



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## WHY DID EUROPEANS COLONIZE NORTH AMERICA?

<i>Turning Points in European Colonization</i>		
1492: Christopher Columbus arrives in the Caribbean	1513: The Spanish establish St. Augustine in Florida	1535: The French establish Quebec in Canada
1607: The English establish Jamestown in Virginia		1625: The Dutch establish New Amsterdam in New York

<b>Colonization</b>	
<b>God (The 3 G's)</b>	
<b>Gold (The 3 G's)</b>	
<b>Glory (The 3 G's)</b>	
<b>Technological Innovation</b>	



## Document 1

Source: Richard Hakluyt, English writer, *Divers Voyages Touching the Discovery of America and the Islands Adjacent*, 1582

I marvel not a little that since the first discovery of America (which is now full four score and ten years), after so great conquests and plannings of the Spaniards and Portuguese there, that we of England could never have the grace to set fast footing in such fertile and temperate places as are left as yet unpossessed of them. But I conceive great hope that the time approacheth and now is that we of England may share and part stakes in part of America and other regions as yet undiscovered.

Yea, if we would behold with the eye of pity how all our prisons are pestered and filled with able men to serve their country, which for small robberies are hanged up in great numbers, we would hasten the creation of some colonies of our superfluous people into these temperate and fertile parts of America, which being within six weeks' sailing of England, are yet unpossessed by any Christians, and seem to offer themselves unto us, stretching nearer unto Her Majesty's dominions than to other parts of Europe.



## Document 2

Source: Pope Alexander VI, "The Doctrine of Discovery," 1493

Wherefore, as becomes Catholic kings and princes, you have purposed to bring under your sway the said mainlands and islands with their residents and inhabitants and to bring them to the Catholic faith. Hence, heartily commending in the Lord this your holy and praiseworthy purpose, and desirous that it be duly accomplished, and that the name of our Savior be carried into those regions, we exhort you very earnestly, that you design to equip and dispatch this expedition. It is your duty to lead the peoples dwelling in those islands and countries to embrace the Christian religion, with the stout hope and trust in your hearts that Almighty God will further your undertakings.

And, in order that you may enter upon so great an undertaking with greater readiness and heartiness, by the authority of Almighty God, should any of said islands have been found by your envoys and captains, we give, grant, and assign to you and your heirs and successors, kings of Spain, forever, all their dominions, cities, camps, places, and villages, and all rights, jurisdictions, and all islands and mainlands found and to be found, discovered and to be discovered towards the west and south. With this proviso however that none of the islands and mainlands be in the actual possession of any Christian king or prince.

Moreover we command you in virtue of holy obedience that you should appoint to the aforesaid mainlands and islands worthy, God-fearing, learned, skilled, and experienced men, in order to instruct the aforesaid inhabitants and residents in the Catholic faith and train them in good morals.

We trust in Him from whom empires and governments and all good things proceed, that, should you, with the Lord's guidance, pursue this holy and praiseworthy undertaking, in a short while your hardships and endeavors will attain the most felicitous result, to the happiness and glory of all Christendom.



## Document 3

Source: Samuel de Champlain, French explorer, *Voyages of Samuel de Champlain*, 1608

Near the spot which had thus been selected for a future settlement, I discovered a deposit of excellent clay, and, by way of experiment, had a quantity of it manufactured into bricks, of which I made a wall on the brink of the river.

I had been followed to my rendezvous by a herd of adventurers from the maritime towns of France, who, stimulated by the freedom of the trade, had flocked after me in numbers all out of proportion to the amount of furs which they could hope to obtain from the wandering bands of savages that might chance to visit the St. Lawrence River.

The river was lined with Frenchmen anxiously watching the coming of the savages, all impatient and eager to secure as large a share as possible of the uncertain and meager booty for which they had crossed the Atlantic. Fifteen or twenty ships were moored along the shore, all seeking the best opportunity for the display of the worthless trinkets for which they greedily hoped to obtain a valuable cargo of furs.

## Document 4

Source: Pieter Schagen, letter to his employers at the Dutch West India Company, 1626

High and Mighty Lords,

Yesterday the ship the Arms of Amsterdam arrived here. It sailed from New Netherland. They report that our people are in good spirit and live in peace there. The women also have borne some children there. They have purchased the Island Manhattan from the Indians. It is about 22,000 acres in size. They had all their grain sowed by the middle of May, and reaped by the middle of August. They sent samples of these summer grains: wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, canary seed, beans and flax. The cargo of the aforesaid ship is: 7246 beaver skins, 675 otter skins, 48 mink skins, 36 lynx skins, 34 weasel skins, many oak timbers and nut wood.

Your High and Mightinesses' obedient,  
P. Schaghen

# WHY DID EUROPEANS COLONIZE NORTH AMERICA?



How were the actions and ambitions of the European colonizers similar?

How were the actions and ambitions of the European colonizers different?

Do Americans today still have a “colonizer” mentality?