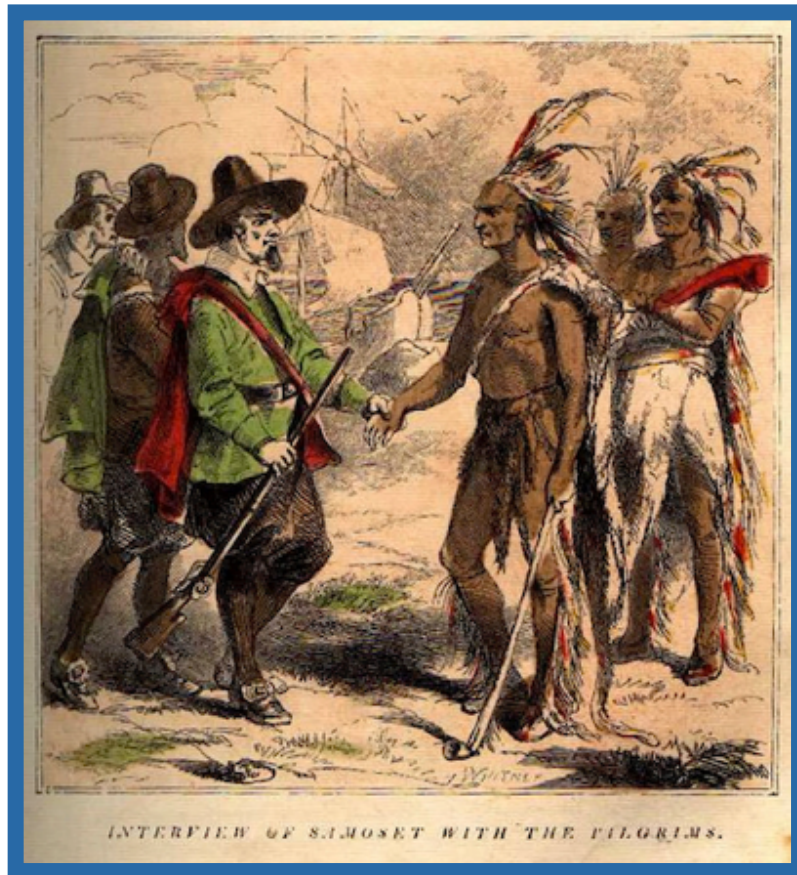


How did the English and the Wampanoag move from contact to cooperation to conflict?



Charles De Wolf Brownell, illustration of Samoset meeting the English, in *The Indian Races of North and South America*, 1822. Public domain.

Supporting Questions

1. What was the early contact like between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags?
2. How did the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags cooperate in the early years after first contact?
3. How did the English and the Wampanoags move from cooperation to conflict?



7th Grade English and Wampanoag Inquiry

How did the English and the Wampanoag move from contact to cooperation to conflict?

New York State Social Studies Framework Key Idea & Practices	7.2 COLONIAL DEVELOPMENTS: European exploration of the New World resulted in various interactions with Native Americans and in colonization. The American colonies were established for a variety of reasons and developed differently based on economic, social, and geographic factors. Colonial America had a variety of social structures under which not all people were treated equally. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gathering, Using, and Interpreting Evidence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comparison and Contextualization
Staging the Question	Using a painting to spark interest, record prior knowledge about the English, the Wampanoag, and the positive and negative Pilgrim–Wampanoag interactions.

Supporting Question 1
What was the early contact like between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags?
Formative Performance Task
Write a first-person account from the perspective of a Pilgrim and/or a Wampanoag man or woman about their early contact in 1621.
Timeline Task
List events in 1621 and 1622 that represent the first contact between the Pilgrims and Wampanoags.
Featured Sources
<p>Source A: Image bank: Maps and illustrations of “Pilgrim Village”</p> <p>Source B: Excerpts from <i>Mourt’s Relation: A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth</i></p> <p>Source C: Illustrations of Samoset meeting the Pilgrims</p>

Supporting Question 2
How did the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags cooperate in the early years after first contact?
Formative Performance Task
Create an annotated illustration that highlights how the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags cooperated in the early years after their first contact.
Timeline Task
List events from 1622 through the 1630s that reflect cooperation between the Pilgrims and Wampanoag.
Featured Sources
<p>Source A: Excerpt from <i>Mourt’s Relation: A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth</i></p> <p>Source B: Excerpt from <i>Of Plymouth Plantation</i></p> <p>Source C: Excerpt from <i>Of Plymouth Plantation</i></p>

Supporting Question 3
How did the English and the Wampanoags move from cooperation to conflict?
Formative Performance Task
Make a claim supported by evidence about whether or not the conflicts could have been avoided from the perspective of the English and/or the Wampanoags.
Timeline Task
List events from the 1640s to the 1670s that illustrate how conflict emerged between the English and Wampanoag.
Featured Sources
<p>Source A: Chart of population of the New England Colonies, 1620–1750</p> <p>Source B: Image bank: Maps of 17th-century Plymouth settlements</p> <p>Source C: Excerpts from <i>A Relation of the Indian War</i></p> <p>Source D: Map of King Philip’s War</p>

Summative Performance Task	<p>ARGUMENT How did the English and the Wampanoag go from contact to cooperation to conflict? Construct an argument (e.g., detailed outline, poster, essay) that discusses the deteriorating relationship between the English and the Wampanoags using specific claims and relevant evidence from historical sources while acknowledging competing views.</p> <p>EXTENSION Create a graphic short story that illustrates an argument for how and why the English and Wampanoag relationship deteriorated over time, including supporting and counterevidence from a variety of sources.</p>
Taking Informed Action	<p>UNDERSTAND Research (e.g. examine online sources, interview an expert, contact someone from a Native American group) the point of view of a modern indigenous group that is fighting for its rights.</p> <p>ASSESS Explore whether or not conflict can be avoided in the situation you examined.</p> <p>ACT Create a video, Facebook page, or website that argues for or against the merits of the group’s struggle and present the product at a classroom or community event.</p>

