

ORAL QUIZ ON THE FOUNDING OF JAMESTOWN

The points and level of detail given below are those that an upper-grammar student might be expected to know from his reading, though he may not include every detail. You may also use these points to prompt your student. NOTE: We provide an ample number of questions to choose from this week. If you so desire, you may want to divide up the reading assignment over the course of the week and select questions of your choice to discuss with your student as you read through the material.

1. Name the three ships that set sail from England to Virginia in the winter of 1606.
The Susan Constant, the Godspeed, and the Discovery
2. Approximately how many men and boys traveled on these three ships?
Resources vary on the exact number, but approximately one hundred Englishmen and three to four boys traveled on the ships to Virginia.
3. What were some of the reasons these people had for going on such a far away and potentially dangerous trip?
Any of these would be correct:
 - *To seek the wealth and treasures they believed they would find in Virginia*
 - *To Christianize the Indians who lived there*
 - *To establish the first permanent English colony in America*
4. Once they reached Virginia, where did the colonists settle, and why did they choose this location?
After weeks of searching for suitable land, in May of 1607, the colonists settled on a small peninsula of land near the James River, which they named Jamestown in honor of King James I. This land was chosen because it could be easily defended against land or sea attacks and the water around it was deep enough for ships to anchor close to the shore.
5. Describe the fort that the colonists built on their settlement.
Built to enclose nearly an acre of land, the fort was a triangular-shaped structure made from tree lumber with watchtowers and cannons at each corner for protection against attacks.
6. How did the Indians respond to the coming of the English settlers to their lands?
Some of the Indians were friendly and curious about the strange Englishmen who had short hair, beards, and odd-looking clothing. Others were angry that these strangers were trying to settle their lands. They attacked them with their bows and arrows.
7. What was the colonists' reaction to the Indians they encountered?
Similar to the Indians' reaction toward them, the colonists thought the red-skinned Indians were strangely dressed in their animal skins, beads, and feathers. They sought to protect themselves from any attacks by building a fort and arming themselves with cannons and guns.
8. What were some hardships the colonists faced soon after establishing their settlement?
Any of these would be correct:
 - *Their settlement did not have a fresh water supply, so many got sick from drinking the unhealthy river water.*
 - *Their provision of food dwindled. They could not safely hunt, fish or tend their cornfields because unfriendly Indians were a threat.*
 - *The colonists quarreled with each other. Many of them were from the nobility; they were not used to hard, manual labor and lacked the practical skills needed to successfully establish a colony in such difficult circumstances.*
9. How did Captain John Smith help to resolve some of the problems?
John Smith was an able leader and very well equipped in the survival skills that the settlement desperately needed. Because of these abilities, he was put in charge of trading with the Indians for much needed food and provisions. His expeditions helped keep the colonists from starving! Later, as president of the colony, he helped to maintain order and enforced rules to keep everyone diligently working and contributing to the survival of the colony.

10. What dangerous incident happened to John Smith and how did the Indian princess Pocahontas help him?
While exploring the area, John Smith was captured by Powhatan Indians and taken to chief Powhatan. As he was about to be killed, Pocahontas supposedly intervened and begged her father, Powhatan, to spare John Smith's life, which he did.
11. In what ways did Pocahontas also help the Jamestown settlers?
During the first harsh winter when food and supplies were scarce, Pocahontas and her fellow Indians consistently provided food for the hungry men.
12. What was the "Starving Time"?
The "Starving Time" was the terrible winter of 1609-1610 in which disease and hunger afflicted the colonists so severely that only about sixty people out of five hundred survived.
13. What hope did the new governor Lord Delaware (de la Warr) bring to the colonists?
Because of the "Starving Time," the remaining colonists decided to abandon Jamestown and return to England. As they proceeded down the James River, they met the ships of Lord Delaware with supplies and 150 new settlers.
14. After Pocahontas was kidnapped by the English and brought to the Jamestown fort, what happened to her?
After being taught about Christianity, Pocahontas became a Christian and was re-named Rebecca. Shortly after, she married one of the colonists, John Rolfe. For a time, their marriage ended the fighting between the Indians and the colonists.
15. What valuable crop helped Jamestown grow into a self-sufficient, prosperous colony?
With the help of the Indians, the Jamestown colony obtained tobacco seeds and learned how to grow them. They planted tobacco everywhere and sent it to England in exchange for gold and precious stones. This allowed Jamestown to be self-supporting and as a result, many more people came from England to Virginia to settle on plantations and grow tobacco.

