Chapter 2

Founding the Colonies

General Questions

*1. By the 15th century, Catholic Europe had emerged victorious after years of war with
   a. the Norse.
   b. Chinese mercenaries.
   c. Muslim armies.
   d. India.
   ANSWER: c. Muslim armies.

2. Which of the following phrases does not accurately describe a feature of the European economy during the Renaissance period?
   a. technological advances in navigation
   b. the rise of nation-states
   c. declining population
   d. increased security of persons and property
   ANSWER: c. declining population

3. Which nation pioneered Atlantic exploration?
   a. England
   b. Italy
   c. Portugal
   d. Spain
   ANSWER: c. Portugal

4. Prince Henry the Navigator was one of the leading explorers for which nation?
   a. England
   b. France.
   c. Holland.
   d. Portugal.
   e. Spain.
   ANSWER: d. Portugal.

5. Prince Henry the Navigator was recognized for being the leading explorer of what region?
   a. Western coast of Africa.
   b. The West Indies.
   c. Canada.
   d. Mexico.
   e. Brazil.
   ANSWER: a. Western coast of Africa.
6. Bartholomew Dias was one of the leading explorers for which nation?
   a. England
   b. France.
   c. Holland.
   d. Portugal.
   e. Spain.
   **ANSWER:** d. Portugal.

7. Bartholomew Dias was recognized for being the first to achieve what accomplishment?
   a. Rounding the Cape of Good Hope.
   b. Sailing from Europe to India and back.
   c. Sailing around the world.
   d. Reaching South America.
   e. Exploring the interior of Canada.
   **ANSWER:** a. Rounding the Cape of Good Hope.

8. Ferdinand Magellan was one of the leading explorers for which nation?
   b. France.
   c. Holland.
   d. Portugal.
   e. Spain.
   **ANSWER:** e. Spain.

9. Ferdinand Magellan was recognized for what accomplishment?
   a. Rounding the Cape of Good Hope.
   b. Sailing from Europe to India and back.
   c. Sailing around the world.
   d. Reaching South America.
   e. Exploring the interior of Canada.
   **ANSWER:** c. Sailing around the world.

10. Vasco de Gama was recognized for what accomplishment?
    a. Rounding the Cape of Good Hope.
    b. Sailing from Europe to India and back.
    c. Sailing around the world.
    d. Reaching South America.
    e. Exploring Newfoundland.
    **ANSWER:** b. Sailing from Europe to India and back.

*11. In the 15th century, _________ rose to prominence in trade with areas to the east of Europe, while ________ dominated trade with the West.
    a. Venice; England
    b. Italy; the Dutch
    c. Portugal; Spain
d. France; Holland
ANSWER: c. Portugal; Spain

12. Cortez was one of the leading explorers for which nation?
   b. France.
   c. Holland.
   d. Portugal.
   e. Spain.
ANSWER: e. Spain.

13. The agreement that established Spain and Portugal’s rights to explore various parts of the world was called:
   a. The Treaty of Spain.
   c. The Treaty of Tordeillas.
   d. The Spanish-Portuguese Covenant.
   e. The London Accord.
ANSWER: c. The Treaty of Tordeillas.

*14. __________ established the first American colonies in the early 1500s.
   a. England
   b. The Low Countries
   c. France
   d. Spain
ANSWER: d. Spain

15. Estimates of the North American Native American population in 1491
   a. are inconclusive.
   b. range in the hundreds of thousands.
   c. range in the millions.
   d. range in the ten of thousands.
ANSWER: c. range in the millions.

*16. In the 1600s ________________________ emerged as the chief competitors in the race for control of North America.
   a. Spain and England
   b. England and Holland
   c. England and France
   d. Spain and France
ANSWER: c. England and France

17. By the early sixteenth century, the center wealth and commerce of Europe had shifted
   a. from the Baltic to the Mediterranean.
   b. from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic.
   c. from Italy to North Africa.
d. The center of wealth and commerce did not change until the 17th century.
ANSWER: b. from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic.