Overview

Inquiry Description

In this inquiry, students investigate one of the best-known stories in American history—the interaction between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags that included the first Thanksgiving. The compelling question “How did the English and the Wampanoag move from contact to cooperation to conflict?” focuses on how the relationship between Native Americans and European settlers deteriorated over time. The Pilgrims’ initial contact with the Wampanoags in the winter of 1621 was not the first time Europeans and Native Americans met, but the interactions that followed have become a central part of the narrative of American history. Neither the Wampanoags nor the colonists were in a position to do much more than strike a wary and tense stand-off, as they were operating from positions of weakness. The 1616-1619 epidemic had decimated the Wampanoags, reduced to about 1,000 people, while the some 50 Plymouth colonists who had survived were starving.

It should be noted that the use of the terms Pilgrim, Wampanoag and English are generalizations. The arriving Europeans were originally known as Separatists, not Pilgrims. The name Pilgrim was not applied to these settlers until well over a century later. In addition, Massasoit and his people were Pokanokets. Similarly, the name Wampanoags does not appear in early documents originating in southern New England, but only much later. English refers to both Pilgrims and Puritans who both settled in the New England area and had interactions with the Indians.

As they complete this inquiry, students learn more about the history of colonial and Native American relations by responding to the compelling question with an argument about how the interactions between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags changed over time.

In addition to the Key Idea listed earlier, this inquiry highlights the following Conceptual Understanding:

- (7.2b) Different European groups had varied interactions and relationships with the Native American societies they encountered. Native American societies suffered from losses of life and land due to the Encounter with Europeans.

NOTE: This inquiry is expected to take four to six 40-minute class periods. The inquiry time frame could expand if teachers think their students need additional instructional experiences (i.e., supporting questions, formative performance tasks, and featured sources). Teachers are encouraged to adapt the inquiries in order to meet the needs and interests of their particular students. Resources can also be modified as necessary to meet individualized education programs (IEPs) or Section 504 Plans for students with disabilities.

Structure of the Inquiry

In addressing the compelling question “How did the English and the Wampanoag move from contact to cooperation to conflict?” students work through a series of supporting questions, formative performance tasks, and featured sources in order to construct an argument supported by evidence from a variety of sources. A key element of this inquiry is a sequencing of events that played out over many decades after the Pilgrims and Wampanoags’ first encounter in 1620. Across the three formative performance tasks, teachers may have students complete a timeline that weaves together events related to this inquiry.



Timeline Tasks		
What was the early contact like between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags?	How did the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags cooperate in the early years after first contact?	How did the English and the Wampanoags move from cooperation to conflict?
List events in 1620 and 1621 that represent the first contact between the Pilgrims and Wampanoags.	List events from 1621 through the 1630s that reflect cooperation between the Pilgrims and Wampanoags.	List events from the 1640s to the 1670s that illustrate how conflict emerged between the English and Wampanoags.
Label events on a timeline related to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilgrims landing • First contact 	Label events on a timeline related to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treaty between the colonists (Pilgrims) and the Wampanoag • Sickness among Native Americans 	Label events on a timeline related to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Philip’s War

Staging the Compelling Question

Using the painting provided in the featured sources, students write down what they know (or think they know) about the Pilgrims, the Wampanoags, and the positive and negative interactions.

Supporting Question 1

The first supporting question—“What was the first contact like between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags?”—establishes the foundational understanding of the initial contact between one Native American group and the Pilgrims. The question asks students to understand this contact from the viewpoints of both Native Americans and colonists. To this end, the formative performance task calls on students to write a first-person account from the perspective of a Pilgrim settler or a Wampanoag man or woman about their first contact in 1620 and 1621. The featured sources are a sketch depicting the Plymouth settlement, a journal account of an early meeting between Pilgrims and the Wampanoags, and a set of illustrations of the Native leader Samoset meeting Pilgrim leaders.

Supporting Question 2

The second supporting question—“How did the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags cooperate in the early years after first contact?”—asks students to consider how the Wampanoags and Pilgrims cooperated through trade and coexisted in relative peace. The formative performance task asks students to use the featured sources—Edward Winslow’s account of the first Thanksgiving, the 1621 treaty with Massasoit, and William Bradford’s description of sickness among Native Americans—to create a list of the different ways the Wampanoags and the Pilgrims cooperated. After completing this task, students should understand how the first contact eventually led to mutually beneficial cooperation.

It should be noted that the idea of the “first thanksgiving” didn’t appear in the historical record until 1841. The Pilgrims were actually celebrating a traditional English harvest festival when they feasted with the Wampanoag in 1622.

Supporting Question 3

The third supporting question—“Why did the English and the Wampanoags move from cooperation to conflict?”—establishes the decline of the relationship between the Wampanoags and the English. Relations deteriorated in the 1630s, most dramatically with King Philip’s War (1675), which remains the bloodiest in United States history relative to population size. The formative performance task asks students to use evidence to make a claim suggesting a way either side could have avoided conflict. The featured sources are a chart of colonial population in New England, an image bank of maps of 16th-century settlements, excerpts from an account of Wampanoag leader Metacom’s complaints about the English, and a map depicting King Philip’s War.

