

SHORT ANSWER

10 minutes for these questions (4 points each)

1. The Pilgrims were Puritan Separatists from England, who began to meet in 1606 at Scrooby, under the leadership of William Brewster, their first pastor.
2. What caused the Pilgrims to leave England?
James I's persecution of Puritans in England
3. What law were the Pilgrims breaking by fleeing England to go to Holland?
They were stealing the king's property (themselves, being English citizens and subjects), which was illegal.
4. Once in Holland, the Pilgrims settled at first in Amsterdam. They soon moved, however, to Leiden, which was less worldly and expensive, and had more work opportunities.
5. How many passengers were on the *Mayflower*?
It carried 102 passengers, including women and children.
6. Name two of the factors that made the Pilgrims decide to move to America.
Any two of these would be correct:
 - *After several years in Holland, some Separatists began to fear that their children would be more Dutch than English and more worldly than spiritual.*
 - *As foreigners in Holland, they could not buy land or work in skilled trades.*
 - *The Thirty Years' War had begun in Europe, which made life in Holland even more dangerous.*
7. Who was William Bradford?
William Bradford, a Puritan Separatist, was the second governor of Plymouth Colony. He was a fine leader, who helped the colony to survive natural disasters and financial burdens. His book, Of Plimoth Plantation, is the most important record of early Plymouth and Puritan life in America.

Your student was to give one fact for settlers in Jamestown and one for those in Plymouth for each of the following questions.

8. What was their original reason for coming?

<p><u>Jamestown</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Searching for gold and easy gain, or as servants to those seeking worldly advancement. 	<p><u>Plymouth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For most families, religious freedom
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9. What were their relations with the Native Americans?

<p><u>Jamestown</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the outset, high-handed attitudes and actions by white men angered and alienated the Indians. • Frequent and bloody attacks sapped the colony of men and energy. • Focus on tobacco enticed colonists to take natives' lands without due consideration or payment, or by force. 	<p><u>Plymouth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early on, no Indians lived where the Pilgrims landed, so they had no one to contend with. • The wisdom and godliness of William Bradford and the reasonableness of Massasoit led to many years of amicable relations.
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10. What were their physical conditions?

<p><u>Jamestown</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location of colony lacked wholesome water, and land was swampy. • Settlers could not achieve self-sufficiency due to infighting, lack of skills, and no farming abilities. • They bought food or attacked the Indians to get it. • Indians quickly became hostile and increased their troubles. 	<p><u>Plymouth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They found a good location with cleared land because of earlier Indian occupation; no hostile Indians attacked them. • Even so, they starved the first year. Half died. • After this first year, Squanto taught them to farm, and they were largely self-sufficient and growing after that first year.
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ESSAY QUESTION

20 minutes for one of these questions (60 points)

1. In the book of James, we read that God intends trials to be tests that cause our spiritual maturity to deepen and shine forth. How did the Pilgrims manifest their faith during their trials in Holland, on the *Mayflower*, and in the New World?

Points an Excellent Answer Might Include

- Difficulty escaping to Holland to begin with: captured the first time
- Succeeded in moving to Holland the second time, a year later
- As foreigners, could not buy land and so could not farm, as they were used to doing
- Forbidden to work in skilled trades
- Children in danger of adopting the language and habits of the Dutch
- Planned to sail to the New World in two ships, the larger *Speedwell* and the smaller *Mayflower*, but the *Speedwell* sprung a leak as they were leaving
- Endured a two-month voyage with 102 passengers in a small wooden ship
- Did not find a place to establish their settlement until late December
- Beset by sickness and cold, which killed half of their company in the first winter
- The healthy faithfully tended their sick despite the danger to themselves, in contrast to the sailors, who would not care for or share with their own sick companions
- Worked hard and diligently at establishing their colony

Sample Answer

The book of James says that trials are tests that God uses to deepen our spiritual maturity and let it shine forth. The Pilgrims followed the pattern of this verse, manifesting their faith during their trials in Holland, on the Mayflower, and in the New World.

The Pilgrims' stay in Holland was fraught with trials in many ways. To get to Holland, they had to smuggle themselves out of England. The first time they tried, they failed and were caught, yet they persevered in their attempts and succeeded a year later. In Holland, they faced a new kind of trial in the temptation to become worldly. Their children began to pick up the language and the habits of their worldly Dutch neighbors. Yet the Pilgrims never lost sight of their priorities. They prepared to leave. Both their journey to Holland and their decision to leave showed the strength of their faith.

