.) The Puritans were _____ of other religious groups.

- A. intolerant
- B. fairly tolerant
- C. totally tolerant
- D. accepting

9.) Which of the following WAS a result of the Puritan stance on religious freedom?

- A. The Pilgrims protested
- B. Dissenters founded colonies based on the same ideals.
- C. Dissenters founded colonies based on opposite ideals.
- D. The passage does not say.

10.) What does the word 'banned' mean in the following sentence?

Many religious groups were **banned** from Massachusetts and several dissenters exiled by the Puritans, such as Roger Williams and Joseph Hooker, founded other colonies.

- A. Allowed
- B. Contained
- C. Prohibited
- D. Destroyed

MARYLAND COLONY Reading Comprehension

Cecil Calvert, 2nd Lord of Baltimore, founded Maryland in 1632. Cecil's father, George Calvert, had received a royal charter for the land from King Charles I. The new colony was named after Henrietta Maria, the wife of the king. In November of 1633, about 200 Catholic settlers led by Cecil's younger brother boarded the ships Ark and Dove and set sail for Marie's Land (later Maryland).

By 1634, Maryland became one of the few territories of England to be predominately Catholic. The Catholic settlement became known as St. Mary's and is currently the fourth-oldest permanent British settlement in America.

In 1649, the Maryland Toleration Act was passed, which guaranteed religious tolerance to settlers as long as the religion was a sect of Christianity. After England's "Glorious Revolution" of 1688, which established the Protestant faith in England, Catholicism was outlawed in Maryland until after the Revolutionary War. The Puritan government of Maryland at the time burned down all of southern Maryland's original Catholic churches.

By the 1700s, Maryland and Virginia became plantation economies and grew tobacco as the cash crop. Up to 40 percent of Maryland's population were slaves or convicts who worked in the tobacco fields. Soon, Baltimore, a large port on the Chesapeake Bay, became an important center for tobacco export.

1.) Who was the colony of Maryland named after?

- a.) The wife of the king
- b.) Cecil Calvert
- c.) Mary Calvert
- d.) George Calvert

2.) Who were the first settlers of Maryland?

- a.) Catholics
- b.) People from different religions
- c.) Quakers
- d.) Puritans

3.) Who received the royal charter for Maryland?

- a.) Puritans
- b.) Mary Calvert
- c.) Cecil Calvert
- d.) George Calvert

4.) What made Maryland unique among colonies?

- a.) It was given a royal charter before it was settled.
- b.) Most of its settlers were Catholic.
- c.) 200 settlers were sent to make a colony there.
- d.) It was founded in 1632.

5.) What question is not answered in the first paragraph?

- a.) What were the names of the ships that brought settlers to Maryland?
- b.) What was the name of the first settlement in Maryland?
- c.) How many settlers arrived in Maryland?
- d.) All of the above questions are answered.

6.) What did the Maryland Toleration Act guarantee?

- a.) freedom of religion
- b.) freedom of expression
- c.) freedom of religion for Christians
- d.) land for Catholics

7.) St. Mary's is the _____ settlement in America.

- a.) oldest settlement
- b.) fourth-oldest permanent British settlement
- c.) fourth-oldest permanent settlement
- d.) fourth-oldest settlement

8.) Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- a.) Maryland eventually became part of Virginia.
- b.) The Catholics would always control Maryland.
- c.) Eventually, the Puritans came to control Maryland.
- d.) Slavery would be outlawed in Maryland.

9.) Which of the following is NOT true?

- a.) If you were to visit parts of Maryland today, you could visit some of the nation's original Catholic churches.
- b.) Baltimore would become an important port for tobacco shipping.
- c.) Tobacco was grown as a cash crop in Maryland.
- d.) All of the above are true.

10.) What does the word "convicts" mean in the following sentence:

Up to 40 percent of Maryland's population were slaves or **convicts** who worked in the tobacco fields.

- a.) farmers
- b.) servants
- c.) miners
- d.) criminals

NEW JERSEY COLONY Reading Comprehension

New Jersey's early colonial history is similar to New York's. Like New York, the area was first colonized by Dutch settlers around 1613. The colony was called New Netherland and included parts of modern-day New York and New Jersey. In 1660, the town of Bergen became the first established town in the New Jersey portion of New Netherland. Today, it is a large city named Jersey City.

By 1664, the British had claimed the entire region and had driven the Dutch out. New Netherland was renamed New Jersey and New Amsterdam was renamed New York. Although King Charles originally gave the region to his brother, the Duke of York, eventually, he decided to divide the region and gave the land between the Hudson and Delaware River (New Jersey) to two of his friends, Sir George Carteret and Lord Berkeley of Stratton.

Carteret and Berkeley began attracting people to the area by offering land and guaranteeing religious freedom. In return for the land, the settlers were supposed to pay a yearly tax called a quitrent. The quitrents proved hard to collect, which prompted the sale of the land to the Quakers in 1673. Upon the sale, New Jersey was divided into West Jersey and East Jersey. However, by 1702, the two divisions were united as the royal colony of New Jersey.

1.) How was the founding of the colony of New Jersey similar to the founding of New York?

- a.) They were both originally Dutch.
- b.) They were both founded by the Puritans.
- c.) They were both founded within five years of each other.
- d.) They were both originally English.

2.) _____ is the modern name of the first established town in New Jersey.

- a.) New York
- b.) New Netherland
- c.) Jersey City
- d.) Bergen

3.) After the British took over the region...

- a.) New Netherland was renamed New York, and New Amsterdam was renamed New Jersey.
- b.) Both New Netherland and New Amsterdam were renamed New York.
- c.) New Netherland was renamed New Jersey, and New Amsterdam was renamed New York.
- d.) The Dutch remained in control of New Netherland.

4.) New Jersey was considered the land in between...

- a.) New Amsterdam and New Netherland.
- b.) The Delaware River and the Hudson River.
- c.) The Hudson River and the Jersey River.
- d.) The Delaware River and the Atlantic Ocean.

5.) Who did the king give TEMPORARY possession of the land to that would become New York and New Jersey?

- a.) King Charles
- b.) Lord Berkeley
- c.) The Duke of York
- d.) George Cateret

6.) What question is answered in the second paragraph?

- a.) Why did King Charles decide to divide the region?
- b.) What country eliminated the Dutch from New Netherland and New Amsterdam?
- c.) How much profit did Lord Stratton make?
- d.) How did the Duke of York feel about King Charles's decision?

7.) Which of the following WAS NOT true of the New Jersey colony?

- a.) New Jersey eventually became a royal colony.
- b.) It offered religious freedom.
- c.) New Jersey was eventually sold to the Quakers.
- d.) Settlers were not required to pay taxes.

8.) What was a quitrent?

- A. A tax
- B. A parcel of land
- C. A weapon
- D. A contract

9.) Why was New Jersey sold to the Quakers?

- A. New Jersey had become unmanageable.
- B. England was waging a war.
- C. Taxes were hard to collect.
- D. The Quakers offered a high price.

10.) East and West New Jersey...

- A. would eventually be united.
- B. would be dissolved.
- C. would never be united.
- D. would become different states.

NEW YORK COLONY Reading Comprehension

The area that first became New Amsterdam, and eventually New York City, was first referred to as “Man-A-Hat-Ta” by the local Indians. The name meant "heavenly land." It was first visited by the French explorer Giovanni da Verrazzano in 1524. Verrazzano explored much of America's northeast coast, including the waters around New York City and Long Island. Today, one of the world's longest bridges, the Verrazzano Narrows Bridge, in New York City, is named for him.