Summative Performance Task

At this point in the inquiry, students have examined contact, cooperation, and conflict between the English and the Wampanoags. Students should be able to demonstrate the breadth of their understanding and the ability to use evidence from multiple sources to support their claims. In this task, students construct an evidence-based argument using multiple sources to answer the compelling question “How did the English and the Wampanoag move from contact to cooperation to conflict?” It is important to note that students’ arguments could take a variety of forms, including a detailed outline, poster, or essay.

Students’ arguments will likely vary, but could include any of the following:

- Conflict between the English and Wampanoags was sure to happen since the two groups cared about different things and lived differently.
- English and Wampanoags cooperated a lot in the early years of contact, but conflict was eventually going to happen because the two sides did not communicate very well.
- English and Wampanoags had many differences but that did not mean the two groups had to go to war.

To extend their learning, students could create comic strips that illustrate an argument for how and why the English–Wampanoag relationship deteriorated over time, including support from a variety of sources.

Students have the opportunity to Take Informed Action by considering the point of view of a modern indigenous group that is fighting for its rights. To *understand* the problem, students may research (e.g., examine online sources, interview an expert, or contact someone from a Native American group) the efforts of one Native American group that is currently fighting for its rights to land or other resources. To *assess* the problem, students may explore whether or not conflict can be avoided in this struggle. Students may then *act* by creating a video, Facebook page, or website that argues for or against the merits of the group’s struggle and presenting the product at a classroom or community event.

Staging the Compelling Question

Featured Source

Source A: J. L. G. Ferris, painting of relations between the Pilgrims and Wampanoags, *The First Thanksgiving 1621*, 1919



Public domain. Available at the Library of Congress: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2001699850/>.

Supporting Question 1

Featured Source

Source A: Image bank: Maps and illustrations of “Pilgrim Village”

Image 1: Map view of the location of the “Pilgrim Village,” Plimoth Plantation Museum, no date.



Courtesy of the Plymouth Archive Project, <http://www.histarch.illinois.edu/plymouth/fortplan.html>



Image 2: Aerial photograph of the location of the “Pilgrim Village,” Plimoth Plantation Museum, 1995.

Courtesy of the Plymouth Archive Project, <http://www.histarch.illinois.edu/plymouth/fortplan.html>.

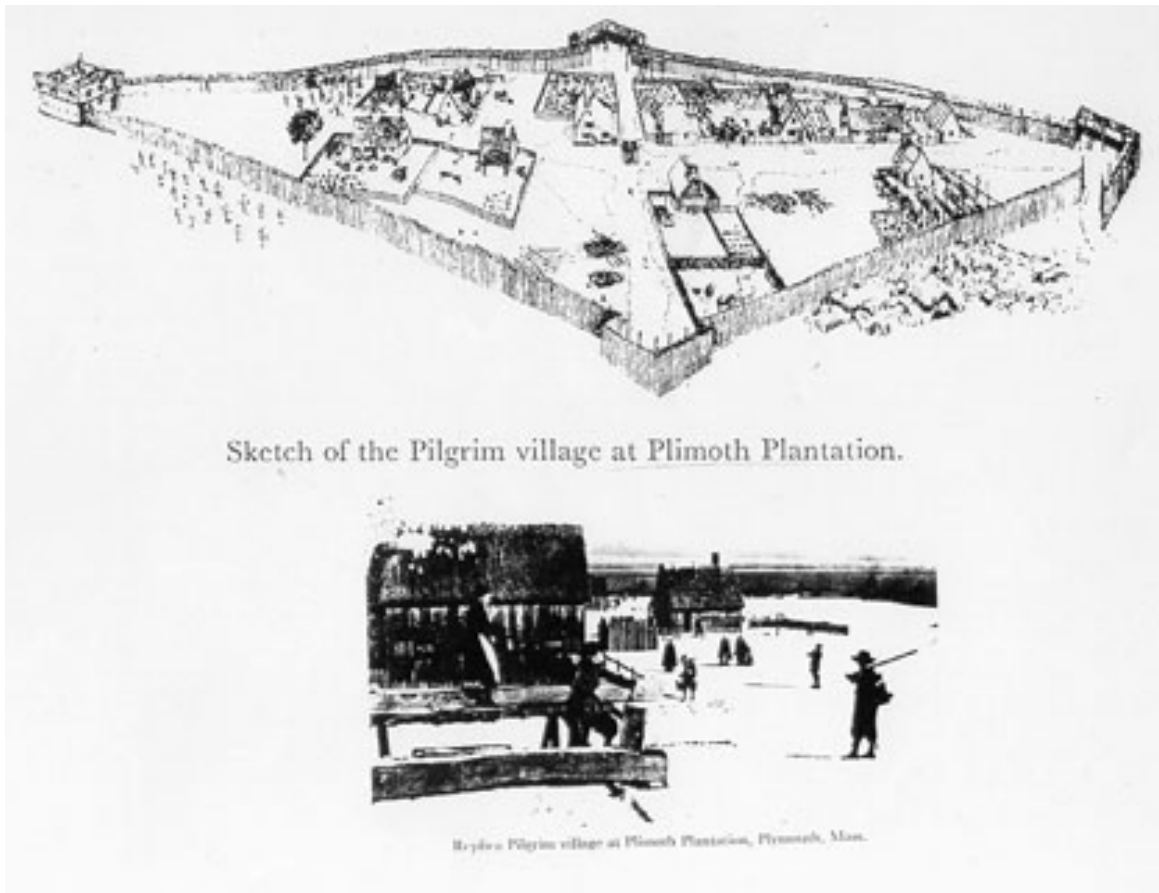


Image 3: Reconstructed sketch of the "Pilgrim Village" at Plimoth Plantation, Plimoth Plantation Museum, no date.

