

Why Settle Here?

Find the different reasons European colonists began settlements.

SS.5.A.4.1 "Identify the economic, political, and socio-cultural motivation for colonial settlement."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB As you read, underline words or phrases that show a reason people settled, then write E, P, or S beside each one: E for money or work, P for control of land or power, and S for beliefs, customs, or community.

Three Reasons to Settle

- ① In 1607, the Virginia Company sent colonists to Jamestown. The company hoped to earn money for its investors. At first, settlers searched for gold and valuable trade goods. Later, tobacco grown in Virginia became a crop that could be sold in England. Some people also came as workers or servants, hoping for wages, land, or a new chance.
- ② English leaders supported settlement in Carolina during the 1600s. They wanted England to hold land south of Virginia and to limit the power of nearby Spanish Florida. In 1670, settlers began Charles Town, later called Charleston. A permanent town, farms, and a harbor helped England keep its claim and increase its influence on the Atlantic coast.
- ③ In 1620, the Pilgrims founded Plymouth in New England. They had left England because they wanted to worship in their own way. Their settlement gave them a place to build a community shaped by their religious beliefs. Later, Quakers chose Pennsylvania because they could practice their faith there. These settlers sought communities where their beliefs and daily customs could guide life.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What did the Virginia Company hope to gain from Jamestown? Which type of motivation was this?

2 Why did English leaders support settlement in Carolina? Which type of motivation was this?

3 Why did the Pilgrims found Plymouth? Which type of motivation was this?

4 How were the motivations for Jamestown and Plymouth different? Use evidence from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine three colonial groups planning settlements. Complete all three rows. Use the labels Economic, Political, and Socio-cultural exactly once each, and give each group a different reason for settling.

LABEL	GROUP'S REASON FOR SETTLING

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

As you read, underline words or phrases that show a reason people settled, then write E, P, or S beside each one: E for money or work, P for control of land or power, and S for beliefs, customs, or community. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did the Virginia Company hope to gain from Jamestown? Which type of motivation was this?	The company hoped to earn money for investors through goods such as tobacco. This was an economic motivation.
2	Why did English leaders support settlement in Carolina? Which type of motivation was this?	They wanted England to control land south of Virginia, limit Spanish power, and increase English influence. This was a political motivation.
3	Why did the Pilgrims found Plymouth? Which type of motivation was this?	They wanted to worship in their own way and build a community shaped by their beliefs. This was a socio-cultural motivation.
4	How were the motivations for Jamestown and Plymouth different? Use evidence from the passage.	Jamestown was started to earn money through trade and tobacco. Plymouth was started so the Pilgrims could worship freely and build a community based on their beliefs.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

LABEL	GROUP'S REASON FOR SETTLING
Economic	A trading company wants a settlement near a river so it can ship furs and crops to Europe for profit.
Political	English leaders want a fort settlement near a border to protect their country's claim to the land.
Socio-cultural	A religious group wants a community where its members can follow their faith and customs.

Accept equivalent evidence-based explanations of economic, political, and socio-cultural motivations. For the open task, each label must appear once only, and each reason must match its label.