The first people to settle the area were the Dutch. Henry Hudson explored the region and named the world's largest tidal river, the Hudson River, after himself. Hudson's explorations, from Albany to New York City, provided the impetus for the Dutch to colonize the region. The Dutch quickly built a settlement and a network of roads. Some of the roads, such as Broadway and Pearl Street, are still in use today.

Peter Minuet arrived the following year and bought Man-A-Hat-Ta from the local Indians for about 24 dollars' worth of beads and trinkets. Man-A-Hat-Ta itself was not inhabited by Indians. Nevertheless, Man-A-Hat-Ta became known as New Amsterdam and Minuet became its first governor. New Amsterdam's geographic location made it a popular destination for many. It welcomed settlers from all cultures and religions. The first Jewish synagogue in the New World was built at New Amsterdam in 1640. Dutch colonists soon spread out to areas surrounding New Amsterdam such as Long Island and parts of current upstate New York. Rapid growth and burgeoning populations resulted in widespread chaos throughout New Amsterdam. In 1647, Peter Stuyvesant was elected governor. Stuyvesant ruled the city in a stern manner for seventeen years, which quelled the chaos and brought much success.

Soon, English Puritans emigrated from New England to New Amsterdam. The industrious Puritans quickly gained political and economic power and imposed strict rules upon the population, including fines for singing and public whippings for more serious "offenses." After a series of natural disasters and phenomena struck such as a meteor, an earthquake, and unusually warm weather through the winter of 1663, the Dutch handed New Amsterdam over to the British when Charles II declared that all lands between the Delaware and Connecticut Rivers belonged to his brother James, the Duke of York. The Dutch, totally unprepared for war, immediately surrendered (by signing the Anglo-Dutch Treaty) when the English fleet entered the harbor to take the city. New Amsterdam, henceforth, became New York.

1.) **New Amsterdam was first...**

- a.) English
- b.) Man-A-Hat-Ta
- c.) French
- d.) Dutch

2.) **The Verrazzano Narrows Bridge is named after a(n) _____ explorer.**

- a.) Dutch
- b.) Indian
- c.) French
- d.) English

3.) **Which of the following is NOT TRUE about the Dutch?**

- a.) Henry Hudson led Dutch explorations of the regions.
- b.) They were the first Europeans to settle the area.
- c.) The Dutch refused to allow settlers from other countries and religions to settle in New Amsterdam.
- d.) They named streets still in existence today such as Pearl Street and Broadway.

4.) **Who was New York's first governor?**

- a.) Peter Stuyvesant
- b.) Giovanni da Verrazzano
- c.) Peter Minuet
- d.) Henry Hudson

5.) **What was New Amsterdam like in 1647?**

- a.) peaceful
- b.) deserted
- c.) cooperative
- d.) chaotic

6.) **How was Peter Stuyvesant's method of governing the city different from Peter Minuet's?**

- a.) He was less strict.
- b.) He was nicer.
- c.) It wasn't different.
- d.) He was more strict.

7.) **Stuyvesant's _____ manner of governing New Amsterdam resulted in the _____ of the colony.**

- a.) strict; success
- b.) strict; failure
- c.) relaxed; failure
- d.) relaxed; success

8.) **What does the word "industrious" mean in the following phrase?**

The **industrious** Puritans quickly gained political and economic power...

- a.) poor
- b.) hardworking
- c.) powerful
- d.) wealthy

9.) **What happened last?**

- a.) The Dutch surrendered.
- b.) The Puritans took control of New Amsterdam.
- c.) An earthquake
- d.) New Amsterdam was renamed New York.

10.) **Which of the following would likely be a serious "offense" punishable by fines or public whipping under Puritan rule?**

- a.) Trading with the English
- b.) Cutting down trees
- c.) Growing different crops
- d.) Forming a chorus

NORTH CAROLINA COLONY Reading Comprehension

North Carolina was first settled in 1587. 121 settlers led by John White landed on present-day Roanoke Island on July 22, 1587. It was the first English settlement in the New World. On August 18, 1587, White's daughter gave birth to Virginia Dare, the first English child born in the New World. By 1590, however, all of the colonists on the island had disappeared. To this day, no one knows what happened to them, though some believe they integrated with and were absorbed by one of the local tribes. Today, the colony is referred to as the "Lost Colony."

The first permanent English settlement in North Carolina occurred in 1655 when Nathaniel Batts, a Virginia farmer, migrated to an area just south of Virginia with the hopes of finding suitable farmland.

In 1663, King Charles II awarded eight noblemen, called the Lords Proprietors, the Province of Carolina (named after the king) in appreciation of their efforts in helping him regain the throne of England. At the time, the Province of Carolina included both present-day North and South Carolina.

In 1665, Sir John Yeamans established a second permanent colony in North Carolina on the Cape Fear River near present-day Wilmington. In 1670, a settlement near present-day Charleston, South Carolina (Charles Town), was established. This settlement grew quickly because it had a natural harbor that allowed easy access to trade with the West Indies. Charles Town soon became the principal seat of government for the entire region. Because of the distance between Charles Town and points in the northern part of the colony, the terms "North Carolina" and "South Carolina" came into use.

In 1729, the Lords Proprietors sold their interests in the Carolina colony back to the English Crown, and North and South Carolina became separate royal colonies.

- 1.) **The colony at Roanoke Island was...**
- a.) the first English settlement in the New World.
 - b.) washed away by a hurricane.
 - c.) the last English settlement in the New World.
 - d.) permanent.

- 2.) **What definitely happened at Roanoke Island?**
- a.) The first English child in the New World was born.
 - b.) They were killed by a hurricane.
 - c.) Everyone had disappeared by 1587.
 - d.) The settlers integrated with a local tribe.

- 3.) **Why did King Charles II award the Lords Proprietors the Province of Carolina?**
- a.) He was grateful to them.
 - b.) He was afraid of them.
 - c.) He wanted to take over the New World.
 - d.) He was interested in making a lot of money.

- 4.) **Who was the first person to establish a permanent settlement in North Carolina?**
- a.) John White
 - b.) Nathaniel Batts
 - c.) The Lords Proprietors
 - d.) John Yeamans

- 5.) **What question is answered in the second paragraph?**
- a.) Who was John White?
 - b.) How successful was Nathaniel Batts?
 - c.) Why did Nathaniel Batts migrate to North Carolina?
 - d.) Why was Nathaniel Batts a farmer?

- 6.) **Where was North Carolina's second permanent settlement?**
- a.) the Lost Colony
 - b.) Charles Town
 - c.) Roanoke Island
 - d.) on the Cape Fear River

- 7.) **Why did Charles Town grow quickly?**
- a.) Its harbor was close to the West Indies.
 - b.) Its harbor was close to inland river ports.
 - c.) People were given large land grants.
 - d.) It was warm and sunny.

- 8.) **What does the word "principal" mean in the following sentence?**

Charles Town soon became the principal seat of government for the entire region.

- a.) main
- b.) strong
- c.) large
- d.) federal

- 9.) **Which of the following do you KNOW about Sir John Yeamans from the passage?**

- a.) The location of his birth
- b.) The location of his residence before founding the settlement
- c.) The date in which he left the settlement he founded
- d.) The location of the settlement he founded

- 10.) **The EFFECT of the establishment of Charles Town was...**
- a.) the terms "North Carolina" and "South Carolina" came into use
 - b.) it had a great natural harbor.
 - c.) the Lords Proprietors sold Carolina back to the king.
 - d.) it was close to the West Indies.

PENNSYLVANIA COLONY Reading Comprehension

The land that is now Pennsylvania was first claimed by the Swedes under Peter Minuit in 1638. Minuit had agreed to help them establish a colony after having a falling-out with Dutch officials. Although the Swedes did colonize the region on the west banks of the Delaware River, known at the time as Nya Sverige, or New Sweden, they were attacked and displaced by the Dutch in 1655. In turn, the British would dispatch the Dutch from the region in 1664.