Plimoth Plantation Museum. Used with permission. Available at the Plymouth Colony Archive Project, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: <http://www.histarch.illinois.edu/plymouth/images/Plimsketch.html>.



Image 4: Aerial view of reconstructed “Pilgrim Village,” Plimoth Plantation Museum, no date.

Courtesy of the Plymouth Archive Project, <http://www.histarch.illinois.edu/plymouth/fortplan.html>.



Supporting Question 1

Featured Source

Source B: Edward Winslow, description of the first encounter between the Pilgrims and Wampanoag, *Mourt's Relation: A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth* (transcribed by Caleb Johnson, excerpts), 1622

NOTE: Mourt's Relation was an early Pilgrim booklet written mainly by Edward Winslow with significant contributions from William Bradford. Published in England (likely by George Morton), it provides a firsthand account of the early struggles of Pilgrims in exploring Cape Cod and then settling at Plymouth as well as early interactions with Native inhabitants. The excerpt here describes the first very brief encounter between Pilgrim settlers and Native Americans on November 15, 1620.

Text from *Mourt's Relation* Transcribed by Caleb Johnson

Wednesday, the 15th of November, they were set ashore, and when they had ordered themselves in the order of a single file and marched about the space of a mile, by the sea they espied five or six people with a dog, coming towards them, who were savages, who when they saw them, ran into the wood and whistled the dog after them, etc. First they supposed them to be Master Jones, the master, and some of his men, for they were ashore and knew of their coming, but after they knew them to be Indians they marched after them into the woods, lest other of the Indians should lie in ambush; but when the Indians saw our men following them, they ran away with might and main and our men turned out of the wood after them, for it was the way they intended to go, but they could not come near them. They followed them that night about ten miles by the trace of their footings, and saw how they had come the same way they went, and at a turning perceived how they ran up a hill, to see whether they followed them. At length night came upon them, and they were constrained to take up their lodging, so they set forth three sentinels, and the rest, some kindled a fire, and others fetched wood, and there held our rendezvous that night.

NOTE: The following excerpt describes the first extended encounter of Pilgrim settlers and Native Americans in March of 1621.

Text from *Mourt's Relation* Transcribed by Caleb Johnson

Friday, the 16th [of March], a fair warm day; towards this morning we determined to conclude of the military orders, which we had begun to consider of before but were interrupted by the savages, as we mentioned formerly. And whilst we were busied hereabout, we were interrupted again, for there presented himself a savage, which caused an alarm. He very boldly came all alone and along the houses straight to the rendezvous, where we intercepted him, not suffering him to go in, as undoubtedly he would, out of his boldness. He saluted us in English, and bade us welcome, for he had learned some broken English among the Englishmen that came to fish at Monchiggon, and knew by name the most of the captains, commanders, and masters that usually came. He was a man free in speech, so far as he could express his mind, and of a seemly carriage. We questioned him of many things; he was the first savage we could meet withal....The wind being to rise a little, we cast a horseman's coat about him, for he was stark naked, only a leather about his waist, with a fringe about a span long, or little more; he had a bow and two arrows, the one headed, and the other unheaded. He was a tall straight man, the hair of his head black, long behind, only short before, none on his face at all; he asked some beer, but we gave him strong water and biscuit, and butter, and cheese, and pudding, and a piece of mallard, all which he liked well, and had been acquainted with such amongst the English. He told us the place where we now live is called Patuxet, and that about four years ago all the inhabitants died of an extraordinary plague, and there is neither man, woman, nor child remaining, as indeed we have found none, so as there is none to hinder our possession, or to lay claim unto it. ...

Saturday and Sunday, reasonable fair days. On this day came again the savage, and brought with him five other tall proper men; they had every man a deer's skin on him, and the principal of them had a wild cat's skin, or such like on the one arm. They had most of them long hosen up to their groins, close made; and above their groins to their waist another leather, they were altogether like the Irish-trousers. They are of a complexion like our English gypsies, no hair or very little on their faces, on the heads long hair to their shoulders, only cut before, some trussed up before with a feather, broad-wise, like a fan, another a fox tail hanging out. These left (according to our charge given him before) their bows and arrows a quarter of a mile from our town. We gave them entertainment as we thought was fitting them; they did eat liberally of our English victuals. They made semblance unto us of friendship and amity; they sang and danced after their manner, like antics. They brought with them in a thing like a bow-case (which the principal of them had about his waist) a little of their corn pounded to powder, which, put to a little water, they eat. He had a little tobacco in a bag, but none of them drank but when he listed.

Johnson, Caleb. *Of Plymouth Plantation*, Xlibris, 2006 and *A Relation or Journal of the Beginning and Proceedings of the English Plantation Settled at Plymouth in New England by certain English Adventurers both Merchants and others*. © 2009, MayflowerHistory.com All Rights Reserved. Used with permission.

