

## Chapter 4

### American Life in the Seventeenth Century, 1607-1692

#### A. True or False

Where the statement is true, mark T. Where it is false, mark F, and correct it in the space immediately below.

- \_\_\_ 1. Life expectancy among the seventeenth-century settlers of Maryland and Virginia was about seventy years.
- \_\_\_ 2. Because men greatly outnumbered women in the Chesapeake region, a fierce competition arose among men for scarce females.
- \_\_\_ 3. The more stable family life of New England led to fewer pregnancies among unmarried women than occurred in the ore unstable family environment of the Chesapeake.
- \_\_\_ 4. By the eighteenth century, the Chesapeake population was growing on the basis of natural increase.
- \_\_\_ 5. Chesapeake Bay tobacco planters responded to falling prices by cutting back production.
- \_\_\_ 6. The “headright” system of land grants to those who brought laborers to America benefited wealthy planters rather than poor indentured servants.
- \_\_\_ 7. Most of the European immigrants who came to Virginia and Maryland in the seventeenth century were indentured servants.
- \_\_\_ 8. Bacon’s Rebellion involved an alliance of white indentured servants and Native Americans who attacked the elite planter class.
- \_\_\_ 9. African slaves began to replace white indentured servants as the primary labor supply in the plantation colonies in the 1680s.
- \_\_\_ 10. Slaves brought to North America developed a culture that mixed African and American elements.
- \_\_\_ 11. Directly beneath the wealthy slaveowning planters in the southern social structure were the white indentured servants.
- \_\_\_ 12. New Englanders’ long lives contributed to the general stability and order of their childrearing and family life.

- \_\_\_ 13. On average, married women in New England bore about ten children, of whom eight typically survived.
- \_\_\_ 14. New England expansion was carried out primarily by independent pioneers and land speculators who bought up large plots and then sold them to individual farmers.
- \_\_\_ 15. New England women enjoyed fewer rights to inherit and own property than women in the South.
- \_\_\_ 16. New England's commercial wealth was based on export of agricultural crops to England and elsewhere
- \_\_\_ 17. Seventeenth-century American life was generally simple and lacking in displays of wealth or elaborate class distinctions.

**B. Multiple Choice**

Select the best answer and write the proper letter in the space provided.

- \_\_\_ 1. For most of their early history, the colonies of Maryland and Virginia
  - a. provided a healthy environment for child rearing.
  - b. contained far more men than women.
  - c. had harsh laws punishing premarital sexual relations.
  - d. encouraged the formation of stable and long-lasting marriages.
- \_\_\_ 2. The primary beneficiaries of the "head-right" system were
  - a. landowners who paid the trans-Atlantic passage for indentured servants.
  - b. widows who acquired new husbands from England.
  - c. indentured servants who were able to acquire their own land.
  - d. English ship owners who transported new laborers across the Atlantic.
- \_\_\_ 3. The primary cause of Bacon's Rebellion was
  - a. Governor Berkeley's harsh treatment of the Indians.
  - b. the refusal of landlords to grant indentured servants their freedom.
  - c. the poverty and discontent of many single young men unable to acquire land.
  - d. the persecution of the colonists by King Charles II.
- \_\_\_ 4. African slavery became the prevalent form of labor in the 1680s when
  - a. planters were no longer able to rely on white indentured servants as a labor force.
  - b. the first captives were brought from Africa to the New World.
  - c. blacks could be brought to the New World in safer and healthier condition.
  - d. the once-clear legal differences between a servant and a slave began to be blurred.

- \_\_\_ 5 The culture that developed among the slaves in the English colonies of North America was
- derived primarily from that of white masters
  - based mainly on the traditions of southern Africa.
  - a combination of several African and American cultures.
  - originally developed in the West Indies and spread northward.
- \_\_\_ 6. Political and economic power in the southern colonies was dominated by
- urban professional classes such as lawyers and bankers.
  - small landowners.
  - wealthy planters.
  - the English royal governors.
- \_\_\_ 7. Because there were few urban centers in the colonial South
- good roads between the isolated plantations were constructed early on.
  - a professional class of lawyers and financiers was slow to develop.
  - the rural church became the central focus of southern social and economic life.
  - there were almost no people of wealth and culture in the region.
- \_\_\_ 8. Puritan lawmakers in New England prevented married women from having property rights because
- they believed that property should be held by towns, not private citizens.
  - they feared that too much property would fall into the control of the numerous widows.
  - they feared that separate property rights for women would undercut the unity of married couples.
  - the Bible plainly prohibited women from owning property.
- \_\_\_ 9. In New England, elementary education
- was mandatory for any town with more than fifty families.
  - failed to provide even basic literacy to the large majority of citizens.
  - was less widespread than in the South.
  - was oriented to preparing students for entering college.
- \_\_\_ 10. The Congregational Church of the Puritans contributed to
- the development of basic democracy in the New England town meeting.
  - the extremely hierarchical character of New England life.
  - the social harmony and unity displayed throughout the seventeenth century in New England towns.
  - the growing movement toward women's rights in New England.
- \_\_\_ 11. In contrast to the Chesapeake Bay colonists, those in New England
- had fewer women and more men in their population.
  - had shorter life expectancies.
  - practiced birth control as a means of preventing overpopulation.
  - enjoyed longer lives and more stable families.

