

Life in the British Colonies

I. The Government & Economy of the British colonies

- A. The _____, _____, & _____ colonies were very different from each other... Yet they shared some common traits in their political, economic, & social characteristics
- B. **Government** in the Colonies
- All British colonies were governed with a policy called _____
 - British Parliament & the king controlled the colonies, but _____ its policies as long as Britain _____ from the colonies
 - Almost all the colonies had a royal _____, but their salaries were paid by the colonists so governors rarely overturned local laws
 - This loose control allowed the colonists to create their own _____
 - Colonial assemblies were _____ made up of colonists who passed their own _____ & taxes
 - Typically, colonial assemblies were controlled by the _____
- C. The **Economy** of the British Colonies
- The American colonies were an important part of the _____ network
 - The colonies produced profitable _____, such as tobacco, wheat, fish, indigo, & whale oil
 - Britain sold _____ back to the colonists, like clothing, tea, guns, & tableware
 - Increased demand for colonial raw materials, increased the demand for _____
 - This network created a series of _____ among America, Europe, & Africa
 - By the 1650s, Britain began to embrace the economic policy of _____ based on the idea that the colonies exist to generate _____ for the _____
 - Mercantilism is based on the idea of a _____ in which a nation exports more than it imports
 - Mercantilism meant that Britain began to control & _____ colonial _____
 - In 1660, Britain began the first of a series of _____ designed to _____ colonial trade & increase British wealth
 - The Navigation Acts required the colonists to trade _____

II. Differences Among the British Colonies

- A. All 13 of the British colonies participated in the trans-Atlantic trade... But regional differences led to a long-term division between the “_____” & “_____” colonies
- B. The Southern Colonies
- Southern economies were dominated by _____ agriculture, _____ rather than cities, large gaps between rich & poor, and _____ & indentured servants
 - English colonists typically made up the plantation owners in the _____ lands in the east
 - Former English indentured servants, _____, & _____ immigrants moved to the “_____” with poor soil, near Indians, & lived in poverty
 - _____ in the South was far more common than in the Northern colonies
 - _____ % of Southern slaves were _____, most on plantations
 - Slaves came from a variety of places in _____ & had a variety of languages & cultures
 - Slaves used _____ & _____ to maintain their African culture
 - Slave families were common, but _____ were not recognized
 - Slave religion often _____ African rituals with _____

iv. Slaves resisted by _____, slowing down work, or sabotaging equipment; In the _____ 150 slaves attacked & _____ over 20 whites

C. The Northern Colonies

1. The _____ economy was more _____ than the South
 - a. Northern farms typically were _____ & grew multiple crops like _____, corn, & livestock
 - b. In addition to farms, the Northern economy focused on lumber, _____, fishing, iron works
 - c. Northern cities like Boston, Philadelphia, & New York were important ports for international _____
 - i. Northern cities gave people more professional & trade _____ than anywhere in the colonies
 - ii. _____ represented opportunity in America by rising to fame through his printing business, _____ inventions, & political writings
2. Slavery existed in Northern colonies where most _____ worked on small-scale farms or as domestic servants
3. Like in the South, English, Germans, & Irish immigrants lived in the backcountry as _____

III. The Great Awakening

- A. By the 1700s, _____ attendance in the colonies had _____
- B. In the 1730s & 1740s, the _____ began as preachers used _____ to encourage religious conversions
 1. Preachers like _____ & George Whitefield were popular evangelists
 2. Preachers used “_____ & _____” & camp revivals” to encourage people to examine their faith
 3. The Great Awakening led to a rise of new religious denominations like _____ & _____
 4. The Great Awakening took place in all colonies & became the first _____ event

Closure Activity: Examine the primary sources below & explain how it relates to the American colonies

#1

#2

A PERSONAL VOICE ELIZA LUCAS PINCKNEY

“We please ourselves with the prospect of exporting in a few years a good quantity from hence, and supplying our mother country [Great Britain] with a manufacture for which she has so great a demand, and which she is now supplied with from the French colonies, and many thousand pounds per annum [year] thereby lost to the nation, when she might as well be supplied here, if the matter were applied to in earnest.”

—quoted in *South Carolina: A Documentary Profile of the Palmetto State*

A PERSONAL VOICE NEHEMIAH GREW

“The time may come . . . when the colonies may become populous and with the increase of arts and sciences strong and politic, forgetting their relation to the mother countries, will then confederate and consider nothing further than the means to support their ambition of standing on their [own] legs.”

—quoted in *The Colonial Period of American History*
