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Chapter 2: The First Experiments: 1540-1680

Multiple Choice

1. The story of the Maryland servant Mary suggests that which of the following was part of the normal experience of indentured servants in seventeenth century colonial America?
A) beatings
B) being sold to others
C) respect for religious diversity
D) the callous murder of servants

Ans: A
Difficulty: Easy

2. Which of the following is true about the Spanish Empire in the 1500s?
A) It had to struggle mightily against French and English ambitions.
B) Its dominance was relatively unrivaled by European competitors.
C) In its reach and power it was only second to Portugal.
D) It was first and foremost a religious empire governed by the Vatican.

Ans: B
Difficulty: Medium

3. Under the Spanish *encomienda* system,
A) conquistadors and local officials forced indigenous populations to work in mines and fields.
B) African slaves worked on Caribbean sugar plantations for absentee owners in Madrid.
C) Spanish officials captured Native Americans and sold them into slavery in South America.
D) the Spanish military captured European adventurers to indenture them in the Caribbean.

Ans: A
Difficulty: Medium

4. By the 1590s, approximately how many Europeans had crossed the Atlantic to settle in the New World?
A) 15,000
B) 125,000
C) 200,000
D) 2 million

Ans: C
Difficulty: Difficult

5. The excessively cruel behavior of Juan de Oñate in the Spanish colonial outpost of Santa Fe, New Mexico had which of the following consequences around the turn from the sixteenth to seventeenth century?
A) More Spanish settlers embraced the *encomienda* system.

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B) Pueblo Indians started killing their masters in large numbers.
C) Apache and Navajo Indians stiffened their resistance to the colonists.
D) Catholic missionaries abandoned Santa Fe in protest.

Ans: C
Difficulty: Difficult

6. Why did the Timucua Indians of Florida welcome a French expedition so cordially in the 1560s?
A) The French had a reputation for trading generously.
B) They had had very positive experiences with the Spanish already.
C) They were looking for an ally to help expel Spanish colonists.
D) They were in desperate need of French assistance, such as food and clothing.

Ans: C
Difficulty: Difficult

7. The word "Canada," most probably stems from
A) an English insult against Native Americans.
B) a Huron Iroquois word for "village."
C) the French word for "New World."
D) the Abenaki word for "white snow."

Ans: B
Difficulty: Medium

8. How did the military-style leadership of Montréal try to address the gender imbalance of its colony in the 1660s?
A) It actively assimilated native women into their community.
B) It recruited Scots-Irish settlers from the British Isles.
C) It transported predominantly European war widows into the colony.
D) It deported the excess of men in the colony back to France.

Ans: C
Difficulty: Medium

9. Which of the following was a significant population center in New Amsterdam in the middle of the seventeenth century?
A) the Bronx
B) Harlem
C) Staten Island
D) Albany

Ans: C
Difficulty: Medium

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10. From which city did the Atlantic Explorer and adventurer John Cabot originate?
A) London
B) Edinburgh
C) Genoa
D) Venice

Ans: C
Difficulty: Difficult

11. Who warned the first Virginian settlers on Roanoke Island in 1586 of an impending Spanish raid?
A) Sir Humphrey Gilbert
B) Sir Francis Drake
C) Opchanacanough
D) the local tribe of Cherokee Indians

Ans: B
Difficulty: Easy

12. Which of the following is NOT a plausible theory for what happened to the English settlers of the "Lost Colony" on Roanoke Island?
A) The Spanish might have destroyed the settlement.
B) Nearby Indian villages might have destroyed the settlement.
C) The settlers might have departed for another English colony.
D) Settlers might have assimilated into nearby villages for survival.

Ans: C
Difficulty: Medium

13. For the first Virginian settlers of the Virginia Company of London, what were the chances of surviving starvation and disease between 1607 and 1610?
A) 50-50
B) 10 to 1
C) 1 in 5
D) 1 in 15

Ans: C
Difficulty: Medium

14. What was the significance of the marriage between Pocahontas and the English colonist John Rolfe?
A) It was the first romance of the New World.
B) It eased tensions between the Powhatans and the English.
C) It illustrated the racial tolerance of natives and Virginians in the beginning.
D) The couple birthed the founding generation of a mixed-race Virginian elite.

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Ans: B
Difficulty: Medium

15. In 1632, King Charles I conferred a charter to George Calvert, Lord Baltimore for a proprietary colony in modern-day Maryland. This gave him powers similar to
A) a chief executive officer.
B) a general manager.
C) a prime minister.
D) a medieval lord.