18. Which nation made the greatest commitment to establish permanent settlements in its colonization strategy?
   b. France.
   c. Holland.
   d. Spain

*19. England’s American colonies were ultimately more successful than the colonies of other European powers. Reasons for this success include
   a. the realization that successful colonies would provide markets for English goods.
   b. a focus on establishing permanent settlements.
   c. the access to land which could be privately owned.
   d. All of the above.
ANSWER: d. All of the above.

20. Humphrey Gilbert was one of the leading explorers for which nation?
   b. France.
   c. Holland.
   d. Portugal.
   e. Spain.

21. Walter Raleigh was one of the leading explorers for which nation?
   b. France.
   c. Holland.
   d. Portugal.
   e. Spain.

22. Spain's eventual decline in influence can be traced to
   a. the lack of a solid foundation for its settlement efforts.
   b. a costly war to bring the Low Countries under subjection.
   c. the decline in gold and silver imports from America.
   d. All of the above are correct.
ANSWER: d. All of the above are correct.

23. Who did not found a colony?
   a. Lord Baltimore.
   b. Sir Nelson Maryland.
24. The first English colonies in North America were established by
   a. Sir Humphrey Gilbert.
   b. Christopher Columbus
   c. Capt. John Smith
   d. Sir Walter Raleigh
   ANSWER: d. Sir Walter Raleigh
25. Which English colony was the first permanent settlement in the New World?
   a. Roanoke.
   b. Plymouth.
   c. Jamestown.
   d. Mexico.
   e. Quebec.

*26. The establishment of Jamestown in 1607 was financed by
   a. the London Company.
   b. the Plymouth Company.
   c. the English Parliament.
   d. Sir Walter Raleigh.
   ANSWER: a. the London Company.

*27. Investors in the London Company (which was later re-formed as the Virginia Company)
   a. earned substantial profits on their investment.
   b. earned modest profits on their investments.
   c. broke even, with revenues just covering the principal.
   d. earned substantial losses on their investment.
   ANSWER: d. earned substantial losses on their investment.

28. Of the 6,000 settlers who migrated to Virginia since the founding of the first permanent settlement in 1607, nearly ________ had died by 1623.
   a. 5,500
   b. 4,000
   c. 2,500
   d. 1,000
   ANSWER b. 4,000

29. According to a royal investigation in 1623 of the English colonies in Virginia, the average life expectancy of newly arrived settlers was
   a. 2 years.
   b. 5 years.
c. 10 years.
d. 20 years.
ANSWER: a. 2 years.

30. Of the English-owned joint stock companies that operated in North America, which was the only one to survive longer than 20 years?
   a. The London Company
   b. The New Plymouth Company
   c. The Hudson Bay Company
   d. The Massachusetts Bay Company
ANSWER: c. The Hudson Bay Company.

31. Which was not an English-owned joint stock company?
   a. The Virginia Company.
   b. The Plymouth Company.
   c. The East India Company.
   d. The Rhode Island Company.
   e. The Massachusetts Bay Company.
ANSWER: d. The Rhode Island Company.

*32. Jamestown’s early years were marked by
   a. a focus on futile “get rich quick” schemes.
   b. collective operations under which production methods and consumption were shared.
   c. lack of local control over production decisions.
   d. extremely high mortality rates.
   e. All of the above.
ANSWER: e. All of the above.

33. What was the least important reason for the failure of the Virginia Company?
   a. Difficulty in finding good crops to grow.
   b. The Company’s employees had unforeseen labor alternatives.
   c. There was a relatively small incentive for employees to work hard.
   d. The death rate was much higher than they expected.
ANSWER: a. Difficulty in finding good crops to grow.

34. Settlers often received 50 acres of land for each person whose passage they paid to America. This was known as
   a. a special purpose grant.
   b. an entailment.
   c. the headright system.
   d. planter’s shares.
ANSWER: c. the headright system.

35. Who would be most likely to move from Europe to the New World in the early 1600s?
a. A 19 year-old, first born son with many skills.
b. A 37 year-old skilled carpenter.
c. A 17 year-old from a poor family.
d. A 21 year-old woman.
e. An unskilled laborer with a wife and two children.
ANSWER: c. A 17 year-old from a poor family.