Pennsylvania was founded in 1681 by William Penn. Penn was issued a land grant by King Charles II largely because of a significant debt owed to his father, Admiral Penn. At the time, the grant was one of the largest in terms of area ever known. It was named Pennsylvania, which means Penn's Woods, after Admiral Penn.

Penn quickly established a government based on religious freedom for the Quakers. Quakers did not believe in the strict rules imposed by the Puritan Church. They believed that people could have a direct relation with God, rather than one mediated by a minister. The colony's religious tolerance soon attracted German and Scottish immigrants and promoted more peaceful relations with local Indians. Furthermore, it helped Philadelphia grow into the most important city in the thirteen colonies, and it helped establish the Pennsylvania Dutch Country, where German "Deutsch" political and religious refugees formed farming communities.

1.) The land that became Pennsylvania was first claimed by the ___ in 1638.

- a.) English
- b.) Germans
- c.) Dutch
- d.) Swedes

2.) The _____ attacked the Swedes and took over their colony.

- a.) Germans
- b.) Dutch
- c.) French
- d.) English

3.) The _____ were the last to control the region when they gained control in 1664.

- a.) Dutch
- b.) Germans
- c.) Swedes
- d.) English

4.) What does the word “dispatch” mean in the following sentence:

In turn, the British would dispatch the Dutch from the region in 1664.

- a.) send away
- b.) allow
- c.) care for
- d.) control

5.) Pennsylvania was founded by:

- a.) Puritans
- b.) William Penn
- c.) King Charles
- d.) Admiral Penn

6.) King Charles agreed to the land grant that would become Pennsylvania...

- a.) to repay a debt.
- b.) to make history.
- c.) because he thought it would bring him glory.
- d.) to spread religion.

7.) Which of the following best describes William Penn’s ideas about religion?

- a.) He did not believe in religious freedom.
- b.) He believed strongly in religious freedom.
- c.) He did not believe in religion.
- d.) He believed only one religion should exist.

8.) Which of the following is NOT true about the Quakers?

- a.) Their religious tolerance helped attract settlers from other countries.
- b.) They believed people needed ministers to talk to God.
- c.) They weren’t as strict as the Puritans.
- d.) They had peaceful relations with the local Indians.

9.) What happened last?

- a.) The Dutch took control of the land that would be Pennsylvania.
- b.) Admiral Penn received the land grant.
- c.) The English took control of the land that would be Pennsylvania.
- d.) 1680

10.) Which of the following WAS NOT a result of Pennsylvania’s religious tolerance?

- a.) Philadelphia became an important city.
- b.) Immigrants came to the region.
- c.) German political refugees formed farming communities.
- d.) The land grant was received by William Penn.

Philadelphia

Philadelphia was founded and planned in 1682 by William Penn, although the area was previously settled by Swedes, who called the area Wiccacoa, in the early 1600's

The name "Philadelphia" means "brotherly love" in Greek. Penn hoped the colony could serve as a refuge for those seeking religious freedom and tolerance. Philadelphia quickly grew as an economic, cultural, and intellectual hub, and became the most important city in the thirteen colonies, and the second most important English speaking city in the world behind London. One of Philadelphia's leading citizens, Benjamin Franklin, founded the Pennsylvania Gazette, The University of Pennsylvania, and the nation's first public library and fire company in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia played prominently in the American Revolution. The Continental Congress first met in Philadelphia in 1775 and Thomas Jefferson drafted the Declaration of Independence at Independence Hall in Philadelphia in 1776. In addition, the city served as the capital of the colonies from 1777 to 1788.

1. William Penn hoped Philadelphia...

- A. would become home to Benjamin Franklin.
- B. would become a place people could practice religion freely.
- C. would become the site of Independence Hall.
- D. would eventually become the site of the drafting of the Declaration of Independence.

2. What could be a synonym of the word "refuge" as used in the second paragraph?

- A. Safe Place
- B. Business
- C. Church
- D. House

3. What was NOT true about Philadelphia?

- A. It was the site of America's first public library
- B. It served as the capital of the colonies
- C. It was the site of the first meeting of the Continental Congress
- D. It was the largest English-speaking city in the world

4. What question is answered in the second paragraph?

- A. When was the University of Pennsylvania established?
- B. When was Philadelphia named capital of the colonies?
- C. What does the name "Philadelphia" mean?
- D. How many people lived in Philadelphia?

5. Which of the following was a reason Philadelphia grew so quickly?

- A. People came to see the first library
- B. Its name means "city of brotherly love"
- C. It was originally settled by the Swedes
- D. It attracted immigrants because of its religious tolerance

Plymouth Colony Reading Comprehension

The holiday of Thanksgiving was born from the Puritan settlement of Plymouth, on the coast of present-day Massachusetts.

Puritan separatists, desperate for religious freedom, left England in 1607 for the Netherlands under increasing pressure from the crown to conform. Although they were allowed religious freedom, they were not granted citizenship in the Netherlands, and hence, could not secure meaningful jobs and were restricted to those that were low paying and unskilled. Some Puritans, disheartened by the drifting of their children from the church, made arrangements with the Merchant Adventurers (a London joint-stock company) to relocate to America. Payment for their passage was made in exchange for future repayment and a percentage of future profits made by the settlement.

Thirty-five Pilgrims (as they would come to be known) boarded the Mayflower with 67 other passengers and set sail for Virginia on September 16, 1620. The treacherous voyage across the stormy Atlantic Ocean lasted 10 weeks. When the Mayflower finally approached America, it was nowhere near Jamestown or even Virginia. On November 11, 1620, the Mayflower reached land off present-day Cape Cod. Some historians believe the Mayflower never intended to sail to Virginia, but rather had secretly planned to sail to New England. Many of the passengers threatened mutiny because they were supposed to be brought to Virginia. As a result, the Mayflower Compact was drafted which guaranteed the equal treatment of all settlers in the new colony. The Mayflower Compact further documented the colony's continued allegiance to England but also called for the establishment of an independent, civil government.

The Compact was signed by 41 male passengers, and the decision to remain at Plymouth rather than to spend more time at sea was made. The settlers organized themselves into a group known as the Council of New England. The council promised one hundred acres of land to those settlers who remained at Plymouth for seven years. The Mayflower and its passengers explored the coast of Massachusetts for several weeks before finding the perfect spot at Plymouth on December 21, 1620.

Life in Massachusetts was difficult for the settlers. Half of the original passengers on the Mayflower died of disease, starvation, and the harsh Massachusetts winter. Unlike Jamestown, however, Indian attacks were not a constant threat. Rather, the local Wampanoag Indians were responsible for the colonists' survival. Squanto, who was kidnapped and had experienced life in Europe as a slave and later as an observer of European culture in a monastery, had recently returned to Massachusetts only to find his former village ravaged by death and disease. He assimilated into the Wampanoag village located at Plymouth and later joined the Pilgrim colony at Plymouth when they learned he could speak English. Squanto taught the Pilgrims how to establish friendly relations with the Indians and how to plant crops, fish, and trap mammals for the fur trade. If it weren't for Squanto, the Wampanoags and their sachem Massasoit, all of the settlers would have surely perished. One year after the landing of the Mayflower, the surviving Pilgrims celebrated their first fall harvest with a prodigious feast. They invited 91 of their Indian friends. The feast was the first-ever Thanksgiving.

1.) Why did some passengers threaten to mutiny?