Supporting Question 1

Featured Source

Source C: Image bank: Illustrations of Samoset meeting the Pilgrims

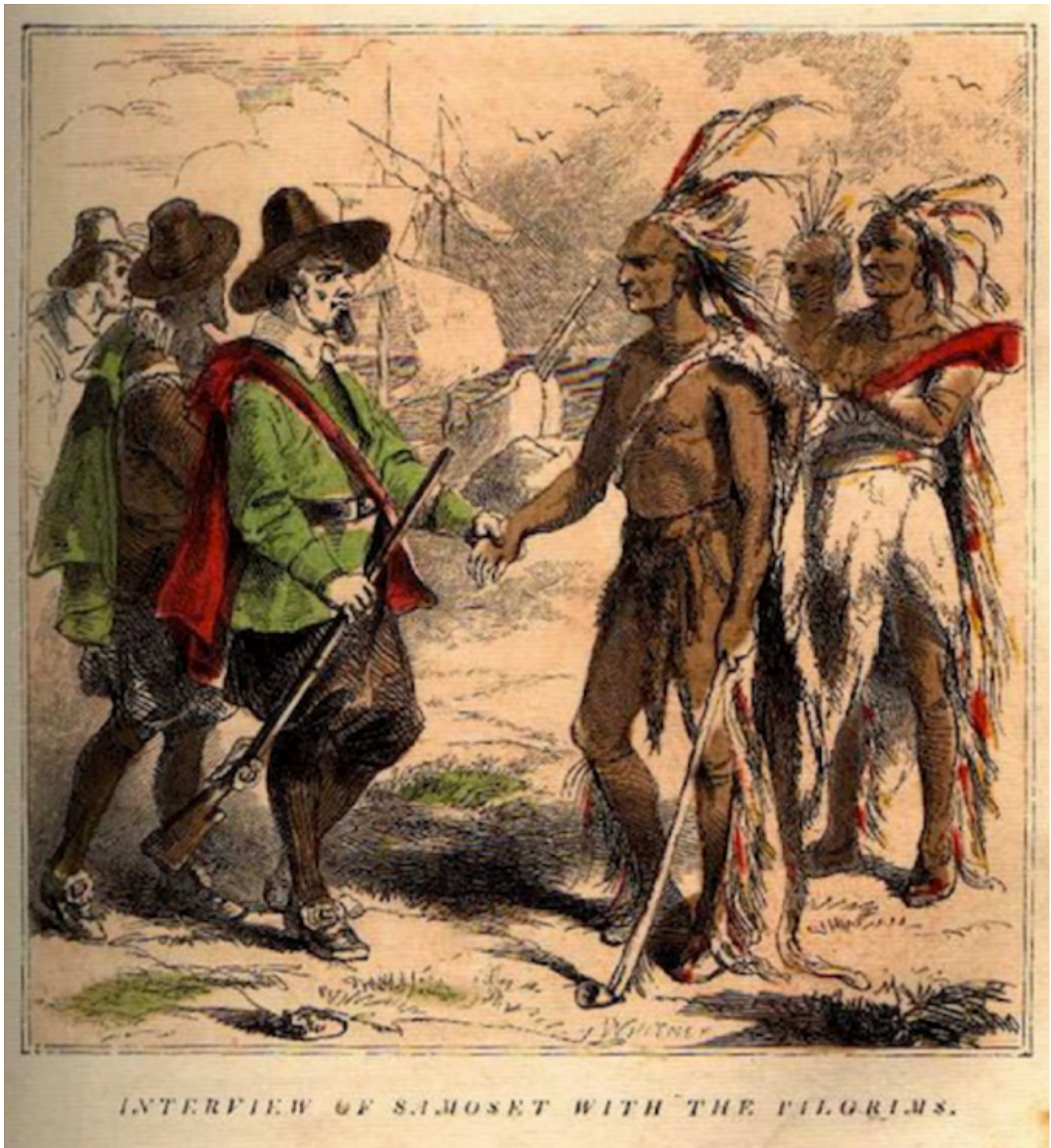


Image 1: Charles De Wolf Brownell, illustration of Samoset meeting the Pilgrims, in *The Indian Races of North and South America*, 1822.
Public domain.



Image 2: Artist unknown, illustration of visit of Samoset to the Plymouth colony, *Popular History of the United States, from the First Discovery of the Western Hemisphere by the Northmen to the End of the Civil War*, 1876.

Public domain. Available from the New York Public Library Digital Collections: <http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47e0-f382-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>.



Supporting Question 2

Featured Source

Source A: Edward Winslow, description of the first Thanksgiving, *Mourt's Relation: A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth* (excerpt), 1622

NOTE: Mourt's Relation was an early Pilgrim booklet written mainly by Edward Winslow with significant contributions from William Bradford. Published in England (likely by George Morton), it provides a firsthand account of the early struggles of Pilgrims in exploring Cape Cod and then settling at Plymouth, as well as in early interactions with native inhabitants. In a later 1841 edition, an editor's note became the first ever reference to the 1621 Wampanoag–Pilgrim feast as "the First Thanksgiving." The excerpt below recounts the story of this "First Thanksgiving."

Mourt's Relation, Part VI Transcribed by Caleb Johnson

Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after have a special manner to rejoice together after we had gathered the fruit of our labors; they four in one day killed as much fowl, as with a little help beside, served the company almost a week, at which time amongst other recreations, we exercised our arms, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and among the rest their greatest King Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five deer, which they brought to the plantation and bestowed on our governor, and upon the captain, and others. And although it be not always so plentiful as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want that we often wish you partakers of our plenty.

We have found the Indians very faithful in their covenant of peace with us; very loving and ready to pleasure us; we often go to them, and they come to us; some of us have been fifty miles by land in the country with them, the occasions and relations whereof you shall understand by our general and more full declaration of such things as are worth the noting, yea, it has pleased God so to possess the Indians with a fear of us, and love unto us, that not only the greatest king amongst them, called Massasoit, but also all the princes and peoples round about us, have either made suit unto us, or been glad of any occasion to make peace with us, so that seven of them at once have sent their messengers to us to that end. Yea, an Isle at sea, which we never saw, hath also, together with the former, yielded willingly to be under the protection, and subjects to our sovereign lord King James, so that there is now great peace amongst the Indians themselves, which was not formerly, neither would have been but for us; and we for our parts walk as peaceably and safely in the wood as in the highways in England. We entertain them familiarly in our houses, and they as friendly bestowing their venison on us. They are a people without any religion or knowledge of God, yet very trusty, quick of apprehension, ripe-witted, just.

