

Colonial America

1. In colonial North America, slavery practices often varied due to an area's climate and geography. Because the South had a long growing season, farmers could make large profits by harvesting multiple times a year. By the mid-1700s, the Southern colonies had become very dependent on slavery. Southern landowners purchased more and more slaves to increase production in their tobacco, rice, cotton, sugar, and indigo fields. In the Northern colonies, there was a lower need for slaves; however, Northern businessmen still made large profits by investing in slave trade. Slaves that lived in the North often worked as household servants, skilled laborers, or as field hands on small farms.

How were geography and slavery related?

- A. People in the North didn't believe in using slaves for labor, while people in the South preferred slave labor.
- B. People in the South didn't believe in using slaves for labor, while people in the North preferred slave labor.
- C. The geography of Northern plantations required more labor than the geography of Southern plantations.
- D. Geography influenced the types of crops grown, and the crops required different levels of labor.

2. During the seventeenth-century, New England had one of the healthiest populations in the world. The region had a low population density and a higher life expectancy than in England. It was home to the first society in history in which grandparents were common. The region's population lived in small, close-knit towns and villages. Around 90 to 95 percent of the colonial villagers were able to support themselves by subsistence farming.

According to the passage, why was life expectancy in colonial New England considerably higher than life expectancy in the country of England?

- A. high population and the low rates of subsistence farming
- B. low population and no considerable staple crops for export
- C. low population and high rates of subsistence farming
- D. high population and no considerable staple crops for export

3. Which geographical region in colonial North America was *best* known for its cold climate and strong Puritan population?

- A. middle colonies
- B. New England
- C. Southern colonies
- D. Middle Passage

4. Among the many reasons for European settlement was religious freedom. The Pilgrims came to settle in America in an attempt to

- A. sever all religious ties and not practice any form of religion.
- B. completely break away from the Church of England.
- C. purify the Church of England of its old practices.
- D. create a new church based on the Church of England.

5. Puritans were critical of the Church of England and the liturgy that was required by the monarchy. Once the church established itself in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the Puritans restricted new colonists in how they worshipped. Many colonists felt more repressed in Massachusetts than they did in England. The result of this oppression was

- A. an end to colonists settling in Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and New York.
- B. the establishment of religious havens in new colonies such as Rhode Island.
- C. a revolt against the Puritans by the followers of the Church of England.
- D. the merging of the Puritans with the Scots-Irish Congregationalists.

6. In 1662, the Halfway Covenant was created by the Puritans in New England. Which of the following statements is true about the Halfway Covenant?

- A. It excluded church membership for immigrants and grandchildren of members.
- B. It provided partial church membership for children of church members.
- C. It granted full membership in the church without requiring an oath of allegiance.
- D. It prevented non-Puritans from settling in Puritan towns in Massachusetts.

7. In the early days of colonial North America, which region was considered to have the poorest economy?

- A. Southern colonies
- B. Northwest Territories
- C. middle colonies
- D. New England

8. Which term *best* describes religious beliefs in the Middle colonies?

- A. Puritan
- B. Catholic
- C. diverse
- D. Quaker

9. William Penn founded Pennsylvania in 1681 based upon the principles of fair trial by jury, freedom from unjust imprisonment, free elections, and freedom of religion. The expansion and growth of Pennsylvania is different from the growth of other colonies in that

- A.** there were no Native American tribes who claimed or owned the land.
- B.** there were no competing claims for the land by other European countries.
- C.** territory was acquired by paying Native Americans a fair price for their land.
- D.** Penn promised the Indians protection from the French in exchange for land.

10. The first of the English to settle in America did so for

- A.** economic reasons.
- B.** new land.
- C.** religious freedom.
- D.** political freedom.

11. Why did geographical barriers such as rivers and mountains limit settlement in colonial North America?

- A.** Colonists were unaware that North America extended further.
- B.** Religious beliefs prevented colonists from exploring.
- C.** Colonists were afraid of uncharted geographical areas.
- D.** Transportation technology was not well-developed.