- a.) The trip took too long.
- b.) They were criminals.
- c.) They thought they were going to Virginia but were actually going to Massachusetts.
- d.) They thought they were going to Massachusetts but were actually going to Virginia.

2.) What holiday was born from the settlement of Plymouth? Be careful to use correct spelling.

3.) What happened third?

- a.) The Council of New England was organized.
- b.) The Mayflower Compact was signed.
- c.) November 11, 1620
- d.) The settlers found the perfect spot to start a settlement at Plymouth.

4.) Why did the Puritans leave England?

- a.) They wanted more money.
- b.) They wanted religious freedom.
- c.) They wanted new scenery.
- d.) They were kicked out.

5.) About how many passengers died of disease, winter, and starvation?

- a.) 35
- b.) 67
- c.) 102
- d.) 51

6.) Circle all of the following that explain why Squanto was important to the settlers.

- a.) He could speak English.
- b.) He taught the settlers how to steal from local Indians.
- c.) He taught settlers how to speak the Wampanoag language.
- d.) He taught settlers how to maintain friendly relations with Indians and how to plant crops.

7.) In the following sentence, what does the word "conform" mean?

Puritan separatists, desperate for religious freedom, left England in 1607 for the Netherlands under increasing pressure from the crown to conform.

- a.) To be the same as
- b.) To be different from
- c.) To give money to
- d.) To hate

8.) What phrase best describes the Puritans of Plymouth?

- a.) Dependent on their Indian neighbors
- b.) They were able to survive because of their resourcefulness.
- c.) Interested in gold and riches
- d.) They probably wanted to go back to England.

9.) What did the Mayflower Compact not do?

- a.) Proclaim allegiance to England
- b.) Guarantee that all settlers would be treated as equals
- c.) Called for the establishment of an independent government
- d.) Proclaim independence from England

10.) What happened first?

- a.) The Mayflower Compact
- b.) The settlers met Squanto
- c.) September 16, 1620
- d.) The Council of New England was organized.

Pontiac's Rebellion Reading Comprehension

Name _____

Pontiac's Rebellion was a war waged by natives of the Great Lakes region against British rule after the French and Indian War. The natives, who had formed alliances with the defeated French, were dissatisfied with treatment from British officials. Unlike their French allies, British officials entrusted with native relations refused to offer gifts to tribal leaders such as guns, gunpowder, and ammunition. Furthermore, English settlers began displacing them from their land. While French settlers and natives seemed to live in relative harmony, the sheer number of English settlers that descended on the region prompted many Indians to support war. The natives began to feel as if the British were preparing for war against them. The rebellion lasted three years, from 1763 to 1766. Much of the war's terrible violence occurred in 1763; the remaining years were spent formulating peace treaties. The war was named after Pontiac, chief of the Ottawa tribe. Indians from many tribes including the Ottawa, Ojibwa, Shawnee, Miami, Huron, Seneca and Potawatomi participated in the uprising.

The war started in May of 1763 when natives unsuccessfully besieged Fort Detroit. British reinforcements soon arrived, but were soundly defeated at the Battle of Bloody Run on July 31, 1763. Meanwhile, other native groups were taking forts in present-day Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Many attacks followed the same routine: Indians would trick the settlers into allowing them access to the forts, and then capture or kill the inhabitants. On June 22, 1763, a group of Delaware natives attacked Fort Pitt and killed dozens of British settlers. On September 14, 1763, a group of 300 Seneca, Ojibwa, and Ottawa Indians attacked a supply train near Fort Niagara. In what came to be known as "Devil's Hole Massacre," 72 soldiers were killed. In present-day Franklin County, Pennsylvania, four Delaware native warriors killed a school teacher and her ten students. Native raids throughout Ohio Country began to intensify, as did raids conducted by local militias on peaceful native tribes. One local militia group, known as The Paxton Boys, traversed the Pennsylvania countryside in 1763 and 1764 searching for natives to kill.

Soon, British officials realized that a more diplomatic solution could expedite the ending of the war. Many Indian leaders, who realized the British were not going away, and whose people were decimated with diseases such as Smallpox, were also in favor of ending the conflict. Through a combination of diplomatic and military solutions, aimed at the reclamation of Forts Niagara, Pitt, and Detroit, the British finally succeeded in ending the conflict. On July 25, 1766, a peace treaty was signed by Pontiac himself. It is important to note that the treaty was not a native surrender, as no prisoners were exchanged, and no land was ceded.

1. What caused Pontiac's Rebellion?

- A. Poor relations with the French
- B. The unsuccessful attempt to besiege Fort Detroit
- C. The increasing number of British settlers who took land
- D. The terrible violence that occurred in 1763

- 2. What was a contributing factor to the start of Pontiac's Rebellion?**
- A. Poor relations with the French
 - B. The refusal of British officials to offer gifts
 - C. The failed peace treaties from 1764-1766
 - D. The natives and their alliance with the British
- 3. Which of the following best describes the timeline of Pontiac's Rebellion?**
- A. 1763 was peaceful, and 1764-1766 was violent
 - B. 1763, 1764, 1765, and 1766 were all very violent
 - C. Most of violence occurred in the later years
 - D. Most of the violence occurred in 1763
- 4. Which of the following is NOT true?**
- A. The British and settlers scored a major victory at the Battle of Bloody Run
 - B. Native warriors killed 72 soldiers in the Devil's Hole Massacre
 - C. Native attacks occurred in present-day Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and other states.
 - D. The natives of the region were able to mostly live in harmony with the French

- 5. What could be a synonym for the word "diplomatic" in the following sentence?**

Soon, British officials realized that a more diplomatic solution could expedite the ending of the war.

- A. Military
- B. Peaceful
- C. Technical
- D. Complicated

- 6. What was the effect of Pontiac's Rebellion?**
- A. The natives were forced to give up land and stop fighting
 - B. The natives were forced to exchange prisoners
 - C. It's hard to say as the natives did not surrender or give up land
 - D. The Paxton Boys traversed Pennsylvania looking for natives to kill
- 7. What question is NOT answered in the final paragraph?**
- A. Why did many natives prefer ending the rebellion?
 - B. When was the treaty signed that ended the rebellion?
 - C. How did the British reclaim its forts?
 - D. What was the peace treaty that ended the rebellion called?

The Popham Colony was a little known English colony that was founded just months after the Jamestown Colony in 1607. Unlike the Jamestown colony, however, the Popham Colony settled in present-day Maine rather than Virginia. The Popham Colony was the first settlement in what would become New England.

On May 31, 1607, 120 settlers left Plymouth, England, on their way to the New World. They were sponsored by the Plymouth Company, which was a rival of the Virginia Company – the company that sent settlers to Jamestown. The colonists headed to New England planned to harvest metals, furs, and spices from the region's forests to make profits. It was named the Popham Colony because its leader was George Popham. The first boat carrying settlers arrived on August 13, followed three days later by a second ship. The colonists, who were gentleman, artisans, farmers, and traders, began construction on a star-shaped fort they named Fort St. George along the Kennebec River. They also built a chapel, guardhouse, a storehouse, and a cooperage where they could build barrels.

The colony failed to thrive at first. Because the settlers arrived late in the summer, there was no time to farm for food and the colony had not yet established relations with the local Abenaki tribe. Half of the settlers decided to sail back to England, and the other half decided to remain at Fort George through the bitter Maine winter. Of the 45 remaining colonists, 44 survived the winter. The single colonist to die was George Popham.

