

8th Grade American History Distance Learning Assignment

Week 2 Parent Notes:

This week, we're reading "Chief Powhatan's Address to Captain John Smith" by Chief Powhatan .

In the "Address to Captain John Smith," Chief Powhatan discusses the current violent relationship between English settlers and the Powhatan people.

As we read, we will be discussing the themes of America and War & Peace as they relate to the text. We are trying to answer these big questions :

"How has America changed over time?" and "How can we achieve peace?"

Ways to support your child:

- Ask your child about this speech at home:
 - What was "Chief Powhatan's Address to Captain John Smith" About
 - What did you learn about? About War & Peace?
- Watch Powhatan Confederacy and James Town at home with your child.

8th Grade US History Distance Learning Assignment
Week 2

“Chief Powhatan’s Address to Captain John Smith”

Before Reading

Day 1, Activity 1: Journal Response

How has America changed over time?

Day 1, Activity 2: Vocabulary in Context

Step 1: Review the vocabulary word, context sentence, photograph, and definition.

Step 2: Describe how the context sentence and photograph give hints toward the meaning of the word. Be specific; you must include either specific words from the context sentence or details from the photograph in your answer.

1. **provisions** (noun)



We can hide our **provisions** and fly into the woods.

2. **invade** (verb) to enter forcefully as an enemy; go into with hostile intent



You see us unarmed and willing to supply your wants if you come in a friendly manner; not with swords and guns as to **invade** an enemy.

3. **unadvised** (adjective) without advice or counsel; uninformed



And, Captain Smith, this might soon be your fate too through your rashness and **unadvisedness**.

During Reading: Read the information text “Chief Powhatan’s Address to Captain John Smith”

Day 2

As you read, underline or highlight the main point in each paragraph

Take notes in the margins that explain how the perspectives of the two Native American Interviewees differ.

Day 3

After Reading: Using your annotations, complete the Text Dependent Questions that are located in your packet.

Day 4

After Reading: Using your annotations, complete Discussion Questions 1-3 that are located in your packet.

Day 5 “Chief Powhatan’s Address to Captain John Smith”

On the back of one of the pages in the packet, create a venn diagram that compares the diary message (week one’s reading) to Chief Powhatan’s message that you read about this week. It should resemble this:

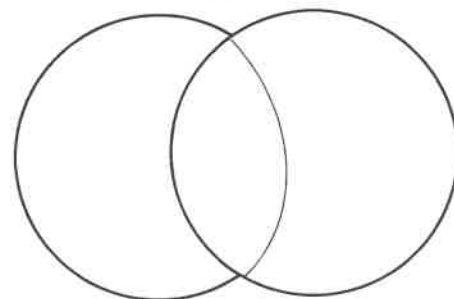
Label one circle Diary

List differences from Chief Powhatan

Label the other circle CP (Chief Powhatan)

List differences from the Diary.

In the center shape, list the similarities between the two.



Name: _____ Class: _____

Chief Powhatan's Address to Captain John Smith

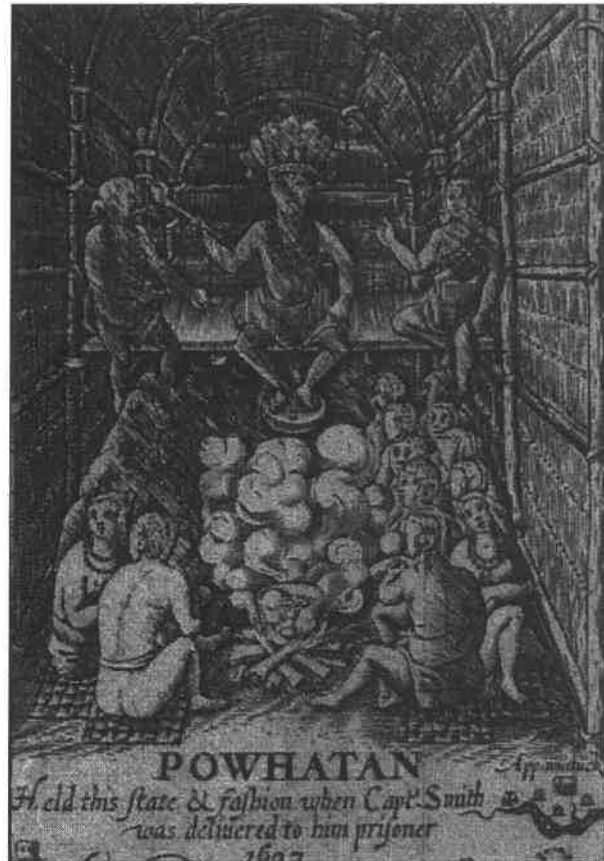
By Chief Powhatan
1609

The Powhatan are Native American people from Virginia who share an Algonquian language. In 1607, the Jamestown settlement in the Virginia colony became the first permanent English settlement in the Americas. At the initial arrival of the colonists, people of the Powhatan Confederacy provided the settlers with food, but this relationship quickly deteriorated. In this address, Chief Wahunsenacawh (1545-1618), also known as Chief Powhatan, addresses a leader of Jamestown. As you read, take notes on the relationship between the Powhatan people and the English settlers.

