

# DBQ 1 (Democracy in Colonial America)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Pappas

Period \_\_\_\_\_

## Directions for DBQ# 1 (Democracy in Colonial America)

**Due Monday, October 20, 2008**

**Checklist (DO NOT HAND THIS IN UNTIL YOU HAVE DONE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:)**

- 1. Your essay **must be typed and double-spaced**
- 2. You must **use both** of the **graphic organizers** (provided) to prepare your documents
- 3. Your essay must include the following:
  - a. **Introductory paragraph** (cut and **paste** parts of the **historical context** and **TASK** for your **thesis**)
  - b. **Body paragraph 1**
    - i. must have a topic sentence
    - ii. must include **outside information**
  - c. **Body paragraph 2**
    - i. must have a topic sentence
    - ii. must include **outside information**
  - d. **Conclusion** (restate the thesis and summarize your topic sentences from each body paragraph)
- 4. You must **use at least 4 documents** in your essay
- 5. As you read the documents, highlight what information will help your essay
- 6. At the top of the document write which task the document answers (1 or 2)
- 7. On the essay, each **document you cite (use)**, highlight it with a yellow highlighter
- 8. On the essay, each piece of **outside information (textbook, your input)**, use a pink (or green) highlighter
- 9. Be sure to reference each document as you go along **for example:** As stated in document 1, "....."

**STAPLE YOUR ESSAY TO BACK OF THIS PACKET!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**DBQ:           /20**

**ESSAY:       /80**

**Final Grade: \_\_\_\_\_**

## Part B

### Document Based Question

#### **Directions:**

- Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs, and a conclusion.
- Use evidence from the documents to support your response.
- Include specific related outside information

**Historical Context:** Due to British political traditions, distance from the mother country (England/Britain), and other factors, the thirteen colonies in America began early on to develop democratic features. Despite this, many aspects of colonial life were strikingly undemocratic. A close look at that time period suggests that colonial democracy was a work in progress (slowly developing).

**Task:** Using information from the documents and your knowledge of Social Studies, write an essay in which you:

- Identify and discuss *at least* two democratic features of colonial America
- Identify and discuss *at least* two undemocratic features of colonial America

**Be sure to include specific historical details. You must also include additional outside information from your knowledge of social studies.**

**Document 1** Maryland's Act of Toleration (1649)

... be it therefore with the advice and consent of this assembly ordered and enacted... that no person or persons within Maryland professing to believe in any form of Christianity shall from now on be in any way troubled, interfered with or embarrassed in respect to his or her religion, nor in the free exercise thereof...

1. Why did the assembly of Maryland create this law? (1)

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2. What freedom is protected by this law? (1)

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3. Name at least 2 groups that would **not** be protected by this law? (2)

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**Document 2 Voting Qualifications (Requirements) (1763)**

COLONY	RELIGION	RACE	GENDER	PROPERTY
NEW HAMPSHIRE	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	LAND VALUED AT \$50
MASSACHUSETTS	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	LAND RENTED AT \$2/YEAR
RHODE ISLAND	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	LAND RENTED AT \$2/YEAR
CONNECTICUT	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	LAND RENTED AT \$2/YEAR
NEW YORK	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	LAND VALUED AT \$40
NEW JERSEY	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	LAND VALUED AT \$50
PENNSYLVANIA	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	50 ACRES OR LAND VALUED AT \$50
DELAWARE	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	50 ACRES OR LAND VALUED AT \$40
MARYLAND	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	50 ACRES OR LAND VALUED AT \$40
VIRGINIA	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	25 ACRES WITH A HOUSE OR 100 ACRES WITHOT
NORTH CAROLIINA	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	50 ACRES
SOUTH CAROLIINA	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	50 ACRES OR LAND RENTED AT \$2/YEAR
GEORGIA	CHRISTIAN	WHITE	MALE	50 ACRES

1. Name at least two of the main qualifications (requirements) for voting in the thirteen colonies. (2)

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2. Name at least two groups of people that could not vote in colonial America because of these qualifications (requirements). (2)

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**Document 3** The Fundamental Orders of Connecticut (1639)

"...It is ordered that there be yearly two *General Assemblies* or *Courts*...and a governor shall be chosen for the year and shall have power to administer justice according to the laws here established. The choice for governor shall be made by all those who are eligible to vote...