In the spring of 1608, the colonists built a 30-ton ship called a pinnace, to show that the colony could be useful in shipbuilding. The ship, which they named *Virginia*, was the first European ship to be built in the New World. By this time, the colonists had established trade with the Abenaki, and sent a cargo ship back to England with furs and bundles of wild sarsaparilla. When the cargo ship returned, it brought news that the brother of the colony's new leader, Raleigh Gilbert, had died and the Gilbert was the heir to a magnificent estate. Gilbert decided to return to England as did the remaining colonists almost a year after they landed. Many of them returned on the *Virginia*.

1. What was a similarity between the Popham Colony and Jamestown?

- A. Both colonies were sponsored by the same company
- B. Both colonies were founded in the same year
- C. Both colonies were founded in the same region
- D. In both colonies, many of the original settlers died in the first year

- 2. What is not true about the Popham Colony?**
- A. It thought it could make money from the region's forests
 - B. It eventually established trade with the local Abenaki tribe
 - C. The colonists built a star-shaped fort which they named Fort George
 - D. The colony seemed to succeed immediately
- 3. What was the effect of the colonists' arrival date?**
- A. They'd be unsuccessful in growing crops
 - B. They'd have conflict with the Abenaki
 - C. They wouldn't be able to survive the winter
 - D. Most would be forced to sail back to England
- 4. Which of the following is not explained in the passage?**
- A. What crops did the colonists eventually grow?
 - B. Why did Raleigh Gilbert decide to return to England?
 - C. What is a cooperage?
 - D. Why did the colonists build a pinnacle?
- 5. The *Virginia*...**
- A. was built to prove something.
 - B. was used as a means to sail to Jamestown.
 - C. was the name of a 30-ton pinnace built in England.
 - D. was destroyed in a fire.
- 6. Which of the following best describes the Popham Colony?**
- A. The Popham Colony was unsuccessful because the colonists proved they could not survive in the harsh environment
 - B. The Popham Colony was successful because it sent furs and sarsaparilla back to England
 - C. The Popham Colony was successful because only one colonists out of 45 died
 - D. The Popham Colony was unsuccessful as its settlers remained only one year before abandoning the colony
- 7. When did the Popham Colony establish trade with the Abenaki?**
- A. In the summer of 1608
 - B. When they first arrived in 1607
 - C. In the spring of 1608
 - D. In the winter of 1607-1608

Religion in the 13 Colonies – Compare and Contrast Reading Comprehension

Name _____

New England Colonies – The New England colonies were dominated by the Puritans, reformers seeking to “purify” Christianity, who came over from England to practice religion without persecution. Puritans followed strict rules and were intolerant of other religions, eventually absorbing the separatist Pilgrims in Massachusetts by 1629. Life in New England was dominated by church, and there were severe consequences for those who failed to attend, or, those who spoke out against the Puritan ways. Singing and celebrating holidays were among things prohibited in Puritan New England.

Middle Colonies – Religion in the Middle Colonies was varied as no single religion seemed to dominate the entire region. Religious tolerance attracted immigrants from a wide-range of foreign countries who practiced many different religions. Quakers, Catholics, Jews, Lutherans and Presbyterians were among those religious groups that had significant numbers in the middle colonies.

Southern Colonies – Most people in the Southern Colonies were Anglican (Baptist or Presbyterian), though most of the original settlers from the Maryland colony were Catholic, as Lord Baltimore founded it as a refuge for English Catholics. Religion did not have the same impact on communities as in the New England colonies or the Mid-Atlantic colonies because people lived on plantations that were often distant and spread out from one another.

- 1. Which of the following was intolerant of other religions?**
 - A. Middle
 - B. Southern
 - C. New England
 - D. None of the above

2. Which of the following regions attracted people from many different religions?

- A. Southern
- B. Middle
- C. New England
- D. None of the above

3. Which was NOT true about the Southern Colonies?

- A. Lord Baltimore founded Maryland as a Catholic colony
- B. People lived on large plantations
- C. Most people in the Southern Colonies were Catholics
- D. Religion had less of an impact on people from the Southern Colonies

4. Read the passage below. What region is most likely described?

Today, I spent all day at church. Our pastor preached that those who failed to attend church would face severe consequences. He also said that poor Amos would receive 20 lashes for singing hymns in public.

- A. New England
- B. Middle
- C. Southern Colonies
- D. None of the above

5. What was the major religious group in the Middle Colonies?

- A. Catholics
- B. Quakers
- C. Jews
- D. None of the above

RHODE ISLAND COLONY Reading Comprehension

Like many English Puritans, Roger Williams came to Massachusetts as part of the “Great Migration,” the Puritan departure from England and arrival in the New World. When Williams arrived, however, he realized that the Puritan Church had not severed all of its ties with the Church of England, and hence, was not pure enough. For this reason, he refused to fill the position of minister in the church of Boston. Williams became even more controversial when he declared the colony's charter, or land grant, invalid because it was not issued by the true owners of the land—the Indians. Williams soon moved to Salem and generated even more controversy by preaching against the taxes that paid church expenses and laws that made attending church mandatory.

Despite his Puritan ties, Williams' own intolerance of the rules, laws, and customs of the Puritans caused him, incidentally, to preach for religious tolerance. He argued against the Puritans' laws that controlled the populations. He was one of the first to call for the separation of church and state—a law which now forbids the government to use any religion to influence the people.

The intolerant Puritans often made a point to suppress individuals with divergent views. They feared people like Roger Williams could influence the people and ultimately threaten the church. In the fall of 1635, they voted to banish him. Before the henchmen reached his home, however, Williams ventured off himself toward Narragansett Bay in January of 1636. After many weeks of traveling through the wilderness of New England, Williams purchased land from the local Indians and founded the town of Providence. Williams devised a compact that allowed all residents to vote regardless of their religion. Furthermore, he encouraged religious sects unpopular with the church to settle in Providence. In March of 1644, Williams did receive a charter from the English Parliament. Under his charter of 1647, Providence, Newport, Warwick, and Portsmouth united to eventually form the colony of Rhode Island.

1.) Roger Williams believed...

- a.) that the Puritan church was not pure enough.
- b.) in religious freedom.
- c.) that land grants, as they were, were invalid.
- d.) all of the above.

2.) Who did Roger Williams believe the true owners of the land were?

- a.) the British Crown
- b.) any settlers
- c.) the Puritans
- d.) the Indians

3.) Which of the following DID Roger Williams believe in?

- a.) Intolerance toward other religions
- b.) People should pay taxes to support the church
- c.) Separation of church and state
- d.) Mandatory church attendance

4.) Which of the following is a violation of the idea of separation between church and state?

- a.) A church that supports religious freedom
- b.) A government that taxes the settlers
- c.) A church that opposes religious freedom
- d.) A government that opposes religious freedom

5.) The Puritans were _____ toward different viewpoints.

- a.) sometimes tolerant
- b.) tolerant
- c.) intolerant
- d.) indifferent

6.) Why were the Puritans afraid of Roger Williams?

- a.) They believed he would ally with French traders.
- b.) They believed he would stir the Indians to attack settlements.
- c.) They believed he might influence the people against them.
- d.) They believed he would start a war.

7.) What does the word "banish" mean in the following sentence:

In the fall of 1635, they voted to banish him.

- a.) remove
- b.) imprison
- c.) kill
- d.) injure

8.) Roger Williams eventually founded _____.

- a.) Massachusetts
- b.) Warwick
- c.) Providence
- d.) Boston

9.) Who could settle in Providence?

- a.) Only Puritans
- b.) Only people who belong to some branch of Christianity
- c.) People of all religions
- d.) Only people who were part of religious groups unpopular with the church

10.) What did the English Crown do about Roger Williams?

