

Jamestown Choices and Changes

Trace how causes, choices, and changes shaped Jamestown.

VS.3 "The student will apply history and social science skills to explain the causes and effects of events associated with the first permanent English settlement in North America by explaining the reasons for English colonization..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the cause and circle the effect in each of these three sentences: the sentence in paragraph 2 that begins "Hunger," the sentence in paragraph 2 that begins "Trade," and the sentence in paragraph 3 that begins "Tobacco."

A Settlement That Changed

- ① In 1606, English leaders wanted wealth, new land, and a route to Asian trade. On April 10, the Virginia Company of London Charter gave the company permission to begin a colony in Virginia. In 1607, company settlers chose Jamestown, a place beside the James River. The river offered travel and a protected harbor, but the nearby swamp brought mosquitoes and poor drinking water.
- ② At first, many colonists lacked farming skills and spent time seeking gold instead of raising food. Hunger, sickness, and unsafe water harmed the settlement. The Powhatan people knew the area and sometimes traded food with the English. Captain John Smith required colonists to work and helped secure food. Trade with the Powhatan and Smith's leadership helped the colonists survive.
- ③ Later, land ownership gave some settlers a reason to grow crops. Tobacco became a successful cash crop and brought profit to Virginia. Africans arrived against their will in 1619. Their arrival began a long history of slavery in Virginia. Women also arrived, helping the settlement grow into families. In 1619, the General Assembly began. It was the first representative lawmaking body in English America.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 How did the Virginia Company of London Charter help establish the Jamestown colony?

2 Name one geographic benefit and one geographic problem of settling at Jamestown.

3 How did the Powhatan and Captain John Smith each help the English colonists survive?

4 What impact did the arrival of Africans and women have on Jamestown? Why was the General Assembly important?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write exactly three sentences for a 1619 Jamestown news report. Explain one early hardship and a response that helped survival, explain one change that affected who lived or worked in the settlement, and tell why the General Assembly was important.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the cause and circle the effect in each of these three sentences: the sentence in paragraph 2 that begins "Hunger," the sentence in paragraph 2 that begins "Trade," and the sentence in paragraph 3 that begins "Tobacco." Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Virginia Company of London Charter help establish the Jamestown colony?	It gave the Virginia Company of London permission to begin a colony in Virginia.
2	Name one geographic benefit and one geographic problem of settling at Jamestown.	The James River provided travel and a protected harbor. The nearby swamp brought mosquitoes and poor drinking water.
3	How did the Powhatan and Captain John Smith each help the English colonists survive?	The Powhatan sometimes traded food with the English. John Smith required colonists to work and helped secure food.
4	What impact did the arrival of Africans and women have on Jamestown? Why was the General Assembly important?	Africans arrived against their will, beginning a long history of slavery in Virginia. Women helped the settlement grow into families. The General Assembly was the first representative lawmaking body in English America.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Jamestown settlers faced hunger, but trade with the Powhatan helped them get food. Africans have been brought to Virginia against their will. The General Assembly was important because it was English America's first representative lawmaking body.

Accept accurate cause-and-effect statements supported by the passage. For the news report, check for exactly three sentences that address all three requested ideas.