The trip aboard the Mayflower was also marked by many difficulties. At first they planned to sail to America in two ships, of which the Mayflower was the smaller. However, the Speedwell sprung a leak as they were leaving. Undaunted, the Pilgrims loaded all 102 of themselves into the smaller boat and continued on their way. The trip itself involved two months at sea, aboard a small, crowded wooden ship that could not have been very comfortable. Yet the Pilgrims persevered. Their determination to sail to America, whatever the cost, was a credit to their faith.

In the New World, more trials awaited them to test their faith. They did not find a place for a permanent settlement until December, when the New England winter was already settling down upon them. During that first winter, sickness and cold killed a full half of their members, leaving them with only fifty surviving settlers. Yet those who were healthy faithfully tended the sick, despite the risks to themselves. This stood in contrast to the behavior of the sailors of the Mayflower, who refused to help their own sick out of fear of becoming sick themselves. The faithful courage and compassion of the Pilgrims during the trials of their early days in New England were a credit to their faith.

God never sends His people needless troubles. The trials that the Pilgrims faced in Holland, aboard the Mayflower, and in the New World all demonstrated the precious quality of their faith, which endured through all difficulties.

2. Compare and contrast Jamestown and Plymouth. How did differences in motivations for planting colonies, in physical conditions, and in governing structures affect each colony's history?

Points an Excellent Answer Might Include

Jamestown

- Purely a financial venture, sent by the London Company for profit
- Primarily gentleman-adventurers searching for gold and easy gain
- Location of colony was swampy and lacked wholesome water
- Swamp bred diseases
- Settlers could not achieve self-sufficiency due to infighting, lack of skills, and no farming abilities
- From the outset, high-handed attitudes and actions by white men angered and alienated Indians
- Frequent, bloody Indian attacks sapped the colony of men and energy
- Organized as a martial community, existing for the good of the company
- Much dissension among colonists
- Brief gift of leadership in Captain John Smith
- House of Burgesses the one shining accomplishment

Plymouth

- Seeking religious freedom
- Whole families came
- Expected the hard work of carving out a haven in the wilderness
- Financed by the Virginia Company
- Industrious, hardworking folk who relied on God for direction
- Rocky shores of New England
- Happened upon a place where the land was cleared because of earlier Indian occupation
- No hostile Indians attacked them
- Friendly relationships with nearby Indians, who helped them fend off starvation
- Governed by the Mayflower Compact, by which all voluntarily bound themselves to the good of the group
- "Covenantal" theory of government: community of mutual obligation under God
- Initially organized as a communal venture, but eventually divided among private families

Sample Answer

The first two English colonies in America contrast starkly. The histories of Jamestown and Plymouth involved very different motivations on the parts of colonists, physical conditions of the colonies, and governing structures within the colonies.

Colonists' motivations for settling the two colonies were very different. Jamestown was founded primarily as a commercial venture. The people who settled there were gentlemen-adventurers, out to make a profit as quickly as possible by finding gold lying on the beaches. Plymouth, by contrast, was settled by the Pilgrims, religious dissenters seeking a home where they could worship God as they believed the Bible taught. They were families well aware of the sober reality of starting a new home in an inhospitable wilderness. However, their faith motivated them to brave all the dangers in hope of a new life. These two motivations provided completely different foundations for the two different colonies.

The physical conditions of the two colonies were also quite different. Jamestown was founded on the James River in Virginia—swampy ground without a good water supply. In addition, they were in the territory of hostile Indians. These physical disadvantages caused many deaths in Jamestown. The Pilgrims, on the other hand, founded Plymouth on the New England shore. They had to deal with a harsh climate, but they did not face the diseases of Jamestown. In addition, they happened (by God's providence) to land at a point where the existing Indian tribe had been wiped out by an epidemic. The only Indians they had to deal with were friendly.

The different experiences of the colonies are also evident in their different governing structures. Jamestown was governed at first by martial law. Strong leaders had to impose strict order on the colony, or it never would have survived. Later, however, it did develop a representative assembly, called the House of Burgesses. The Pilgrims established a government for themselves from the start by drawing up the Mayflower Compact, which they all agreed to follow of their own free will. Their government was based on the idea of a covenant, whereby each of them had a responsibility to the whole group. Thus, both colonial governments, though different in their origin, ended up contributing to America's later representative government.

Jamestown and Plymouth were very different in the motivations of their colonists, their physical conditions, and their governmental structures. However, both played an important role in laying the foundations for America today.