36. Indentured servitude was first used to promote immigration in
   a. Jamestown in 1618.
   b. Plymouth Colony in 1623.
   c. New York in 1630.
   d. Rhode Island Colony in 1652.
ANSWER a. Jamestown in 1618.

37. People from which nation were most likely to come to colonial North America as indentured servants?
   b. Liberia.
   c. Germany.
   d. France.

38. In the early colonies, private landholdings
   a. gradually replaced common ownership.
   b. occasionally supplemented common ownership.
   c. were only legalized after 1650.
   d. were the norm from the very beginning of colonization.
ANSWER: a. gradually replaced common ownership.

39. What type of person would you expect to have the shortest indenture?
   a. 13 year-old male craftsman who went to New England.
   b. 22 year-old male laborer who went to the West Indies.
   c. 20 year-old male farm worker went to the South.
   d. 21 year-old male carpenter who worked in the West Indies.
ANSWER: d. 21 year-old male carpenter who worked in the West Indies.

*40. Based on the research findings of David Galenson, Robert Heavner and others, what type of person would you expect to negotiate an indenture contract of the longest duration?
   a. a 13 year-old illiterate male who went to New York
   b. a 22 year-old female weaver who went to Massachusetts
   c. a 20 year-old male unskilled worker went to the West Indies
   d. a 21 year-old male blacksmith who went to the Pennsylvania
ANSWER: a. a 13 year-old illiterate male who went to New York
41. Costing more than the average person’s yearly income, the Atlantic passage in the early seventeenth century was roughly
   a. £1
   b. £10
   c. £100
   d. £1,000
ANSWER: b. £10

*42. Redemptioners were immigrants who
   a. came to America as missionaries.
   b. were brought over on credit provided by ship captains.
   c. had previously been imprisoned in England.
   d. refused to work as indentured servants.
ANSWER: b. were brought over on credit provided by ship captains.

43. People from which nation in Europe were most likely to come to colonial North America as redemptioners?
   a. Italy.
   b. Holland.
   c. Germany.
   d. France.
ANSWER: c. Germany.

*44. By the early 1700s, slavery had become concentrated in the southern colonies. Economic factors that explain this demographic trend include all of the following except
   a. the South’s use of the primogeniture system.
   b. economies of scale available in the production of the South’s primary crops.
   c. a climate that allowed for year-round agricultural production.
   d. early laws that prohibited slavery in most of the New England and Middle colonies.
ANSWER: d. early laws that prohibited slavery in most of the New England and Middle colonies.

45. In the early colonial period which region had the highest mortality rates?
   a. The South.
   b. The Middle States.
   d. Caribbean
ANSWER: d. Caribbean.

46. From 1700-1780, the colonial population increased at a rate of approximately 3 percent per year. This rapid population growth was primarily due to
   a. immigration from England.
   b. immigration from central Europe.
   c. higher birth rates in the colonies than in Europe.
   d. importation of slaves from Africa.
ANSWER:  c. higher birth rates in the colonies than in Europe.

*47. Studies of 18th century colonial demographics indicate that
   a. the population growth rate of blacks was similar to that of whites.
   b. migration was the main reason for the growth in the black population.
   c. the death rate of blacks were much higher than the death rate of whites.
   d. the birthrate of blacks was much lower than the birthrate of whites.
ANSWER: a. the population growth rate of blacks was similar to that of whites.

*48. According to the text, studies of 18th century colonial demographics indicate that, compared to Europe,
   a. the birthrate in the colonies was lower.
   b. women in the colonies tended to marry later in life.
   c. the child mortality rate in the colonies was lower.
   d. average life expectancy for males in the colonies was lower.
   e. All of the above.
ANSWER: c. the child mortality rate in the colonies was lower.

49. The racial profile of colonial South Carolina
   a. was typical of the colonies as a whole.
   b. was closer that of the French and British West Indies than to that of its neighboring colonies.
   c. was dominated by whites until nearly 1750.
   d. indicates that it had a higher concentration of blacks than any colony except Virginia.
ANSWER: b. was closer that of the French and British West Indies than to that of its neighboring colonies.