Ans: D
Difficulty: Medium

16. Which of the following led to an increased authority for women in Chesapeake families in the seventeenth century?
A) the high mortality of men
B) the high mortality of women
C) the high birth rate amongst slaves
D) the low birthrate amongst settlers

Ans: A
Difficulty: Easy

17. Which of the following provided most of the slaves to British Caribbean plantations in the middle of the seventeenth century?
A) the French
B) the Dutch
C) the Spanish
D) the Swedish

Ans: B
Difficulty: Easy

18. Where did England's wealthiest Caribbean planters of the seventeenth and eighteenth century live?
A) the Bahamas
B) Bermuda
C) Barbados
D) London

Ans: D
Difficulty: Medium

19. Which of the following triggered a period of much greater slave importations into Virginia after 1680?
A) war between Portugal and the Netherlands

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B) a drop in the price of slaves
C) a surge in the availability of indentured servants
D) a drop in tobacco prices

Ans: B
Difficulty: Easy

20. Hundreds of separatist Puritans fled from England in 1609 to escape all of the following, EXCEPT:
A) preoccupation with religious doctrine
B) vestiges of Catholicism
C) corrupting influences of commercial cities
D) armies of poor people

Ans: A
Difficulty: Medium

21. What distinguished Massachusetts Puritans from the Pilgrims that had landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620?
A) They were loyal to the Anglican church.
B) They came for the discovery of riches, not for the building of communities.
C) They wanted to reform the Church of England, not separate from it.
D) They were predominantly Dutch, not English.

Ans: C
Difficulty: Medium

22. The dispute of Massachusetts colonists over the case of Goody Sherman in 1644 had which of the following consequences?
A) the creation of a bicameral legislature
B) the withdrawal of the Royal charter
C) the expulsion of Native Americans from English villages
D) the granting of voting rights to women

Ans: A
Difficulty: Medium

23. Which of the following economic traditions in New England led to further class differentiation in the seventeenth century?
A) the practice of "portable inheritance"
B) the tradition of the craft guild
C) the tradition of church tithing
D) the practice of military conscription

Ans: A

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Difficulty: Medium

24. How did European religious practice shape the colonists' perspective on the environment?
A) They believed that God was everywhere in nature.
B) Their faith demanded a strict separation between human kind and the environment.
C) They saw God in everything that came from the heavens, including grain.
D) They associated fertile soil with the body of Jesus Christ.

Ans: B
Difficulty: Difficult

25. What aggrieved Virginia colonists that had completed their indentures in the 1660s and 1670s?
A) They chafed under high taxes.
B) Little unclaimed land remained for them.
C) They wished for more amicable relations with native tribes.
D) They were looking for alternative crops other than tobacco.

Ans: B
Difficulty: Easy

Fill in the Blank

26. From the comfort of Europe, monarchs appointed "_____" to govern their distant territorial claims and mediate disputes.

Ans: viceroys; Medium

27. On the Western edges of New France, _____missionaries claimed that independent fur trappers had fallen into dire temptations.

Ans: Jesuit; Medium

28. The fledgling colony of New Netherland struggled to attract settlers. Only Killiaen Van Rensselaer set up a thriving _____.

Ans: patroonship; Difficult

29. The dress rehearsal for English New World ventures was the brutal colonization of Ireland where English and Protestant Scottish freeholders established a _____ system.

Ans: plantation; Medium

30. Desperate to turn a profit, the Virginia company introduced a new system for distributing land in 1619, known as the _____ system.

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Ans: headright; Easy

31. After Oliver Cromwell took over Parliament and executed Charles I, radical "_____," demanded a full Democratic Republic.

Ans: levellers; Difficult

32. Indentured contracts signed in England usually stipulated that servants were to receive "_____" at the end of their terms.

Ans: freedom dues; Medium

33. The Separatists, who became known as the Pilgrims that landed at Plymouth Rock, embarked on a little carrier called the _____ in September 1620.

Ans: Mayflower; Easy

34. In the 1400s, the Portuguese built offshore "_____" on islands near Cape Blanco and Cape Verde where they conducted a lucrative slave trade.

Ans: factories; Medium

35. Slaves experienced atrocious treatment on the "_____," across the ocean at the hands of Portuguese and Dutch slave traders in the 1500s.