[1] I am now grown old and must soon die, and the succession¹ must descend in order, to my brothers, Opitcham, Opechancanough, and Kekataugh, and then to my two sisters, and their two daughters.

I wish their experience was equal to mine, and that your love to us might not be less than ours to you. Why should you take by force that from us which you can have by love? Why should you destroy us who have provided you with food? What can you get by war? We can hide our provisions and fly into the woods. And then you must consequently famish² by wrongdoing your friends.

What is the cause of your jealousy? You see us unarmed and willing to supply your wants if you come in a friendly manner; not with swords and guns as to invade an enemy. I am not so simple as not to know that it is better to eat good meat, lie well, and sleep quietly with my women and children; to laugh and be merry with the English, and, being their friend, to have copper, hatchets, and whatever else I want, than to fly from all, to lie cold in the woods, feed upon acorns, roots and such trash, and to be so hunted that I cannot rest, eat, or sleep. In such circumstances, my men must watch, and if a twig should but break, all would cry out, "Here comes Captain Smith." And so, in this miserable manner to end my miserable life. And, Captain Smith, this might soon be your fate too through your rashness and unadvisedness.



"Powhatan john smith" by Bkwillwm is in the public domain.

1. the process of inheriting a title, office, or property
2. to starve

I, therefore, exhort³ you to peaceable councils, and above all I insist that the guns and swords, the cause of all our jealousy and uneasiness, be removed and sent away.

"Chief Powhatan's Address to Captain John Smith" by Chief Powhatan (1609) is in the public domain.

3. **Exhort (verb):** to strongly encourage or urge someone to do something

Text-Dependent Questions

Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.

1. PART A: Which statement identifies the central idea of the text?
 - A. The relationship between the English settlers and the Powhatan people was equally beneficial.
 - B. Chief Powhatan wished to create a more peaceful relationship between the Powhatan and the English.
 - C. The Powhatan people threatened to withhold food from the English settlers if they did not give them more guns.
 - D. Guns and a decreasing amount of food caused the English to become jealous of the Powhatan.

2. PART B: Which detail from the text best supports the answer to Part A?
 - A. "We can hide our provisions and fly into the woods. And then you must consequently famish by wrongdoing your friends." (Paragraph 2)
 - B. "I am not so simple as not to know that it is better to eat good meat, lie well, and sleep quietly with my women and children" (Paragraph 3)
 - C. "And, Captain Smith, this might soon be your fate too through your rashness and unadvisedness." (Paragraph 3)
 - D. "I, therefore, exhort you to peaceable councils, and above all I insist that the guns and swords, the cause of all our jealousy and uneasiness, be removed and sent away." (Paragraph 4)

3. Which statement best describes the relationship between the Powhatan and the English, according to the passage?
 - A. The Powhatan provided the English with food whenever they asked for supplies, which made the English feel guilty about taking advantage of the Powhatan.
 - B. The English provided the Powhatan with guns and other advanced weaponry, which caused violence within the tribe and made them resentful of the English.
 - C. The relationship soured over time because of increased hostility from the English, but Chief Powhatan wanted their relationship to become peaceful again.
 - D. The relationship soured over time because the English took advantage of Chief Powhatan's generosity, and so the chief ordered his people to attack the English.

4. In paragraph 3, Chief Powhatan says, "Captain Smith, this might soon be your fate too through your rashness and unadvisedness." How does this quote contribute to the development of ideas in the passage?
 - A. Chief Powhatan is warning John Smith to change his behavior and help resolve the conflict between them, or Smith may end up with an unhappy fate.
 - B. Chief Powhatan is ordering John Smith to leave the Powhatan people and never return, with the threat to chase Smith into the woods if he does not obey.
 - C. Chief Powhatan is worried about John Smith's ability to lead the English, who are becoming increasingly jealous and may turn on the captain.
 - D. Chief Powhatan is advising John Smith to become a more democratic leader, or else he may end up unhappy and removed from power by the settlers.

5. How does Chief Powhatan convey his argument and point of view in paragraphs 2-3?
