

Virginia Culture Mix

Read how several cultures shaped colonial Virginia.

VS.4.b “examining how colonial Virginia reflected the culture of Virginia’s Indigenous People, European (English, Scots-Irish, German) immigrants, and Africans;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the name of each cultural group. Then underline one detail for each group that shows how it influenced colonial Virginia.

Many Cultures in Virginia

- ① In colonial Virginia, people from several cultures lived and worked near one another. Virginia’s Indigenous People knew the land well. They grew corn, beans, and squash. They traveled by canoe on rivers and used local plants for food and medicine. Colonists learned from Indigenous People about crops and ways to travel through the region safely.
- ② English immigrants brought their language, customs, and ideas about government to Virginia. English laws shaped the colony’s courts. The Church of England became the established church in much of colonial Virginia. On plantations, many English families raised tobacco for sale. Their building styles, foods, and celebrations also became part of daily life for many people.
- ③ Scots-Irish and German immigrants often settled in western Virginia. Scots-Irish families brought music and traditions from their homeland. German farmers used careful farming methods and built sturdy barns. Africans, many of whom were enslaved, brought farming knowledge, cooking traditions, music, and skilled crafts. Their labor and culture shaped Virginia, even though enslaved people were denied freedom.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What did colonists learn from Virginia's Indigenous People? Give two examples.

2 Name two ways English culture shaped colonial Virginia.

3 How did the contributions of Scots-Irish families and German farmers differ?

4 How did Africans shape Virginia, and what unfair condition did many Africans face?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly three sentences about an imaginary colonial Virginia settlement. Include one influence from Virginia's Indigenous People, one influence from a European group, and one influence from Africans.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the name of each cultural group. Then underline one detail for each group that shows how it influenced colonial Virginia. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What did colonists learn from Virginia's Indigenous People? Give two examples.	They learned about growing crops and traveling through the region safely.
2	Name two ways English culture shaped colonial Virginia.	English laws shaped the courts, and the Church of England was the established church. Accept English language, customs, tobacco farming, building styles, foods, or celebrations.
3	How did the contributions of Scots-Irish families and German farmers differ?	Scots-Irish families brought music and traditions, while German farmers used careful farming methods and built sturdy barns.
4	How did Africans shape Virginia, and what unfair condition did many Africans face?	Africans brought farming knowledge, cooking traditions, music, skilled crafts, and labor. Many were enslaved and denied freedom.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At a Virginia settlement, a family plants corn and beans using knowledge shared by Indigenous People. A German farmer builds a sturdy barn, while Scots-Irish neighbors play music at a gathering. An African cook uses cooking traditions and skills, although many Africans in the colony were enslaved.

Accept accurate details from the passage and reasonable wording. For Part 3, check that all three required cultural influences appear and that the response is exactly three sentences.