Johnson, Caleb. *Of Plymouth Plantation*, Xlibris, 2006 and *A Relation or Journal of the Beginning and Proceedings of the English Plantation Settled at Plymouth in New England by certain English Adventurers both Merchants and others.* © 2009, MayflowerHistory.com All Rights Reserved. Used with permission..

Supporting Question 2

Featured Source

Source B: William Bradford, treaty with Massasoit, *Of Plymouth Plantation* (excerpt), 1651

NOTE: The treaty with Massasoit was included in the record of activities in the Plymouth colony keep by William Bradford called Of Plymouth Plantation.

Text of the treaty

Their great Sachem[chief], called Massasoiet. who, about four or five days after, came with the chief of his friends and other attendance, with the aforesaid Squanto. With whom, after friendly entertainment and some gifts given him, they made a peace with him (which hath now continued this 24 years) in these terms:

- I. That neither he nor any of his, should injure or do hurt to any of their people.
- II. That if any of his did any hurt to any of theirs, he should send the offender that they might punish him.
- III. That if any thing were taken away from any of theirs, he should cause it to be restored; and they should do the like to his.
- IV. That if any did unjustly war against him, they would aid him; and if any did war against them, he should aid them.
- V. That he should send to his neighbours confederates to certify them of this, that they might not wrong them, but might be likewise comprised in the conditions of peace.
- VI. That when their men came to them, they should leave their bows and arrows behind them.

From: William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation*, edited by Samuel Eliot Morison. Copyright © 1984. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, pp. 80–81. http://www.pilgrimhallmuseum.org/pdf/Text_Treaty_with_Massasoit.pdf.



Supporting Question 2

Featured Source

Source C: William Bradford, description of an outbreak of smallpox among the Wampanoag, *Of Plymouth Plantation* (excerpt), 1651

NOTE: Disease for which they had no immunities tore through Native Americans communities soon after their first extended contact with Europeans. William Bradford describes one such outbreak in Of Plymouth Plantation, his record of activities written over a three decades from 1621 to 1651

William Bradford on Sickness among the Natives (1634)

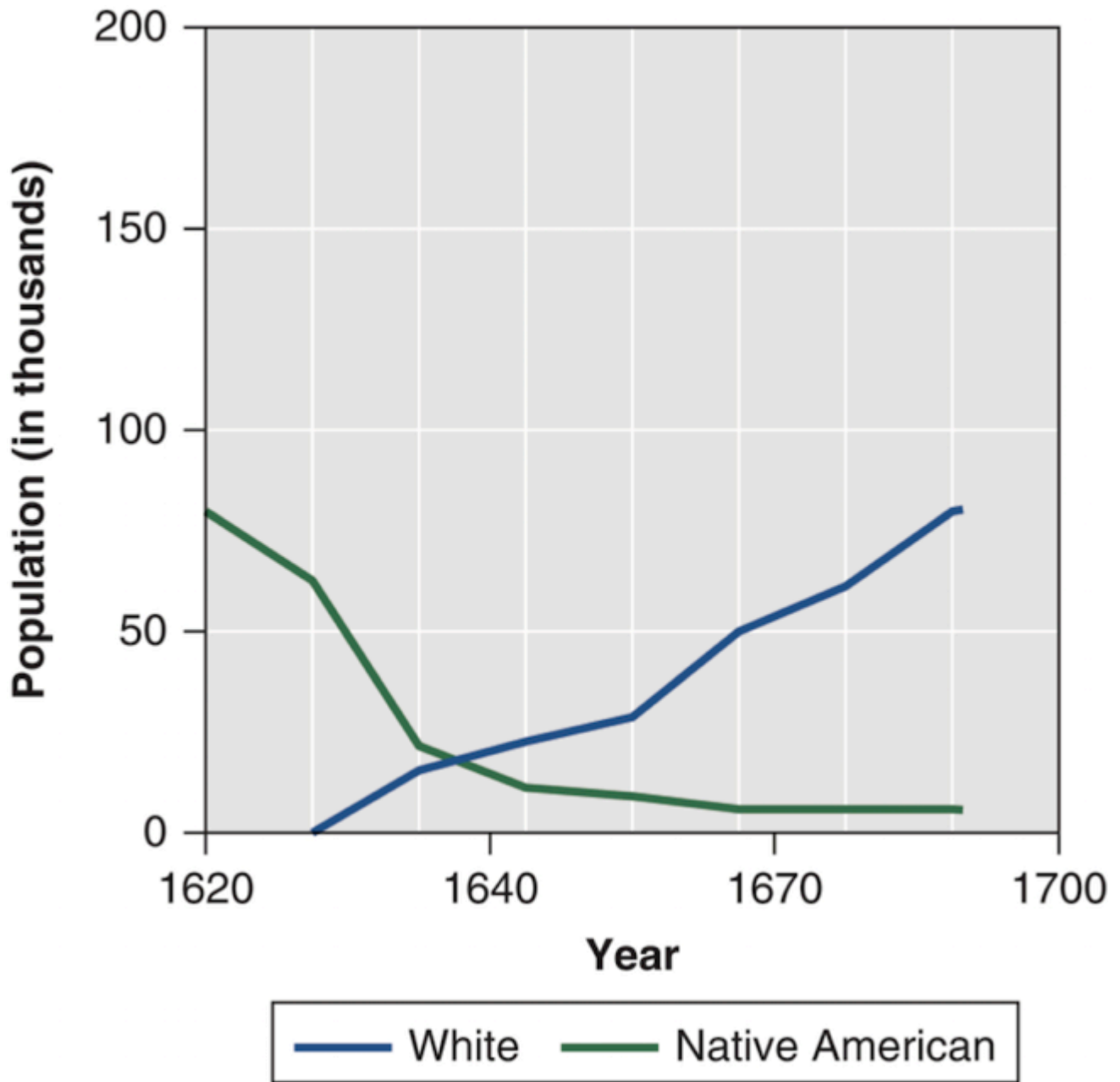
This spring, also, those Indians that lived about their trading house there fell sick of the smallpox, and died most miserably; for a sorer disease cannot befall them; they fear it more than the plague, for usually they that have this disease have them in abundance, and for want of bedding and linen and other helps, they fall into a lamentable condition, as they lie on their hard mats, the pox breaking and mattering, and running one into another, their skin cleaving (by reason thereof) to the mats they lie on; when they turn them a whole side will flay off at once, (as it were) and they will be all of a gore blood, most fearful to behold; and then being very sore, what with cold and other distempers, they die like rotten sheep. The condition of this people was so lamentable, and they fell down so generally of this disease, as they were (in the end) not able to help one another; no, not to make a fire, nor to fetch a little water to drink, nor any to bury the dead; but would strive as long as they could, and when they could procure no other means to make fire, they would burn the wooden trays and dishes they ate their meat in, and their very bows and arrows, and some would crawl out on all fours to get a little water, and sometimes die by the way, and not be able to get in again. But those of the English house (though at first they were afraid of the infection) yet seeing their woeful and sad condition, and hearing their pitiful cries and lamentations, they had compassion of them, and daily fetched them wood and water, and made them fires, got them victuals whilst they lived, and buried them when they died. For very few of them escaped, notwithstanding they did what they could for them, to the hazzard of themselves. The chief Sachem himself now died, and almost all his friends and kindred. But by the marvelous goodness and providence of God not one of the English was so much as sick, or in the least measure tainted with this disease though they daily did these offices for them for many weeks together. And this mercy which they showed them was kindly taken, and thankfully acknowledged of all the Indians that knew or heard of the same; and their ministers here did much commend and reward them for the same....