"...It is ordered that no person be chosen governor more than once, in two years...

"It is ordered that every *General Court* shall include the governor, to moderate the court... and if the governor neglects or refuses to call the *General Court* into session, the voters may do so.... In the *General Court* shall rest supreme power of the colony, and they only shall have power to make laws or repeal them, to levy taxes, dispose of unclaimed land; they shall have the power to call public officials or any other person into question for any misdemeanor and may with good reason remove or deal otherwise accordingly with the offender..."

1. Name at least one power given to the *General Court* in this document. (1)

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2. Describe at least two democratic features of Connecticut's government. (2)

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3. What happens if a governor neglects his duties? (1)

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Document 4 Title Page from *The Lady's Law*

**THE LADY'S LAW:**  
OR, A  
**TREATISE**  
OF  
**Feme Coverts:**  
CONTAINING  
All the **Laws** and **Statutes** relating  
to **WOMEN**, under several **HEADS:**  
VIZ.

I. Of Descents of Lands to Females, Coparceners, &c.	VI. Of Estates Tail, Jointures and Settlements, real and personal in Women.
II. Of Consummation of Marriage, Rape, Polygamy,	VII. Of what the Wife is entitled to of the Husband's, and Things belonging to the Wife, the Husband gains Possession of by Marriage.
III. Of the Laws of Procreation of Children; and of Bastards or Spurious Issue.	VIII. Of Private Contracts by the Wife, Alimony, Separate Maintenance, Divorces, Elopement, &c.
IV. Of the Privileges of Feme Coverts, and their Powers with respect to their Husband, and all others.	
V. Of Husband and Wife, in what Actions they are to Join.	

**THE SECOND EDITION.**  
To which is added,  
Judge HUBB'S very remarkable Argument in the *Exchequer-Chamber, Term. Trin. 15 Car. 2. In the Case of Menby and Sea*, whether, and in what Cases, the Husband is bound by the Contract of his Wife:  
And Select *Precedents of Covertures* in all CASES concerning *Feme Coverts*.

In the *SAYOY*:  
Printed by E. and R. NUTT, and R. GOSLING, (Assigns of E. Sayo, Esq;) for H. L. and Sold by C. CORSEY, at *Aldgate's Head*, and E. LITTLETON, at the *Blire*, both against St. Dunstan's Church in *Fleetstreet*. 1737.

Courtesy Virginia Historical Society

This document is the title page of a book that included many of the legal restrictions faced by "feme coverts," women legally dependent on a husband. Once married, colonial women could not own property or collect wages. Men routinely gained custody of children in cases of divorce.

Note: in colonial-era texts, a lower case 's' often looks like a lower case 'f'. To help today's students interpret this old style, chapter headings have been reprinted below.

- I. Of Descents of Lands to Females, Coparceners, etc. . . .
- II. Of Consummation of Marriage, Stealing of Women, Rapes, Polygamy.
- III. Of the Laws of Procreation of Children, and of Illegitimate Children.
- IV. Of the Privileges of Feme Coverts, and Their Power in Regard to Their Husbands, and all Others.
- V. Of Husband and Wife, in what Actions they are to Join.
- VI. Of the Limitations on Inheritance of Estates, Jointures and Settlements, Real and Personal of Women.
- VII. Of What the Wife is Entitled To of the Husband's, and things Belonging to the Wife, the Husband gains Possession of in Marriage.
- VIII. Of Private Contracts by the Wife, Alimony, Separate Maintenance, Divorces, Elopement, etc. . . .

1. What happened to property that a woman owned when she became married? (1)

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2. According to this document, how were women unequal to men in colonial times? (1)

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3. According to the document, what happened to women in cases of divorce? (1)

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**Document 5 The Plan of a Slave Ship**

**STOWAGE OF THE BRITISH SLAVE SHIP BROOKES UNDER THE REGULATED SLAVE TRADE**  
Act of 1788.

*Fig. 1.*  
*Enlargement of the Plan*

**Slave Ship aboard  
 The Middle Passage (Drawing Plan)**

Plan of lower deck with stowage of 292 slaves  
 120 of these being stowed under the shelves as shown in figure 2 and 3

figure 2

Plan below showing the slaves being stowed in shelves with a height of 2 feet 7 inches

figure 3

*Courtesy Library of Congress*

Although slavery existed in all thirteen colonies, it quickly became a vital part of the southern economy. Slavery was a permanent, hereditary condition. Slaves had no legal rights and were forbidden to read or write. The document above suggests the horrible conditions on board a slave ship.

