

## Standard VS.3 Study Guide

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(2008 revised standards)

### STANDARD VS.3A REASONS FOR COLONIZATION

Explain the reasons for English colonization

*What were the reasons for English colonization in America?*

**Reasons for English colonization** in America

Some European countries, including England, were in **competition** to increase their wealth and power by **expanding their empires** to America.

England wanted to establish an American colony to **increase her wealth and power.**

- England hoped to find **silver and gold** in America.
- An American settlement would furnish **raw materials** that could not be grown or obtained in England, while opening new markets for trade.

*What were the reasons why the Jamestown settlers came to America?*

The first permanent English settlement in America was Jamestown, founded in 1607 as an **economic venture.**



**Jamestown**

- Jamestown was primarily an **economic venture.**
- The **stockholders** of the Virginia Company of London financed the settlement of Jamestown.
- Jamestown

became the **first permanent English settlement** in North America in 1607.

### STANDARD VS.3B GEOGRAPHY—REASON FOR LOCATION AT JAMESTOWN



How geography influenced the decision to settle at Jamestown

*Where is Jamestown located?*

When the settlers arrived in 1607, Jamestown was

located on a **narrow peninsula bordered on three sides by the James River.**

Today, Jamestown is located on an island in the James River. Location and physical characteristics influenced the decision to settle at Jamestown.

*Why did the settlers choose the site at Jamestown?*

Reasons for site choice

- The location could be **easily defended** from attack by sea (Spanish).
- The water along the shore was **deep** enough for ships to dock.
- They believed they had a good supply of **fresh water.**

### STANDARD VS.3c CHARTERS

**Importance of the charters of the Virginia Company of London in establishing the Jamestown settlement.**

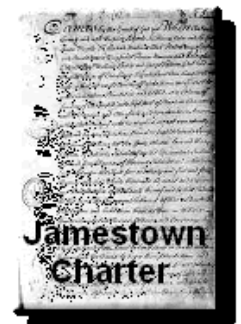
The King of England had the power to grant charters allowing settlement in North America.

*What was the importance of the charters of the Virginia Company of London to the Jamestown settlement?*

**Importance of Virginia charters**

The **King of England** granted charters to the Virginia Company of London to:

- establish a settlement in North America, and
- extend English rights to the settlers.



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## STANDARD VS.3D GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### Importance of the- General Assembly (1619) as the first representative legislative body in English America

As Jamestown grew, the system of government evolved.

#### What was this system of **government** called?

##### System of government

In 1619, the governor of Virginia called a meeting of the **General Assembly**. The Assembly included two **citizen representatives** (called "**burgesses**") from each of the divisions of Virginia along with the governor's council, and the governor. They met as one legislative body. ( At that time, only certain free adult men had a right to take part.)



#### What was the **Virginia House of Burgesses**, and

#### why was it important?

By the 1640s, the burgesses became a **separate legislative body**, called the **House of Burgesses**. They met separately from the Governor's Council as one of the two legislative bodies of the General Assembly.

##### House of Burgesses

- The House of Burgesses was **the first elected legislative body** in English America giving settlers the opportunity to **control** their own government.
- The current Virginia General Assembly dates from the establishment of the House of Burgesses at Jamestown in 1619.

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## STANDARD VS.3E AFRICANS & WOMEN ARRIVE

### Arrival of Africans and women to the Jamestown settlement

Jamestown became a **more diverse** colony by **1620**.

#### What was the impact of the arrival of **additional women** on the Jamestown settlement?

The arrival of women in 1620 made it possible for the settlers to establish **families** and a more **permanent** settlement at Jamestown.



#### What was the impact of the **arrival of Africans** on the Jamestown settlement?

- Africans arrived in Jamestown against their will in 1619
- Portuguese sailors captured African men and women from what is present-day Angola. The status of these early African men and women as either servants or slaves in Virginia is unknown.
- The arrival of Africans made it possible to **expand** the **tobacco economy**.



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## STANDARD VS.3F HARDSHIPS

### The hardships faced by settlers at Jamestown and the changes that took place to ensure survival.

#### What **hardships** did the Jamestown settlers face?

The English settlers found life in Jamestown harder than they had expected.

##### Hardships faced by the settlers

- The site they chose to live on was **marshy** and **lacked safe drinking water**.
- The settlers **lacked some skills** necessary to provide for themselves.
- Many settlers **died of starvation and disease**.

#### What changes took place that **resulted in survival** of the settlers?

##### Changes that resulted in survival

- The arrival of **supply ships**, the forced work program and strong **leadership** of **Captain John Smith**, and the emphasis on agriculture resulted in the survival of the colony

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## STANDARD VS.3G ENGLISH & POWHATAN

Interactions between the English settlers and the Powhatan people, including the contributions of the Powhatans to the survival of the settlers.

*How did the native peoples and the English settlers interact?*

- The native peoples and the English settlers at Jamestown established **trading relationships** and for a while had **positive** interactions.
- **Captain John Smith** initiated **trading** relationships with the native peoples.
- The native peoples traded mainly **food** -with the English in exchange for **tools, pots,** and **copper** for jewelry.



*How did Powhatan contribute to the survival of the settlers?*

The **Powhatan people** contributed to the **survival** of the **Jamestown settlers** in several ways.

- Powhatan, chief of many tribes, provided leadership to his people and taught the settlers survival skills.
- **Pocahontas**, daughter of Chief Powhatan, served as a contact between the native peoples and the English.
- The native peoples showed the settlers how to plant **corn and tobacco**.



*Why did the relationship between the Jamestown settlers and the native peoples change?*

- Over time, the native peoples realized the English **settlement** would continue to **grow**.
- The native peoples came to see the settlers as **invaders** who would **take over** their land.