12. Why were indentured servants attracted to the English colonies?

- A.** The colonists were in desperate need of servants, so they paid very well.
- B.** Tending the fields and crops in the colonies was much easier than in England.
- C.** The servants were promised a certain amount of profit on all valuable crops.
- D.** Work was hard to come by in England, while there was plenty of work in the colonies.

13.



Which event best fits the sequence of events?

- A. Bacon's Rebellion
- B. King Philip's War
- C. The Indian Removal Act
- D. The French-Indian War

14. New England was settled by people looking for religious freedom. The Pilgrims who arrived at Plymouth in 1620 left England, so they could worship in their own ways and without interference from others. As other settlers arrived, they found themselves in disagreement with one another. Which of the following statements is true about religious settlement in New England?

- A. Settlers who disagreed with Puritan theology had to return to England.
- B. Freedom of worship also meant people were allowed to not worship if they wanted.
- C. Connecticut was the first colony founded on the belief of religious toleration.
- D. Plentiful land allowed different religious beliefs to thrive in the same area.

15. The Salem Witch Trials were conducted in Massachusetts from 1692 to 1693. The closely-knit communities required their members to conform to Puritan ways of thinking and those people who did not conform were thought to be ungodly, and "in covenant" with the devil. Which of the following statements is true regarding the Puritan justice system?

- A. Someone found guilty of witchcraft could plead his or her case before the king.
- B. Only elected judges could find someone guilty of violating church beliefs.
- C. There had to be more than one witness to find someone guilty of witchcraft.
- D. Church leaders could sentence someone to death for violating church beliefs.

16. Slaves in the Chesapeake region expanded their numbers through natural increases in birthrate, yet those in South Carolina did not. What is the most likely reason for this difference?

- A. The Chesapeake slaves lived and worked under better conditions.
- B. The South Carolina slaves were not encouraged to bear offspring.
- C. The Chesapeake slaves were not encouraged to bear offspring.
- D. The South Carolina slaves lived and worked under better conditions.

17. Which of the following statements describes the purpose of the Virginia Company, chartered by King James I in 1606?

- A. British settlements in New England were failing and needed money and settlers.
- B. It was necessary to keep Spanish settlements from moving north into Canada.
- C. French settlers pushed the British out of Canada and into New England.
- D. The British wanted to establish settlements along the coast of North America.

18. The Powhatan were a Native American tribe as well as the name of a confederacy of tribes that lived in the Tidewater area of Virginia. Nearly 40 years after the arrival of settlers in 1607, the two groups were in conflict though there were periods of peaceful coexistence. In 1622 and again in 1636, the Powhatan tried to drive the Europeans away by attacking settlements along the James River. The result of these attacks was that

- A. the British fought back and nearly wiped out the Powhatan and their culture.
- B. the Powhatan were pushed further west and reestablished themselves in Kentucky
- C. other tribes joined the Powhatan in defying British expansion and laws.
- D. the Native Americans successfully scared away new settlers for 100 years.

19.

"The country of New York is very pleasant in summer, but in the winter very cold, as all the Northern Plantations are. Their chief commodities are provisions, bread, lumber, and fish in abundance; all which are very good, and some skins and furs are exported. The city is governed by a mayor (as in England), is seated on an island, and lies very convenient for trade and defense, having a regular fort."

—John Lawson, 1709

According to the passage, how did geography influence economic trade in New York?

- A. The geography limited the variety of commodities in New York.
- B. The location was ideal for trade from both sea and inland sources.
- C. The location was a great place to farm in the winter months.
- D. The climate made agriculture difficult to cultivate in New York.

20. The Dutch established New Amsterdam, now called New York City, on the southern tip of Manhattan Island in 1625 near Fort Amsterdam. One of the principal reasons for locating the fort and the new town on Manhattan was to

- A. keep British settlements on the Hudson River from having access to the Atlantic.
- B. protect the Hudson River and the Dutch West India Company's fur trade operations.
- C. provide a base of operations for Dutch settlement into Massachusetts.
- D. safeguard Dutch East India Company's access to the Chesapeake Bay area.

21. What is the *best* reason why early settlements were near waterways?

- A. Waterways were critical for the colonial American economy.
- B. Waterways were the only method by which colonial people could travel.
- C. Waterways were an important component of colonial spiritual life.
- D. Waterways were the only source of water for settlers.