Economic Insights
1. The term “free rider”
   a. Refers to the reduction of incentives for an individual to provide effort.
   b. Describes the privatization of goods and property.
   c. Refers to a situation in which resources are overused and quickly exhausted.
   d. Describes people who did not pay for their ship travel to the colonial US because their relatives would pay their fares once they arrived.
ANSWER: a. Refers to the reduction of incentives for an individual to provide effort.

2. A student is working on a group class-project where the same grade is assigned to everyone in the group. He chooses to not contribute to the project. What term best describes this situation?
   a. Moral hazard.
   b. Tragedy of the Commons.
   c. Public good problem.
   d. Free Rider.
ANSWER: d. Free Rider.
3. Suppose 10 workers jointly own and farm a piece of land. They all consume the farm’s output in equal shares. If one worker decides to shirk and cuts her labor effort by 50 percent,
   a. her consumption will decrease by 50 percent.
   b. her consumption will decrease by greater than 50 percent.
   c. her consumption will decrease by less than 50 percent.
   d. her consumption will not change.
   ANSWER: c. her consumption will decrease by less than 50 percent.

4 The term “tragedy of the commons” describes:
   a. how communal ownership of property leads to overuse and speedy exhaustion of resources.
   b. the very difficult circumstances that the every-day citizens faced when the first arrived in colonial America.
   c. how collective ownership of property produces a greater incentive for people to shirk, or work less than they otherwise would.
   d. how establishing governments was very difficult in the initial settlements.
   ANSWER: a. how communal ownership of property leads to overuse and speedy exhaustion of resources.

5. After reading Governor Bradford's account, which is the most accurate statement, given his experience?
   a. He considered the problems in the colony to be rooted in the "sine and corruption" of selfishness.
   b. He agreed with Plato that goods held in a "commone wealth" would make the people "happy and flourishing."
   c. That assigning private plots of land "made all hands very industrious."
   d. That assigning private plots of land "for this communitie" caused "much confusion and discontent."
   ANSWER: c. That assigning private plots of land "made all hands very industrious."

6. Which of the following is the most accurate statement about the Native Americans during the colonial period?
   a. There is a strong consensus among historians about the size of the Native American population at the time of arrival of the first European settlers.
   b. Native Americans rarely formed trading alliances with the European settlers.
   c. The significant deterioration of the Native American population occurred after 1825, when the US started to expand to the west.
   d. The susceptibility to disease was one of the primary reasons the Native American population declined.
   ANSWER: d. The susceptibility to disease was one of the primary reasons the Native American population declined.

Economic Analysis
1. The market for indentured servants could be best described as:
a. A monopoly.  
b. An oligopoly.  
c. A competitive market.

**ANSWER:** c. A competitive market. There were many captains in the market, and they were located at the docks in a small number of English seaports. With many demanders and low costs for the servants of seeking additional offers, this was a competitive industry.

2. If a series of severe storms in the Atlantic Ocean drastically significantly disrupted the slave transatlantic slave trade, which would most accurately describe the market for slaves in colonial America?
   a. The price of slaves would increase and the quantity of slaves would decrease.  
   b. The price and quantity of slaves would increase.  
   c. The price and quantity of slaves would decrease.  
   d. The price of slaves would decrease and the quantity of slaves would increase.

**ANSWER:** a. The price of slaves would increase and the quantity of slaves would decrease. The storms would decrease the supply of slaves to the colonies, thus increasing the price of slaves and decreasing the quantity of slaves.

3. If a series of severe storms in the Atlantic Ocean drastically significantly disrupted the slave transatlantic slave trade, which would most accurately describe the market for indentured servants in colonial America?
   a. The price and quantity of servants would increase.  
   b. The price and quantity of servants would decrease.  
   c. The price of servants would increase and the quantity of servants would decrease.  
   d. The price of servants would decrease and the quantity of servants would increase.

**ANSWER:** a. The price and quantity of servants would increase. The storm would decrease the supply of slaves, thus increasing their price. Servants and slaves are substitutes. The demand for servants would increase, thus increasing both the price and quantity of servants.