

1. Chesapeake Colonies (pp. 66–70)

a. Read the first section about the diseases, high mortality rates, and predominantly male society that evolved in the Chesapeake colonies. *** If you are male, would you have been motivated to leave England for this environment? If you are female, would you have considered emigrating? Why or why not?

b. What were indentured servants and why were they needed in the tobacco economy?

(1) Definition:

(2) Need:

c. What was the headright system and how did it lead to the formation of an aristocratic landowning class?

(1) Definition:

(2) Effect:

d. Look over the indenture contract on p. 69. What would have motivated people to sell themselves into this type of indentured servitude?

e. How was Bacon's Rebellion of 1676 an example of the consequences of too many ex-indentured servants and the conflict between the backcountry and the tidewater elite?

2. Colonial Slavery (pp. 70–73)

a. With about _____ million Africans transported to the New World, the slave trade must have been a huge business—and a business conducted without much if any visible popular objection. Look at the chart on p. 70 and note that only about _____ percent of the slaves sent on the dreaded “Middle _____” actually ended up in British North America. What happened in the 1680s to drastically increase the flow of slaves into the American colonies?

b. The authors conclude the section by noting that “slaves in the South proved to be a more manageable labor force than the white indentured servants.” *** What ideas do you have about why this might have been the case?

c. Read the insert section about Africans in America. What two elements of the emerging African-American culture and religion impressed you the most?

(1)

(2)

3. Southern vs. New England Society (pp. 73–78) Read these two sections and list a few of the contrasting characteristics of Southern vs. New England society. (Note that many of these distinctions constituted the seeds of future discord and many of them persist to this day.)

Virginia and the South

New England

4. Evolving Life in New England (pp. 78-83)

a. How do the authors say that Puritanism changed over the course of the 1600s? *** Do you see any connection between these changes and the Salem witch hysteria of 1692–1693?

b. What are two of the things the authors list at the end of the chapter as shaping the “Yankee” character of New Englanders?

(1)

(2)

c. What were the contrasting views of land ownership (p. 81) held by Europeans and Native Americans? *** Do you have a view on this?

(1) Native Americans:

(2) Europeans:

(3) Your View:

CHAPTER 4 TERM SHEET

Seventeenth-Century American Life

Pages 66–70

Indentured servants

“Freedom dues”

Headright system

William Berkeley

Bacon’s Rebellion (1676)

Pages 70–73

“Middle Passage”

Slave codes

Pages 73–78

“First Families of Virginia”

Pages 78–83

Congregational Church

“Half-Way Covenant”

Salem witch trials (1692)

Leisler’s Rebellion (1689–1691)