1. NAME THE THREE SHIPS THAT SET SAIL FROM ENGLAND TO VIRGINIA IN 1606.

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

2. HOW MANY MEN AND BOYS TRAVELED ON THESE THREE SHIPS?

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

3. WHAT WERE SOME OF THEIR REASONS FOR GOING ON SUCH A TRIP?

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

4. ONCE IN VIRGINIA, WHERE DID THE COLONISTS SETTLE, AND WHY?

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

COMMENTS: _____

5. DESCRIBE THE FORT THAT THE COLONISTS BUILT.

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

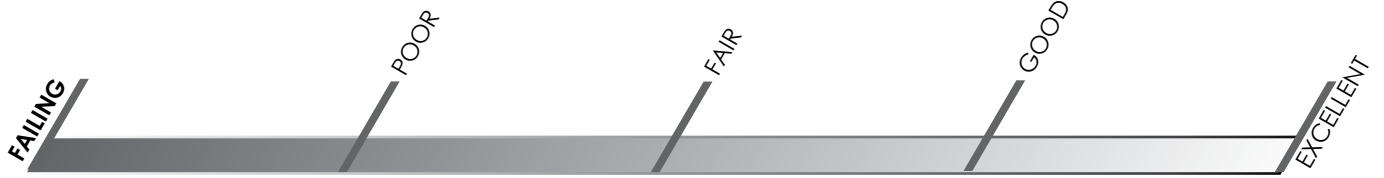
COMMENTS: _____

6. HOW DID THE INDIANS RESPOND TO THE COMING OF THE ENGLISH SETTLERS?

FAILING POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

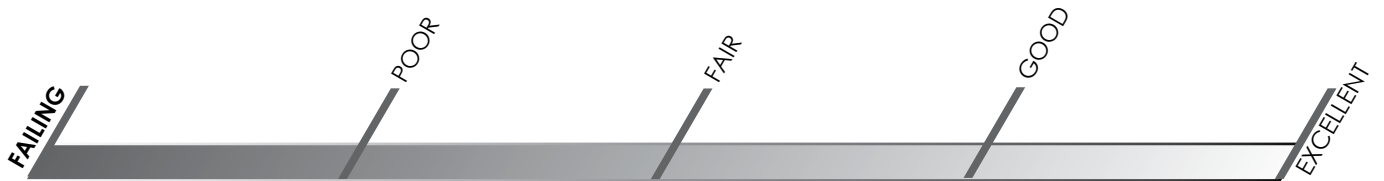
COMMENTS: _____

7. WHAT WAS THE COLONISTS' REACTION TO THE INDIANS THEY ENCOUNTERED?



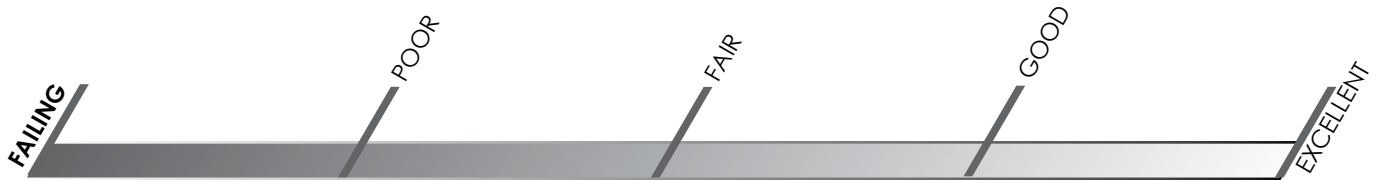
COMMENTS: _____

8. WHAT HARDSHIPS DID THE COLONISTS FACE?



COMMENTS: _____

9. HOW DID JOHN SMITH RESOLVE SOME OF THE PROBLEMS?



COMMENTS: _____

10. WHAT HAPPENED TO JOHN SMITH? HOW DID POCAHONTAS HELP HIM?

COMMENTS: _____

11. HOW DID POCAHONTAS HELP THE JAMESTOWN SETTLERS?

COMMENTS: _____

12. WHAT WAS THE "STARVING TIME"?

COMMENTS: _____

13. WHAT HOPE DID THE NEW GOVERNOR LORD DELAWARE BRING TO THE COLONISTS?

COMMENTS: _____

14. AFTER POCAHONTAS WAS KIDNAPPED BY THE ENGLISH, WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?

COMMENTS: _____

15. WHAT VALUABLE CROP HELPED JAMESTOWN PROSPER?

COMMENTS: _____