- a.) Attacked his settlement
- b.) Attempted to capture him
- c.) Attempted to punish him
- d.) Gave him a charter

The “Lost Colony at Roanoke” was a settlement of 117 men, women and children that landed on Roanoke Island in 1587. It was the first English colony in the New World. The colony was funded by Sir Walter Raleigh and led by his friend John White. Raleigh had received a charter from Queen Elizabeth I. The main purpose of the expedition was to find riches in the New World. A secondary purpose of the colony was to establish a base for which the queen’s privateers could attack Spanish treasure galleons. The colonists who settled Roanoke may have first believed their settlement was to be established on the Chesapeake Bay to the north.

Soon after arrival, the first English child in the New World was born, White’s granddaughter, Virginia Dare. It quickly became apparent, however, that the colony needed additional supplies to survive. The settlers convinced John White to return to England to garner the necessary supplies. White, however, was unable to return to the island because of the onset of the Anglo-Spanish War in 1588. Because of the war, White could not procure a ship as all were being used in the war.

White was finally able to return to the colony on August 18, 1590, aboard a privateering vessel. This date also happened to be the third birthday of his granddaughter, Virginia Dare. White was astonished to find the island completely deserted. There was no sign of any of the settlers, nor was there evidence of any fight or struggle. The only clue was the word “Croatoan” carved into a nearby post. All fortifications were dismantled, rather than destroyed, which suggested a departure may have been planned by the settlers.

There are several theories regarding the disappearance of the settlers. One of the leading theories is that the Roanoke settlers integrated with one of the local native groups to ensure their survival. We do know that the colonists arrived at Roanoke Island during one of the greatest draughts the region had ever experienced. This would have made it very difficult to grow crops or find drinking water. Others believe the colonists may have been killed by the Spanish, or, by other native groups. The Algonquin chief Powhatan, father of Pocahontas, claimed to have killed the Roanoke settlers.

The mystery of the Roanoke Island settlement lives on today. Scientists will probably never know what fate befell those settlers, but do know the failure of the colony led the English to establish the Jamestown Colony, the first permanent, successful English settlement in the New World, in 1607.

- 1. Which of the following could describe the purpose of the Roanoke Colony?**
 - A. Primarily to find riches but also to spread religion

- B. Primarily to set up a base for privateering but also to find riches
- C. Primarily to spread religion but also to find riches
- D. Primarily to find riches but also to set up a base for privateering

2. Who was Sir Walter Raleigh?

- A. The man who paid for the Roanoke settlement
- B. The man who led the Roanoke settlement
- C. One of the settlers of Roanoke
- D. The man who gave the charter to the settlers of Roanoke

3. Why did John White leave the Roanoke Colony?

- A. He was sick and needed to get back to England
- B. There was a war going on between England and France
- C. He needed to pick up more settlers to bring to Roanoke
- D. He needed to pick up more supplies from England

4. What was the effect of the Anglo-Spanish war on the Roanoke settlers?

- A. Life became very dangerous at Roanoke
- B. Roanoke settlers could not get supplies they needed
- C. The colony fell apart and the settlers integrated with native groups
- D. John White left for England in 1587

5. Which is NOT true about the settlement at Roanoke?

- A. It was the site of the first English child born in the New World
- B. The region was enduring one of the worst draughts in its history
- C. The colonists believed they would be landing near the Chesapeake Bay
- D. When John White returned, he saw the fortifications were destroyed

6. What could be a synonym for “procure” in the following sentence?

Because of the war, White could not procure a ship as all were being used in the war.

- A. Obtain
- B. Sell
- C. Require
- D. Barter

7. Which of the following is a theory?

- A. The word Croatoan was carved into a nearby post on Roanoke Island
- B. The fortifications at Roanoke were dismantled rather than destroyed
- C. John White returned to Roanoke on his granddaughter’s third birthday
- D. The Colonists integrated with local native groups to ensure their survival

It all began in late January of 1692 at the home of Samuel Parris. His daughter Betsy, and niece, Abigail, began exhibiting strange and destructive behavior. They shrieked, had convulsions and seizures, entered trance-like states and suffered from high fevers. Parris tried desperately to keep their condition a secret, but finally agreed to contact his physician. Upon examining the girls, Doctor William Griggs could find nothing physically wrong with them. He suggested their condition might be the result of witchcraft. The diagnosis of witchcraft, while certainly devastating, was not uncommon at the time. Throughout February, Parris prayed for the evil forces to release the girls.

The Puritan townspeople began pressuring the girls to identify the reasons for their suffering. The girls named three women as witches. One was a slave named Tituba who had often told them magical stories from her native Barbados, another was a peasant mother named Sarah Good, and the last was an elderly woman named Sarah Osborne who regularly failed to attend church. The women were arrested and examined in the village meetinghouse. During the examinations the girls described how they had been attacked by “specters” of these three women. While the two Sarah’s denied engaging in witchcraft, for some reason, Tituba confessed! Tituba then claimed the two Sarah’s were also ghosts and had conspired with her to torment the girls.

Soon, more young girls began acting strangely. One of the girls, Ann Putnam, was the daughter of one of the most influential families in Salem. Her family’s support of her accusations helped to legitimize the guilt of the “witches”.

Other townspeople soon would be accused of engaging in witchcraft. The people within the town of Salem became hysterical. Even Rebecca Nurse, a mother of eight, would be tried and convicted of witchcraft. Several girls claimed that Nurse’s apparition (ghost) tortured them and other witnesses linked her to the unusual deaths of several Salem residents. During her trial, 39 of her neighbors signed a petition stating she was a woman of propriety (virtue or goodness). When the jury declared her not-guilty, an uprising nearly occurred. The audience was horrified that she was acquitted, and several of the judges were left unsatisfied or left the bench. The jury was forced to reconvene and the court brought a confessed witch by the name of Deliverance Hobbs to the courtroom. When asked about Hobbs, the nearly deaf Nurse replied ‘she was one of us’. After hearing the words of Nurse, the jury returned a guilty verdict. Nurse later explained that she had never really heard the question, and that when saying ‘she was one of us’ she meant a co-defendant. Nurse was nevertheless hanged on July 19, 1692. Other accused witches were tortured until they confessed. In all, 26 “witches” were executed in Salem in 1692.

- 1. In Massachusetts in 1692, a diagnosis of witchcraft was...**
- A. devastating and very unusual.
 - B. a certain death sentence.
 - C. devastating, but not uncommon.
 - D. unheard of.

2. What is not true about Samuel Parris?

- A. He wanted to keep the condition of the girls a secret
- B. His daughter, Abigail, showed signs of being bewitched
- C. Eventually agreed to contact Dr. William Griggs
- D. He prayed in February for evil forces to release the girls

3. Why did Tituba confess to being a witch?

- A. She was angry at Sarah Good
- B. She thought if she confessed her life might be spared
- C. She claimed Sarah Good and Sarah Osborne helped her
- D. The passage doesn't tell

4. Why was Anne Putnam important?

- A. She was from an important Salem family. When her parents supported her claims, everyone thought the "witches" were guilty
- B. She was the first to accuse Tituba of witchcraft
- C. She failed to attend church, and thus, was in danger of being accused of witchcraft
- D. She was the first to accuse Rebecca Nurse, a mother of eight, of engaging in witchcraft

5. The trial of Rebecca Nurse...

- A. first resulted in her acquittal and then in her conviction.
- B. first resulted in her conviction and then in her being hanged.
- C. resulted in her acquittal.
- D. resulted in her confession.

6. The testimony of Deliverance Hobbs...

- A. resulted in the guilty verdict against Nurse.
- B. resulted in Nurse's acquittal.
- C. had no major impact of Nurse's trial.
- D. resulted in several judges leaving the bench.