1. Describe two ways a slave trader was able to fit slaves on a ship. (2)

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2. What is undemocratic about this slave ship and the Middle Passage? (1)

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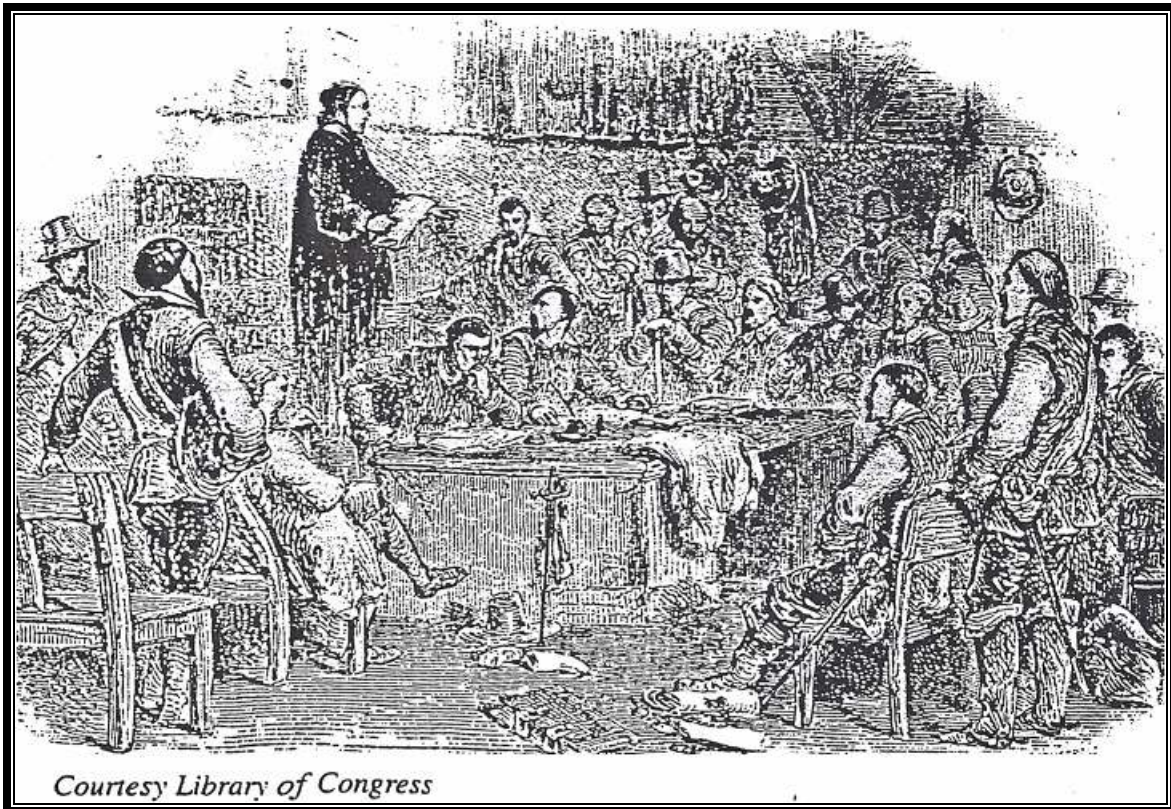


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Document 6 Virginia House of Burgesses



This engraving is from the first meeting of the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1619. This legislature (law maker) was made up of representatives chosen by the people. Eventually, each colony in America would have a legislature.

1. What democratic activities are shown in the picture? (1)

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2. How did the Virginia House of Burgesses allow citizens to have a voice in government? (1)

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## Part B

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- Identify and discuss *at least* two undemocratic features of colonial America

<b>DOCUMENT #</b>	<b>TASK #</b>	<b>INFORMATION FROM DOCUMENT</b>	<b>OUTSIDE INFORMATION</b>

# Social Studies Graphic Organizer

Steal and Spit (Historical Context)	
Address Bullets (Task)	

Topic Sentence	
Inside Info (Documents)	
Outside Info	

Topic Sentence	
Inside Info (Documents)	
Outside Info	

Topic Sentence	
Inside Info (Documents)	
Outside Info	

Summarize Task	
Effects/Personal Input	