

Summer reading assignment – Mr. Ourednik & Mr. Steffy

American Colonies: The Settling of North America by Alan Taylor

INTRODUCTION—Read this carefully; it is an indispensable guide to understanding the entire book.

Answer the following questions completely in complete sentences. Typed answers will NOT be accepted.

1. Taylor claims that from 1492-1776 that North America decreased in population. How does he explain this phenomenon in light of the massive immigration to the "New World" during the same period?
How does this change our understanding of colonization?
2. What causes and effects of European exploration does Taylor cite?
3. What role does race play in the New World?

CH 1: "Natives, 13,000 B.C.—A.D. 1492"

1. What point does Taylor make about attempting to make evaluations of what groups were "worse" or more destructive in the pre-Columbian and early colonial eras?
2. How did North America first become populated?
3. Compare Native American civilizations and cultures to European civilizations and cultures in this era.

CH 2: "Colonizers, 1400—1800"

1. Describe the Columbian Exchange and its impact on Europe and America.
2. What sort of relationship does Taylor describe the Native Americans and the Europeans have developed at the end of this chapter?

CH 3: "New Spain, 1500—1600"

1. Analyze the artistic depictions of Spanish colonization on pp. 50-51. What version of colonization do these drawings represent? From what perspective are they presented? Who is the intended audience? What can these two "pictures" of colonization tell us about this period?
2. How did Native and Spanish peoples view the transformations taking place around them?
3. Explain how Spain became so wealthy and powerful (in this "Age of Spain"), and describe the causes of the rivalry between the Spain and England. What significance did gold and silver have?

CH 4: "The Spanish Frontier, 1530—1700"

1. Analyze the map on p. 71.
- 2) Where are the Pueblo villages located?
- 3) Where did de Soto explore?
- 4) Where did Coronado explore?
- 5) Where did de Vaca explore?
- 6) Where is the Spanish fort of St. Augustine (San Agustin) located?
- 7) What two groups were vying for control of Florida territory, and what caused their mutual animosity?
- 8) Describe the impact of Franciscan missionaries on the Spanish frontier.
- 9) Explain the Pueblo Revolt and why it is significant.

CH 5: "Canada and Iroquoia, 1500—1660"

1. Compare and contrast the French and the Spanish in terms of colonial objectives, methods, and effects.
2. Compare and contrast the Natives' and French attitudes regarding trade in Canada.
3. Analyze the impact of Dutch traders on intertribal relations, particularly between the Iroquois and the Huron.

CH 6: "Virginia, 1570—1650"

1. Analyze the document on p. 117. What event is depicted? What does this tell us about early English interactions with Native Americans?
2. Who seized the opportunity to lay claim to the mid-Atlantic seaboard of North America? Explain why.
3. Describe England's first successful colony, and the significance of Powhatan. What were English Indian relations like in the early years of Jamestown?
4. What cash crop became the economic cornerstone of Virginia and who is credited with its development? How did this crop "save" Virginia colony?

CH 7: "Chesapeake Colonies, 1650—1750"

1. Describe the social hierarchy in the Chesapeake.
2. Explain how indentured servants contributed to the growth of Chesapeake colonies. Also, what importance did slavery and race have in the social structure?
3. What opportunities did the Chesapeake offer to laborers, and how did this contrast with England?
4. Describe the uneasy political climate leading up to Bacon's Rebellion (and explain what happened in Bacon's Rebellion). What were the effects afterward?

CH 8: "New England, 1600—1700"

1. What features made New England a distinctive cultural region?
2. Compare and contrast New England and the Chesapeake (economy, social order, religion, etc.).
3. Analyze the map on p. 163. 1) What are the major colonies of New England? 2) What other major European colonial empires were competing with the English in the region? 3) List the major Native American peoples of this region.
4. Compare and contrast farmers and traders in New England.
5. Describe the role of women in Puritan society.

CH 9: "Puritans and Indians, 1600--1700"

1. List and briefly describe the different Native American peoples of New England.
2. What happened in the Pequot War and how did it impact relations between Puritans and Indians?
3. What happened in King Philip's War? What connections did it have to the Pequot War? How did New Englanders treat the captive Indians after the war and what did this signal for relations with Indians?

CH 11: "Carolina, 1670-1760"

1. Explain the connections between the West Indies and the Carolina colony.
2. What was the major cash crop in Carolina? Why?

CH 12: "Middle Colonies, 1600—1700"

1. Analyze the document on p. 245. 1) What is depicted here? 2) Who do you see in the picture (look closely)?
2. Compare and contrast the Middle Colonies with New England and the Chesapeake.
3. Describe New Netherlands and its transition to New York.
4. Discuss the creation of Pennsylvania and its unique culture. Explain Quaker beliefs.
5. Discuss the distinctive cultural and social order of the Middle Colonies.