7. Which is true about "she was one of us?"

- A. The court took it to mean that Rebecca Nurse said that Deliverance Hobbs was "also" a witch
- B. Rebecca Nurse meant that Deliverance Hobbs was a witch
- C. The court took it to mean that Rebecca Nurse never really heard the question
- D. Rebecca Nurse meant that both her and Deliverance Hobbs were in the same situation

The South Carolina Colony Reading Comprehension

South Carolina, part of the original Province of Carolina, was founded in 1663 when King Charles II gave the land to eight noblemen known as The Lords Proprietors. At the time, the province included both North Carolina and South Carolina. North and South Carolina became separate royal colonies in 1729.

The Spanish and French vied over the rights to the coast of South Carolina in the 1500s. In 1562, French soldiers unsuccessfully attempted to start a settlement on Parris Island off the coast of present-day South Carolina. In 1566, the Spanish built the colony of Santa Elena near the site of the original French settlement. Santa Elena was abandoned in 1576 after being attacked by Indians. Although the settlement was rebuilt, the Spanish concentrated their forces in Florida after British pirate Sir Francis Drake destroyed St. Augustine. The British would be the next to colonize the area.

In 1670, the first permanent English settlement in South Carolina was established at Albemarle Point. Many of the original settlers came from the Caribbean island of Barbados, including the new governor, William Sayle. A year before, in 1669, prospective Carolina settlers including John Locke wrote the Fundamental Constitutions of Carolina, which served as an early form of government for the Carolina colony.

In 1680, the colony moved to Charles Town (later Charleston). Charles Town would quickly become the cultural and economic center of the Southern colonies. Because of the influence of the Caribbean settlers, the colony's original economy resembled the plantation colonies of the West Indies. It would become a major center for rice, tobacco, and indigo production, and the colony's plantation owners were among the wealthiest people in all the colonies. By the late 1700s, African-American slaves represented the majority of the population in South Carolina, as the number of cotton plantations increased.

1.) The British...

- a.) tried colonizing South Carolina before the French and Spanish.
- b.) tried colonizing South Carolina before the French but after the Spanish.
- c.) tried colonizing South Carolina before the Spanish but after the French.
- d.) tried colonizing South Carolina after the French and Spanish.

2.) Which of the following is true?

- a.) South and North Carolina were always separate colonies.
- b.) The original Carolina colony only included the land that is now South Carolina.
- c.) North and South Carolina would go to war against each other.
- d.) The Lords Proprietors founded South Carolina in 1663.

3.) The _____ established their first permanent settlement at Albemarle Point.

- a.) French
- b.) English
- c.) Spanish
- d.) Puritans

4.) Many of South Carolina's original settlers came from _____.

- a.) Barbados
- b.) Spain
- c.) France
- d.) England

5.) What question is answered in the third paragraph?

- a.) How was the new governor chosen?
- b.) Who wrote the Fundamental Constitutions of Carolina?
- c.) Why did the colony move to Charles Town?
- d.) What did John Locke believe about religion?

6.) Charles Town would become a major center for the export of _____.

- a.) soybeans
- b.) peanuts
- c.) cotton
- d.) rice

7.) Which of the following is NOT true about the South Carolina colony?

- a.) Eventually, the majority of the population would be slaves.
- b.) It would have a large number of cotton plantations.
- c.) It was influenced by the West Indies.
- d.) William Sayle came to South Carolina from England.

8.) Plantation owners in South Carolina were _____.

- a.) poor
- b.) fairly wealthy
- c.) very wealthy
- d.) the passage doesn't say

9.) Which of the following is a RESULT of the increasing number of cotton plantations in South Carolina in the 1700s?

- a.) The King of England exerted more and more control over South Carolina.
- b.) The population of African-American slaves in South Carolina increased.
- c.) The economic center of South Carolina shifted away from Charles Town.
- d.) The Fundamental Constitutions of Carolina was revoked.

10.) Which of the following is NOT addressed by the passage?

- a.) Why did the colony move to Charles Town?
- b.) What products were exported from Charles Town?
- c.) What group made up the majority of the population in South Carolina by the late 1700s?
- d.) Where was the first permanent English settlement in South Carolina established?

The Sons of Liberty was a secret organization founded in response to the 1765 Stamp Act that required colonists to pay a tax on printed documents. The Stamp Act was issued to help the British recoup the financial burden incurred for prosecuting the French and Indian War. The origins of the Sons of Liberty is unclear, but the organization worked in both Boston and New York. Its purpose was to protect the rights of colonists and to protest British taxes. Samuel Adams is often credited with founding the Sons of Liberty. The motto of the Sons of Liberty was “no taxation without representation.”

The first known protest organized by the Sons of Liberty occurred on August 14, 1765. Under the “Liberty Tree,” a popular meeting place for the Sons of Liberty, supporters hung an effigy of tax collector Andrew Oliver from the tree. Those in attendance took turns punching it and stomping on it. Before long, the effigy was dragged through the streets of Boston while bystanders cheered and jeered. The mob next struck at Oliver’s home, which was thoroughly destroyed. Oliver resigned his position as a tax collector three days later. On August 26, the Sons of Liberty destroyed the home of the unpopular lieutenant governor, Thomas Hutchinson.

As the path to war became clear, the Sons of Liberty used mob rule and intimidation as powerful weapons against British agents and Loyalists. In some cases, members of the Sons of Liberty were reported to have tarred and feathered perceived enemies such as tax collectors and customs officers. Tarring and feathering involved pouring hot pine tar on a person before covering them in feathers. Although certainly painful and embarrassing, tarring and feathering was not fatal.

The Sons of Liberty are best known for staging the Boston Tea Party on December 16, 1773, in protest of the Tea Act, which allowed a British company a monopoly over the tea trade. In the Boston Tea Party, members of the Sons of Liberty dressed up as Indians, boarded a British tea vessel called Dartmouth, and flung its entire load of tea into Boston Harbor. The “party” and the resulting Intolerable Acts passed by Parliament as a punishment, were among the primary causes of the coming war.

1. What the purpose of the Sons of Liberty? (Select all that apply)

- A. To collect taxes from colonists
- B. To protect the rights of the colonists
- C. To protest taxes
- D. To use violence to intimidate their enemies

2. For which of the following questions would “Andrew Oliver” be the answer?

- A. What was the name of the lieutenant governor of Massachusetts in 1765?
- B. Who is credited with founding the Sons of Liberty?
- C. What British official was tarred and feathered?
- D. Who resigned his position as tax collector on August 17, 1765?

3. What was the effect of the 1765 Stamp Act?

- A. The passing of the Intolerable Acts
- B. The Boston Tea Party
- C. The formation of the Sons of Liberty and widespread violence
- D. The prosecution of the French and Indian War

4. What does “effigy” mean in the following sentence?

Before long, the effigy was dragged through the streets of Boston while bystanders cheered and jeered.

- A. Model
- B. Target
- C. Replacement
- D. Idol

5. Which of the following is correct? (Select all that are true)

- A. The cause of the Tea Act was the Boston Tea Party
- B. The effect of the Tea Act was the Intolerable Acts
- C. The effect of the Tea Act was the Boston Tea Party
- D. The effect of the Boston Tea Party was the Intolerable Acts

6. How are the second and third paragraphs similar?

- A. They both discuss methods used by the Sons of Liberty to intimidate enemies
- B. They both discuss methods in which people were injured
- C. They both discuss the role of the Sons of Liberty during the Revolutionary War
- D. They both discuss meeting places used by the Sons of Liberty

7. What question is not answered in the passage?

- A. What happened during the Boston Tea Party?
- B. Why did the British issue the Stamp Act?
- C. When did Andrew Oliver resign as a tax collector?
- D. How did the Intolerable Acts punish the colonists?

