

Geography and History

Compare Jamestown with an event in ancient Roman history.

3.3.d “connecting geography to major historical events.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each geographic feature or water condition. Then draw an arrow from each underlined detail to the event or result it helped cause.

A Settlement Shaped by Water

- ① In 1607, English settlers built Jamestown on a low peninsula beside the James River in Virginia. Water surrounded three sides of the site. The settlers' leaders thought the surrounding water would help them defend the settlement from attack. The deep river also let English ships sail close to shore with settlers, tools, and supplies from England.
- ② Jamestown's low land had marshes and standing water. Mosquitoes bred there and spread disease. The river water near the settlement was often salty at high tide and dirty from waste. During the hard years of 1609 and 1610, many settlers became sick or weak. These water and health problems made the Starving Time even more dangerous.
- ③ The settlers lived near Powhatan Indian communities. Nearby rivers were travel routes, so Powhatan people and English settlers could meet to trade food and other goods. As the English settlement grew, it needed more land and food. Competition for these resources led to conflict between the English and Powhatan peoples in the years that followed.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did the water around three sides of Jamestown affect the settlers' choice of site?

2 What did the deep James River allow English ships to do, and why was that important?

3 Name two water conditions at Jamestown. How did they make the Starving Time more dangerous?

4 How did nearby rivers first help Powhatan people and English settlers interact? What later caused conflict?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Ancient connection: in 218 BCE, Hannibal led an army from Carthage across the Alps into Italy to fight Rome. This high mountain range stood along the route into northern Italy. Use your teacher's world and Europe physical maps to locate Italy, Rome, and the Alps; show your teacher. In three sentences, name the mapped feature, explain how it affected this ancient journey, and state where crossing it allowed the army to go.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each geographic feature or water condition. Then draw an arrow from each underlined detail to the event or result it helped cause. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the water around three sides of Jamestown affect the settlers' choice of site?	Leaders thought the surrounding water would help defend the settlement from attack.
2	What did the deep James River allow English ships to do, and why was that important?	Ships could sail close to shore and bring settlers, tools, and supplies from England.
3	Name two water conditions at Jamestown. How did they make the Starving Time more dangerous?	Marshes and standing water helped mosquitoes spread disease, and river water could be salty or dirty. These problems made settlers sick or weak during the Starving Time.
4	How did nearby rivers first help Powhatan people and English settlers interact? What later caused conflict?	Rivers were travel routes that helped them meet and trade. As the English settlement grew, competition for land and food led to conflict.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Alps are a high mountain range along northern Italy. Hannibal's army had to cross this mountain barrier on its route in 218 BCE. Crossing it allowed the army to enter Italy to fight Rome.

Required: supply readable world and Europe physical maps with Italy, Rome and the Alps labeled. Observe each learner locating all three and explaining the mountain barrier in this ancient event. The Jamestown passage remains a later comparison, not the ancient case. Accept equivalent three-sentence geography/event/result explanations, with the army entering Italy rather than claiming it captured Rome. Source: Museo Nacional del Prado, The Victorious Hannibal seeing Italy from the Alps for the first Time.