Public domain. From William P. Trent and Benjamin W. Wells, eds. *Colonial Prose and Poetry*. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell, 1901. <http://www.bartleby.com/163/103.html>.

Supporting Question 3

Featured Source

Source A: United States Census Bureau, chart depicting the population of the New England colonies, 1620–1750, 2015



Created for the New York State K–12 Social Studies Toolkit by Agate Publishing, Inc., 2015. Adapted from Michael Berkowitz, American History Department, Trinity School, NYC: <http://www.trinityhistory.org/AmH/images/Pop,%20NE%20Colonies.png>.

Supporting Question 3

Featured Source

Source B: Image bank: Maps of 17th-century Plymouth settlements



Image 1: Map of Wampanoag areas in modern-day Massachusetts, "Territory of the Wampanoag."

© 2007 National Geographic. Used with permission.

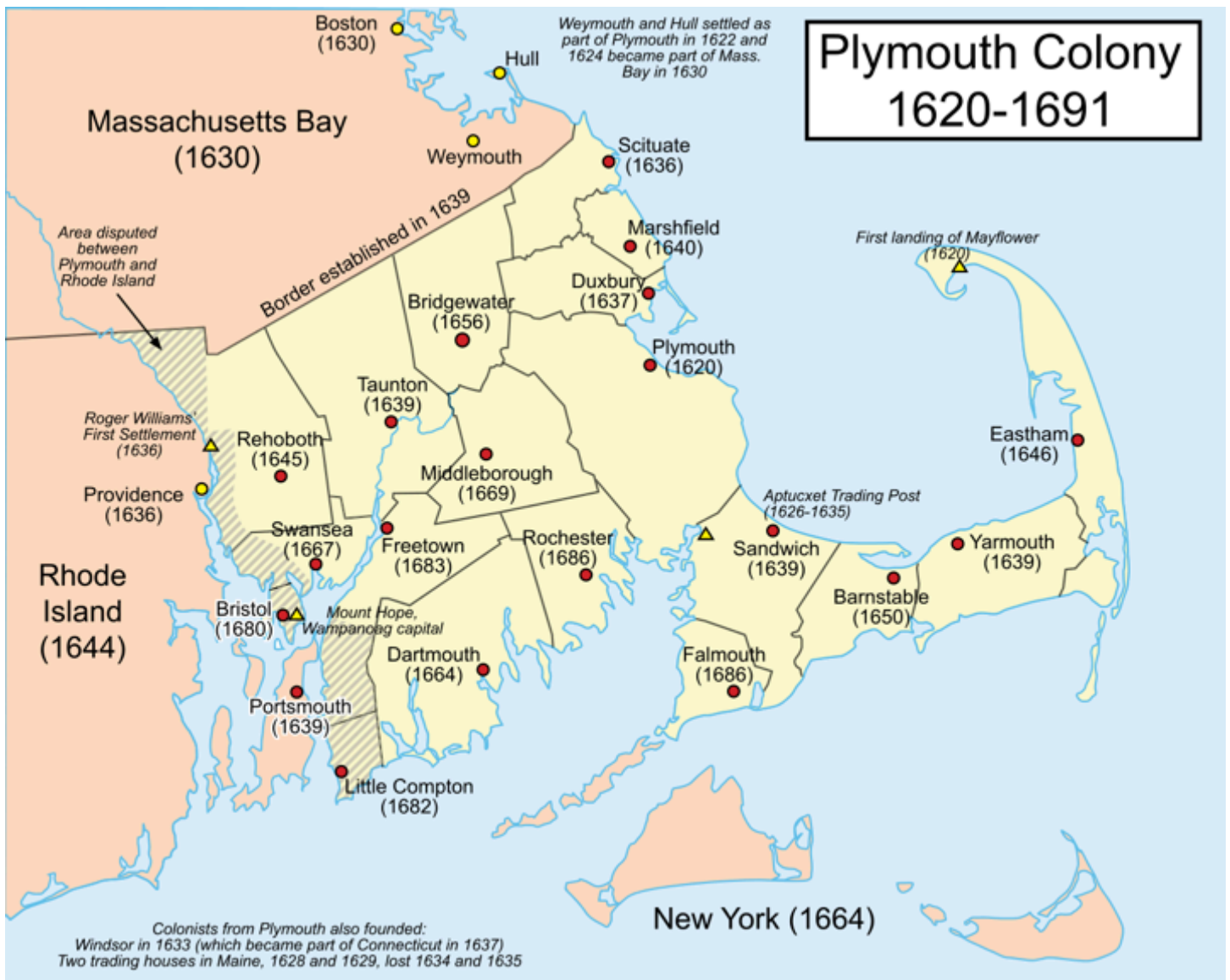


Image 2: Map depicting Plymouth colony locations in modern-day Massachusetts, “Map of the Plymouth Colony Showing Town Locations,” 1620–1691.

Map by Hoodinski. 2011. Creative Commons ShareAlike 3.0 license.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plymouth_Colony#mediaviewer/File:Plymouth_Colony_map.svg



Supporting Question 3

Featured Source

Source C: John Easton, an account of Metacom describing Native American complaints about the English Settlers, *A Relation of the Indian War* (excerpts), 1675

NOTE: Metacom, also known as King Philip, leader of the Wampanoag near Plymouth colony, led many other Native Americans into a widespread revolt against the colonists of southern New England in 1675. The conflict had been brewing for some time over a set of longstanding grievances between Europeans and Native Americans. In that tense atmosphere, John Easton, attorney general of the Rhode Island colony, met King Philip in June 1675 in an effort to negotiate a settlement. Easton recorded King Philip's complaints, including the steady loss of Wampanoag land to the Europeans, the English colonists' growing herds of cattle and their destruction of Native American crops, and the unequal justice Native Americans received in the English courts. This meeting between Easton and Metacom proved futile, however, and the war (which became the bloodiest in US history relative to the size of the population) began late that month.

Easton text

In the winter in the year 1674 an Indian was found dead, and by a Coroner's inquest of Plymouth Colony judged murdered. He was found dead in a hole through ice broken in a pond, with his gun and some fowl by him. Some English supposed him thrown in. Some Indians that I judged intelligible and impartial in that case did think he fell in, and was so drowned and that the ice did hurt his throat, as the English said it was cut; but they acknowledged that sometimes naughty Indians would kill others but not, as ever they heard, to obscure it, as if the dead Indian was not murdered....And the report came, that the three Indians had confessed and accused Philip so to employ them, and that the English would hang Philip, so the Indians were afraid, and reported that the English had flattered them (or by threats) to belie Philip that they might kill him to have his Land; and that if Philip had done it, it was their Law so to execute whomever their kings judged deserved it, and that he had no cause to hide it. ...