The French and Indian War proved extremely expensive. In fact, Prime Minister William Pitt nearly bankrupted Parliament to pay for fighting a war overseas. Parliament enacted the Sugar Act in 1764. The Sugar Act imposed new duties (taxes) on American commodities such as sugar, molasses, textiles, coffee and indigo. Unlike previous taxes, this tax was enforced and accused smugglers were prosecuted. American colonists were enraged by the Sugar Act because they did not think they should be taxed in the same way British residents were. For the first time, as the Virginia House of Burgesses asserted, the famous words, “no taxation without representation” were uttered. American colonists argued that they should not be subjected to taxes unless they had elected representatives in Parliament. To make matters worse, Parliament passed the Stamp Act on March 22, 1765. The Stamp Act required Americans to purchase tax stamps for any printed documents including newspapers, legal documents, marriage licenses and more. On March 24th, Parliament passed the Quartering Act which required Americans to provide housing and provisions to British soldiers. Colonists wondered why troops were being sent to America after the French and Indian War. Many believed the troops were sent over to suppress freedoms Americans had enjoyed.

Opposition to the Stamp Act was universal. In 1765, the Massachusetts General Court organized opposition to the Stamp Act. Representatives from nine colonies drafted a petition calling for the repeal of the Stamp Act. Street mobs, calling themselves the Sons of Liberty, destroyed royal offices in Massachusetts and New York. When the Stamp Act was to be officially implemented, on November 1, 1765, all stamp agents sent over from England had been intimidated into resigning their posts. Meanwhile, Americans increasingly imported goods illegally which caused British merchants and manufacturers to lose business. Some, such as Samuel Adams, began to call for independence because Parliament had exceeded its authority. In March of 1766, Parliament agreed to repeal the Stamp Act, but passed the Declaratory Act which reaffirmed their right to pass any law in America.

1. Why did the British issue the Sugar Act?

- A. To pay for paper documents which were expensive to make
- B. To tax the Americans on tea, sugar, and molasses
- C. To make sure the colonists knew that Parliament was in charge
- D. To help recover money used to pay for the French and Indian War

- 2. What did “no taxation without representation” really mean?**
- A. That the colonists would not pay taxes unless they had someone in Parliament on their side
 - B. That the colonists would not be taxed unless Parliament moved to America
 - C. That citizens living in England should not be taxed
 - D. That the colonists would never pay taxes to Parliament because they lived in the colonies rather than in England.
- 3. Which of the following might a colonist have asked after the passage of the Quartering Act?**
- A. Will we have to provide clothing and food to soldiers?
 - B. Why do we keep getting taxed when we have no representative in Parliament?
 - C. Now that the French and Indian War is over, why are more soldiers being sent?
 - D. How will the Quartering Act affect the Stamp Act?
- 4. What could be a synonym for “universal” as used in the first sentence of the second paragraph?**
- A. Total
 - B. Partial
 - C. Severe
 - D. Serious
- 5. What was the role of the Sons of Liberty?**
- A. To peacefully protest the various acts issued by Parliament
 - B. To violently protest the various acts issued by Parliament
 - C. To make the colonies independent from England
 - D. To compromise with Parliament
- 6. Although Parliament ultimately repealed the Stamp Act...**
- A. Parliament agreed that it has exceeded its authority and repealed all acts it had issued against the colonists.
 - B. it agreed that the colonies should become independent
 - C. it issued an act warning the colonists that it could make any law in America.
 - D. it waged war on the Sons of Liberty.
- 7. What question is not answered in the second paragraph?**
- A. What colonies signed the petition demanding repeal of the Stamp Act?
 - B. What was the Declaratory Act?
 - C. What happened to stamp agents in America?
 - D. Why did some Americans call for independence from England?

Taxation without Representation was a famous phrase that came about before the Revolutionary War. In the 1700s, what is now the United States was part of England and its vast empire. At the time, it was called “the colonies” or “the 13 colonies.” Although England was a rich empire, it had spent a lot of money helping to fight a war against France in North America. The war made it so England, rather than France, controlled most of the continent. England needed a way to get some its money back.

Parliament, the name used for the government of England, decided that the best way to get its money back was to tax the colonists. The taxes made certain things like tea, glass, paint, and paper more expensive. The worst part for the colonists, however, was that they did not agree to this tax, nor, did they have a representative in Parliament to fight against it. The colonists claimed “no taxation without representation” and refused to pay the taxes. This led to serious conflict between Parliament and the colonies. It was these taxes and unfair laws issued by Parliament that led to the Revolutionary War.

1. Why did Parliament tax the colonies?

- A. To start a war with the colonies
- B. To win the war against France
- C. To help get the money back that was used in the war against France
- D. To make it hard for colonists to buy tea, glass, paint, and paper.

2. Why did the colonists refuse to pay the taxes?

- A. They thought tea, glass, paint, and paper should be free
- B. They preferred the French
- C. They did not want to fight any more wars
- D. They did not have a representative in Parliament

3. Which was not true about England?

- A. After the war with France, it lost control of North America
- B. Its government was called Parliament
- C. It taxed the colonists on things like paper and tea
- D. It would eventually go to war against the colonies

4. Which of the following best describes “no taxation without representation?”

- A. Don't tax us if you won't help us fight a war
- B. You can tax us, but only if Parliament makes it a small tax
- C. Don't tax us unless we have a voice in Parliament
- D. Don't tax us unless Parliament taxes everyone in England also

Title	Apx. Grade Level	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Connecticut Colony	5+	D	B	B	D	C	D	D	D	A	C
Connecticut (New Haven) 456	5+	A	B	C	A	C	B	C			
Delaware Colony (456)	5+	C	A	D	A	B	C	B	C	B	D
Georgia Colony (456)	5+	D	A	D	D	D	C	A	C	B	D
House of Burgesses (456)	6+	Large Year	C	C	C	A	C	A	C	D	C
Indigo in South Carolina 123	3+	B	C	C	D						
Jamestown Part 1 (456)	6+	B	B	D	B	C	D	C	D	A	B
Jamestown Part 2 (456)	6+	A	C	C	D	D	D	D	A	D	C
Jamestown Part 3 (456)	6+	A	B	A	B	D	D	D	C	A	C
Lost Colony of Roanoke	5+	D	A	D	B	D	A	D			
Maryland Colony (456)	5+	A	A	D	B	B	C	B	C	A	D
Massachusetts Bay Colony (456)	5+	A	B	D	D	B	D	D	A	C	C
New Jersey Colony (456)	5+	A	C	C	B	C	B	D	A	C	A
New York Colony (345)	5+	B	C	C	C	D	D	A	B	D	D
North Carolina Colony 456	5+	A	A	A	B	C	D	A	A	D	A
Philadelphia	5+	B	A	D	C	D					
Pennsylvania Colony (456)	5+	D	B	D	A	B	A	B	B	B	D
Plymouth Colony 456	6+	C	Thanksgiving	A	B	D	A, D	A	A	D	C
Pontiac's Rebellion	6+	C	B	D	A	B	C	D			
Popham Colony	6+	B	D	A	A	A	D	C			
Religion in the 13 Colonies - Compare and Contrast	5+	C	B	C	A	D					
Rhode Island Colony	5+	D	D	C	D	C	C	A	C	C	D
Salem Witch Trials	6+	C	B	D	A	A	A	D			
Sons of Liberty	6+	B, C, D	D	C	A	C, D	A	D			
South Carolina Colony	5+	D	D	B	A	B	D	D	C	B	A
Stamp Act	5+	D	A	C	A	B	C	A			
Taxation without Representation	3+	C	D	A	C						