Ans: mid- or middle passage; Difficult

Short Answer

36. What made Isabel Tolosa Cortés an important character in the history of Spain's conquest of Mesoamerica?
Ans: Isabel Tolosa Cortés was not only the granddaughter of Hernan Cortés, the conqueror of Mexico, she was also the great-granddaughter of the famous Aztec Emperor Moctezuma and the wife of the first governor of New Mexico, Captain General Juan de Oñate.

37. Why was the artist John White unable to return to the settlement of Roanoke until 1590?
Ans: White returned to England in 1587 and wanted to go back to Roanoke right away, but the beheading of Mary Stewart, Queen of Scots by Elizabeth I that year escalated the war with Spain and forced the English to fight against the massive Spanish Armada off their own shoreline in 1588. Thanks to a massive storm, the English were victorious, but it delayed any return to Roanoke until 1590.

38. Describe the ways in which the work days of women in the Chesapeake colonies of the seventeenth century were so grueling.
Ans: In the absence of grist mills, women had to pound corn for two or three hours every day just to produce the flower for their family's daily sustenance. In addition, they were busy tending

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garden vegetables, making cider or beer, curing meats, baking, plucking chickens, or laboring at some other endless daily chore.

39. Explain how Puritans understood their individual conversion experience in seventeenth century New England colonies.
Ans: For Puritans, conversion was a very individual moment that involved the realization of one's own unworthiness and the receipt of God's redeeming grace.

40. Describe the consequences of the overhunting of beaver on the North American continent.
Ans: As beavers were hunted to depletion in regions feeding the fur trade, their dams no longer regulated the flow of creeks, which reduced the populations of deer and other small game.

41. Summarize the impact of King Philip's/Metacom's war.
Ans: The conflict between Indians and New Englanders in 1676 is considered the most lethal conflict in American history by proportion of population. One tenth of all-male settlers in Massachusetts were killed or taken captive, Indian forces flattened at least eighteen New England towns, and between 60 and 80 percent of the native populations was killed.

42. Explain the impact of the introduction of the fur trade by the French in the middle of the sixteenth century in modern-day Canada.
Ans: The fur trade introduced welcome new technologies such as guns, knives, and kettles to Indians. However, members of the Micmac, Huron, Erie, and other native nations begin killing one another and competition neglected the hunting and agricultural activities that had sustained their way of life.

Essay

43. Compare and contrast the Spanish, Dutch, and French colonies.
Ans: Responses will vary but should include:

- Spain:
  - Conquistadores and encomiendas
  - From native to African slaves
  - Gold and silver mines
  - Spanish settlers and the emergence of mestizos
  - Native alliances and subjugations for territorial control
- French
  - Sugar islands in the Caribbean
  - Maritime explorers on the Hudson and St. Lawrence
  - Search for middle passage
  - Fur trade in Canada
  - Minimal immigration and new settlements
  - Creation of Louisiana
- Dutch
  - Commercial empire with Amsterdam as capital
  - Financiers of global trade
  - The East India Company

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    - The West India Company
    - Diverse settlement under Minuit on Manhattan
    - Fledgling patroonships
    - Fur trade on the Hudson
    - Financing of slave trade

44. Identify and compare the factors shaping colonists' family life in the Chesapeake with that shaping the family life of colonists in New England.

- Chesapeake
    - Large gender imbalance
    - High mortality rates
    - Heavy reliance on tobacco cultivation
    - Introduction of slavery and indentured servitude
- New England
    - Religious communities and relative homogeneity of settlers
    - Migration in family formations, gender balance
    - Preference for self-sufficient farming
    - Higher longevity of settlers due to better climate
    - Insignificance of slavery

45. How did Bacon's Rebellion change the politics and economy of the Chesapeake colonies?

- Virginia before the Rebellion
    - Virginia's elites' diplomatic stance toward Indians
        - Preference for stability on the frontier for economic reasons
        - Lack of interest in marginal lands away from tidewaters
    - Virginia's freeholders
        - Growing population of free indentured servants claiming their freedom dues
        - Lack of prime lands away from Indian settlements and property claims
        - Bitter conflicts between new freeholders and Indians
- After Bacon's Rebellion
    - Virginia's elites recognized the political gunpowder built into a growing number of freeholders pushing the frontier
    - Viriginia's elites recognized the danger of social mobility and a growing number of landed colonists whose voices had to be heard.
    - Virginia's freeholders growing hostility toward Indians on frontier, resentment toward coastal elites.

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