- \_\_\_ 12. The focus of much of New England's politics, religion, and education was the institution of
- the colonial legislature.
  - the town.
  - the militia company.
  - the college.
- \_\_\_ 13. The "Half-Way Covenant" provided
- baptism but not "full communion" to people who were not church members.
  - partial participation in politics to people who were not church members.
  - admission to communion but not to voting membership in the church
  - partial participation in church affairs for women.
- \_\_\_ 14. Those people accused of being witches in Salem were generally
- from the poorer and more uneducated segments of the town.
  - notorious for their deviation from the moral norms of the community.
  - outspoken opponents of the Puritan clergy.
  - from families associated with Salem's burgeoning market economy.
- \_\_\_ 15. English settlers greatly altered the character of the New England environment by
- raising wheat and oats rather than the corn grown by Native Americans.
  - their extensive introduction to livestock.
  - beating trails through the woods as they pursued seasonal hunting and fishing.
  - building an extensive system of roads and canals.

### C. Identification

Supply the correct identification for each numbered description.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Early Maryland and Virginia settlers had difficulty creating them and even more difficulty making them last
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Primary cause of death among tobacco-growing settlers
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Immigrants who received passage to America in exchange for a fixed term of labor
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Maryland and Virginia's system of granting land to anyone who would pay trans-Atlantic passage for laborers
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. American colony that was home to the Newport slave market and many slave traders
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. English company that lost its monopoly on the slave trade in 1698
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. African- American dialect that blended English with Yoruba, Ibo, and Hausa

- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Uprisings that occurred in New York City in 1712 and in South Carolina in 1739
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Wealthy extended clans like the Fitzhughs, Lees, and Washingtons that dominated politics in the most populous colony
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Approximate marriage age of most New England women
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The basic local political institution of New England, in which all freemen gathered to elect officials and debate local affairs
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Formula devised by Puritan ministers in 1662 to offer partial church membership to people who had not experienced conversion
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Late-seventeenth-century event that inflamed popular feelings, led to the deaths of twenty people, and weakened the Puritan clergy's prestige
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Primary occupation of most seventeenth-century Americans

#### D. Matching People, Places, and Events

Match the person, place, or event in the left column with the proper description in the right column by inserting the correct letter on the blank line.

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|---|---|
| ___ 1. Chesapeake                         | A. Major middle-colonies' rebellion that resulted in thirty-three deaths (twelve whites and twenty-one blacks)              |
| ___ 2. Indentured servants                | B. Helped erase the earlier Puritan distinction between the converted "elect" and other members of society                  |
| ___ 3. Nathaniel Bacon                    | C. Small New York revolt of 1689-1691 that reflected class antagonism between landlords and merchants                       |
| ___ 4. Governor Berkeley                  | D. Primary laborers in early southern colonies until the 1680's   |
| ___ 5. Royal African Company              | E. Experience for which human beings were branded and chained, and which only 80 percent survived                           |
| ___ 6. Middle passage                     | F. Author of a novel about the early New England practice of requiring adulterers to wear the letter "A"                    |
| ___ 7. Ringshout                          | G. West African religious rite, retained by African-Americans, in which participants responded to the shouts of a preacher. |
| ___ 8. New York City slave revolt of 1712 | H. Phenomena started by adolescent girls' accusations that ended with the deaths of twenty people                           |
| ___ 9. Nathanael Hawthorne                | I. Virginia-Maryland bay area, site of the earliest colonial settlements  |
| ___ 10. "New England conscience"          | J. The legacy of Puritan religion that inspired idealism and reform among later generations of Americans                    |
| ___ 11. Harvard                           | K. Colonial Virginia official who crushed rebels and wreaked cruel revenge  |

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|-----------------------------|--|
| ___ 12. William and Mary    | L. The oldest college in the South, founded in 1693  |
| ___ 13. Half-Way Covenant   | M. Organization whose loss of the slave trade monopoly in 1698 led to free-enterprise expansion of the business  |
| ___ 14. Salem witch trials  | N. Agitator who led poor former indentured servants and frontiersmen on a rampage against Indians and government |
| ___ 15. Leisler's Rebellion | O. The oldest college in America, originally based on the Puritan commitment to an educated ministry             |

**E. Matching Cause and Effect**

Match the historical cause in the left column with the proper effect in the right column by writing the correct letter on the blank line.

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Effect</u>
___ 1. The severe shortage of females in southern colonies	A. Inspired passage of strict "slave codes"
___ 2. Poor white males' anger at their inability to acquire land or start families.	B. Sparked Bacon's Rebellion
___ 3. Planters' fears of indentured servants' rebellion, coupled with rising wages in England	C. Produced large number of unattached males and weak family structure
___ 4. The dramatic increase in colonial slave population after 1680s	D. Thwarted success in agriculture and created the tough New England character
___ 5. The growing proportion of female slaves in a Chesapeake region after 1720	E. Inspired the Half-Way Covenant and jeremiad preaching
___ 6. New Englanders' introduction of livestock and intensive agriculture	F. Reduced forests and damaged the soil
___ 7. The healthier climate and more equal male-female ratio in New England	G. Produced high birthrates and very stable family structure in New England
___ 8. The decline of religious devotion and in number of conversions in New England	H. Fostered stronger slave families and growth of slave population through natural reproduction of children
___ 9. Unsettled New England social conditions and anxieties about the decline of the Puritan religious heritage	I. Underlay the Salem witchcraft persecutions
___ 10. The rocky soil and harsh climate of New England	J. Caused southern planters to switch from indentured-servant labor to African slavery