

## Teaching with Primary Sources Lesson Outline

**Grade Level:** High School (11-12)

**Standard(s) or Objectives:** CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11-12.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including analyzing how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term over the course of a text  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11-12.5: Analyze in detail how a complex primary source is structured, including how key sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text contribute to the whole.

### Library of Congress or Morris Special Collections Resources:



Charles II of England, October 10, 1678, Proclamation on Virginia Colony

<https://www.loc.gov/item/mtjbib000005/>

### Topic Background:

Jamestown, Virginia, was burned during Bacon's Rebellion. Declining tobacco prices, a cattle epidemic, and a belief that the colony's governor had failed to take adequate measures to protect Virginia against Indian attacks contributed to the rebellion, which petered out after its leader, Nathaniel Bacon, died in October 1676.

Excerpted from: <http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/era.cfm?eraID=2&smtID=4>

### Source(s) Used:

The source used for this assessment includes excerpts from Charles II's Proclamation on Virginia Colony, 1678. The proclamation followed Bacon's Rebellion and the removal of Governor Berkeley from Virginia. Although the Proclamation was made two years after the event, it depicts results of the event as related to the colonial government, and the future of governors and land distribution in Virginia.

### Answer Key:

Question 1: B

Question2: D

## Charles II of England, October 10, 1678, Proclamation on Virginia Colony

[Excerpt]

...all lands now possessed by the several and respective planters or inhabitants of Virginia are and shall be confirmed and established to them and their heirs forever where the property of any particular mans interest in any lands there shall not be altered or prejudiced by reason thereof. And our further will and pleasure is and we do hereby afour further grace and favor declare and grant that for the encouragement of such our subjects as shall from time to time go to dwell in the said plantation there shall be assigned out of the lands (not already appropriated) to every person so coming to dwell fifty acres according as hath been used and allowed since the first plantation to be held of us oure heirs and successors as of our manor of East Greenwich in our county of Gent in free and common soccage...further that the Governor and council of Virginia for the time being and in the absence of the Governor the deputy Governor and council or any five or more of them (whereof the Governor or his deputy to be always one) shall and hereby have full power and authority to hear and determine all treasons murders felonies and other offences committed or done or to be committed or done within the said Government so as they proceed therein as near as may be to the laws and statutes of this our kingdom of England.

### Questions:

- 1) In lines 6-7 of the text, what does Charles II mean he discusses lands given to persons, “assigned out of the lands (not already **appropriated**) to every person so coming to dwell fifty acres.” (CCSS-RH9-10.4)
  - a. Every person coming to Virginia may receive fifty acres of land from existing plantations.
  - b. Every person coming to Virginia may receive fifty acres of land from land that is not already granted to another person.
  - c. Every person coming to Virginia may receive fifty acres of land in East Greenwich in the county of Ghent.
  - d. Every person coming to Virginia may receive fifty acres of land that has not been used for crops or livestock.
  
- 2) How do lines 9 through 14, concerning crime in Virginia, explain part of the Governor’s greater role in Virginia after Bacon’s Rebellion? (CCSS-RH11-12.5)
  - a. The Governor of Virginia would use new laws, created in Virginia, to punish criminals of the expanding population.
  - b. The Governor and council in Virginia, that would punish criminals, must include representatives from newly created plantations.
  - c. Virginians convicted of breaking colonial laws would be punished according to the Governor’s recommendation.
  - d. Accused criminals in Virginia would face a similar legal system to England’s, carried out by the Governor and council.