Then to endeavor to prevent [war], we sent a man to Philip to say that if he would come to the ferry, we would come over to speak with him,...Philip called his council and agreed to come to us; he came himself unarmed and about 40 of his men armed....The Indians owned that fighting was the worst way; then they propounded how right might take place.... They said they had been the first in doing good to the English, and the English the first in doing wrong; they said when the English first came, their king's father was as a great man and the English as a little child. He constrained other Indians from wronging the English and gave them corn and showed them how to plant and was free to do them any good and had let them have a 100 times more land than now the king had for his own people. But [Metacom's] brother, when he was king, came miserably to die by being forced into court and, as they judged, poisoned. And another grievance was if 20 of their honest Indians testified that a Englishman had done them wrong, it was as nothing; and if but one of their worst Indians testified against any Indian or their king when it pleased the English, that was sufficient. Another grievance was when their kings sold land the English would say it was more than they agreed to and a writing must be proof against all them, and some of their kings had done wrong to sell so much that he left his people none, and some being given to drunkenness, the English made them drunk and then cheated them in bargains, but now their kings were forewarned not to part with land for nothing in comparison to the value thereof....Another grievance was that the English cattle and horses still increased so that when they removed 30 miles from where the English had anything to do, they could not keep their corn from being spoiled, they never being used to fence, and thought that when the English bought land of them that they would have kept their cattle upon their own land. Another grievance was that the English were so eager to sell the Indians liquors that most of the Indians spent all in drunkenness and then ravened upon the sober Indians and, they did believe, often did hurt the English cattle, and their kings could not prevent it....In this time some Indians fell to pilfering some houses that the English had left, and an old man and a lad going to one of those houses did see 3

Indians run out thereof. The old man bid the young man shoot, so he did, and an Indian fell down but got away again. It is reported that then some Indians came to the garrison and asked why they shot the Indian. They asked whether he was dead. The Indians said yea. An English lad said it was no matter. The men endeavored to inform them it was but an idle lad's words, but the Indians in haste went away and did not harken to them. The next day the lad that shot the Indian and his father and five more English were killed; so the war began with Philip....But I am confident it would be best for English and Indians that a peace were made upon honest terms for each to have a due propriety and to enjoy it without oppression or usurpation by one to the other. But the English dare not trust the Indians' promises; neither the Indians to the English's promises; and each has great cause therefore.

Open access. John Easton and Paul Royster (editor). "A Relation of the Indian War, by Mr. Easton, of Rhode Island, 1675," *Faculty Publications, UNL Library*, Paper 33: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1036&context=libraryscience>.

Supporting Question 3

Featured Source

Source D: Knowledge Quest, map of King Philip's War, 1675–1676, no date



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