22. Jamestown was settled on the James River in a warm, swampy area. What was a negative result of this location?

- A. There was no access to fresh water.
- B. The area was difficult to defend.
- C. The colony was too far from the coast.
- D. Many colonists died from disease.

23. Investors in the Virginia Company of London were disappointed that valuable metals or minerals were not found in Virginia, so they could not earn a return on their investment. Virginia had other resources, and trade between Europe and Virginia grew in large part due to Virginia's cultivation and processing of which of the following agricultural products?

- A. wheat
- B. maize
- C. tobacco
- D. sorghum

24. What is the *best* explanation of why early colonial North America developed into three distinct regions?

- A. Each region was settled by people of different origins and was shaped by the natural resources available.
- B. Each region was settled by people of different origins and shaped by their growing dependence on slavery.
- C. Each region was settled by people from England and shaped by their specific plans for the natural environment.
- D. Each region was settled by people from England and shaped by their specific plans for the governmental structure.

25. Which geographical region in colonial North America was best known for its focus on agriculture and society based on English aristocracy?

- A. New England
- B. middle colonies
- C. Southern colonies
- D. Jamestown

26. The First Great Awakening was a period of religious revival in the American colonies in the early to mid 1700s. People during this time, especially the younger generation, made important choices about fundamental religious beliefs. Some historians suggest that this experience prepared them to make equally important decisions about their political beliefs during the time leading up to the American Revolution. Many young men and women converted to different religious teachings during the First Great Awakening and went against traditional beliefs to support their new religious convictions. Some people of this generation challenged the authority of state-supported churches, which they believed were enemies to individual religious freedom. Many people during this time began to believe in the importance of individualism. Added to this, in the years before the Revolution, more and more people started to support rebellion against the existing authority of both the church and the British monarchy.

Which of the following best sums up the main point of the passage above?

- A. Revolutionary ideas of individualism led people to want to practice other religions.
- B. Tensions before the American Revolution were unrelated to religious matters.
- C. Political beliefs were unimportant to people when compared to religious beliefs.
- D. Wanting religious freedom often led people to support the independence movement.

27. The Second Anglo-Dutch War resulted in the British takeover of New Amsterdam, which was renamed the City of New York in 1667. The Treaty of Breda allowed the British to keep New Amsterdam, and the Dutch were allowed to keep their sugar plantation in Suriname. Which of the following statements is true regarding the British conflicts with the Dutch?

- A. The British wanted to end Dutch domination of world trade.
- B. Dutch privateers were attacking British shipping in the Atlantic.
- C. The British had blocked all Dutch trade with South America.
- D. The Dutch were encroaching on British settlements in Canada.

28. Soon after arriving at Jamestown, the colonists were attacked by the Algonquian natives. Within a month, the colonists built a triangular-shaped, wooden wall to defend their small settlement, which consisted of a storehouse, church, and several houses. Disease, famine, and the on-going attacks from local tribes strained the new colony. Its only hope came from the colony's trade with the Powhatan natives. The Powhatans gave the colonists food in exchange for iron and copper tools. In time, the colonists abandoned their fort and moved the settlement further inland.

Other than attacks by the Algonquian, what contributed *most* to the high mortality rates among Jamestown colonists?

- A. They were not used to the diet introduced by the Native Americans.

- B. They forgot to bring enough provisions to last through the winter.
- C. They only knew how to grow tobacco, which was not good to eat.
- D. They were not used to the area's climate or its natural resources.

29. What drew the French to North America during the early part of the seventeenth century?

- A. land
- B. gold
- C. fur
- D. copper

30. The First Great Awakening was a period of religious revival in the American colonies in the early to mid 1700s. People during this time, especially the younger generation, made important choices about fundamental religious beliefs. Some historians suggest that this experience prepared them to make equally important decisions about their political beliefs during the time leading up to the American Revolution. Many young men and women converted to different religious teachings during the First Great Awakening and went against traditional beliefs to support their new religious convictions. Some people of this generation challenged the authority of state-supported churches, which they believed were enemies to individual religious freedom. Many people during this time began to believe in the importance of individualism. Added to this, in the years before the Revolution, more and more people started to support rebellion against the existing authority of both the church and the British monarchy.

