A Watched Colony

John Winthrop's leadership and his vision for Massachusetts Bay

5.C.1.9.E "leadership of John Winthrop and his vision of a "city upon a hill.""

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details about Winthrop's leadership, circle "city upon a hill," and write 1 beside a hope for the colony and 2 beside a warning or limit of his vision.

What Did Winthrop Hope to Build?

1. In 1630, John Winthrop traveled with English Puritans to start the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The Puritans wanted to build a community shaped by their religious beliefs. Winthrop served as the colony's governor for many years. As a leader, he helped make decisions about laws and daily life. But he also wanted the settlers to think about how they treated one another.

2. In a sermon for their journey, Winthrop described the community they hoped to build. He urged settlers to help neighbors in need and to put the group's good ahead of selfish wants. He said their community would be like a "city upon a hill." A city on a hill can be seen from far away. Winthrop meant that others would watch how the settlers lived.

3. Winthrop believed the colony could set an example if its people cared for each other and worked together. He warned that if they broke their promises, others would notice their failure too. His vision did not include equal rights for everyone. The Puritan government limited other religious beliefs, and English settlement took land from Native peoples. The "city upon a hill" was a goal, not a description of life for all.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Winthrop use his leadership to shape life in the colony?

2. Why did Winthrop compare the colony to a “city upon a hill”?

3. What two things did Winthrop ask settlers to do to make the colony a good example?

4. What detail shows that Winthrop's vision did not include everyone?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write three sentences as a settler in 1630. Describe one action you would take to follow Winthrop's vision, explain what others might notice about it, and name one way the colony might fail to be a good example.

ANSWER KEY

A Watched Colony

GRADE 5 · 5.C.1.9.E

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details about Winthrop's leadership, circle “city upon a hill,” and write 1 beside a hope for the colony and 2 beside a warning or limit of his vision. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Winthrop use his leadership to shape life in the colony?	**As governor, he helped make decisions about laws and daily life. He also urged settlers to care for one another.**
2	Why did Winthrop compare the colony to a “city upon a hill”?	**He believed others would watch the settlers and notice whether they lived up to their promises.**
3	What two things did Winthrop ask settlers to do to make the colony a good example?	**He asked them to help neighbors in need and put the group's good ahead of selfish wants.**
4	What detail shows that Winthrop's vision did not include everyone?	**The Puritan government limited other religious beliefs, or English settlement took land from Native peoples.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would share my food with a neighbor who had none. People watching our colony might notice that we care for one another, as Winthrop asked. But taking land from Native peoples would keep the colony from being a good example to everyone.

Accept answers that connect Winthrop's leadership to his goal of a closely watched community. For the open task, look for a specific helpful action, an explanation of how it reflects his vision, and a plausible limit drawn from the passage.