According to the passage above, which of the following was true of people in the mid 1700s?

- A. They questioned both the power of the church and the monarchy in governing.
- B. They were only concerned with being able to practice the religion of their choice.
- C. They fully supported the idea of having state-sponsored and endorsed religions.
- D. They decided being ruled by the church was better than being ruled by a king.

31. Which of the following was a reason for the increase in the slave trade to colonial Virginia in the 17th century?

- A. The supply of indentured servants declined as the British economy improved.
- B. The slave trade in the West Indies was disrupted and moved north to Virginia.
- C. The price for slaves dropped as larger numbers of slaves became available.
- D. Surrounding colonies limited the number of slaves that could be imported.

32. Which term *best* describes the primary reason for population growth in the Middle Colonies?

- A. slavery
- B. mercantilism
- C. immigration
- D. large families

1629	The Massachusetts Bay Company receives a charter to settle land in America. Leaders of the company are Puritans, and they establish Massachusetts Bay as a Puritan colony.
1684	After failed attempts to exercise control over Massachusetts Bay, King Charles II revokes the colony's charter.
1686	King James II combines the Massachusetts Bay Colony with the rest of New England's colonies, creating the Dominion of New England.
1689	Massachusetts learns that William and Mary have replaced King James II as the monarchs of England. The Dominion of New England is ended, and Massachusetts begins to govern itself again.
1691	King William and Queen Mary create a new charter for the colony of Massachusetts.

33. King Charles II revoked the charter of the Massachusetts Bay Company in 1684. After Charles died, King James II created the Dominion of New England in 1686. What was a major motive for Charles and James to take these actions?

- A. They feared the Massachusetts Bay Company would declare independence.
- B. They decided to trade Massachusetts Bay to the Kingdom of France.
- C. They wanted to limit the power of the Puritan church in New England.
- D. They wished to unite the New England colonies with colonies in Canada.

34. One of the events that led to the American Revolution was Parliament's passage of the Townshend Acts. What did the Townshend Acts do?

- A. They rewrote the boundaries of the colonies.
- B. They banned the importing of new slaves.
- C. They imposed a tax on imported goods.
- D. They restricted town meetings in the colonies.

35. The Virginia Company needed to attract more settlers to its territory. It reformed its rules by allowing settlers to own their own land. It also adopted English Common Law as the basis of the justice system instead of relying on inconsistent rulings from the governor. In 1619, the first elected legislative body in the New World was established in Jamestown. What is the name of this important legislative assembly?

- A. House of Burgesses
- B. House of Delegates
- C. House of Representatives
- D. Assembly of the Commonwealth

36. Under the 1691 charter, what type of colony was Massachusetts?

- A. a royal colony
- B. a proprietary colony
- C. a parliamentary colony
- D. an independent colony

37. Which of these is an example of a check held by colonial legislatures over the royal governors?

- A. Colonial legislatures could dismiss and appoint new royal governors.
- B. Colonial legislatures created the laws that royal governors enforced.
- C. Colonial legislatures controlled the income given to royal governors.
- D. Colonial legislatures had to approve decisions made by royal governors.

38. Following the French and Indian War, Great Britain changed many policies regarding its colonies. Some of these included imposing new taxes, which greatly angered the colonists. What reason did the British have for creating these new taxes?

- A.** They believed the colonies should be less profitable.
- B.** They government wanted to be less involved in colonies.
- C.** They needed a way to pay the debt incurred by the war.
- D.** They needed to raise money in order to buy more land.

39.

- Magna Carta (1215)
- the Petition of Right (1628)
- the English Bill of Rights (1689)

The documents listed in the box all placed limits on

- A.** the English monarchy.
- B.** English citizens.
- C.** English women.
- D.** the English prime minister.

40. Before the French and Indian War, how did Great Britain generally govern the thirteen colonies?

- A.** The colonies were mostly legislated by royal edicts from the king.
- B.** The colonists were not allowed to create any of their own legislation.
- C.** The colonies elected the royal governors who ruled over them.
- D.** The colonies were unofficially allowed to govern themselves.