Name: _____ **Date:** _____

A Difficult Life for English Settlers

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Identify:

In (_____) 1606, the (_____) new English King, James the First, gave two business groups permission to establish colonies in Virginia, the area claimed by England. Companies were organized (_____) to carry out the move.

The London Company sent (_____) one hundred settlers to Virginia in 1606. The group landed there in May, 1607 and founded Jamestown. It was the first (_____) permanent English colony in the new world.

The colony seemed about to fail from (_____) the start. The settlers did not plant their crops in time so they soon had no food. Their (_____) leaders lacked the farming and building skills needed to survive on the land. More than half the settlers died during the first winter.

The businessmen (_____) controlling the colony from London knew (_____) nothing about living in such a wild place. They wanted the settlers to search for gold, and (_____) explore local (_____) rivers in hopes of finding a way to the East. One settler knew this was wrong. His name was Captain John Smith. He (_____) helped the colonists build houses and grow food by learning from the local Indians. Still, the Jamestown settlers continued to die each year from disease, lack of food and Indian attacks.

The London Company sent six (_____) thousand settlers (_____) to Virginia between 1606 and 1622. More than four thousand died during that time.

History experts say that all the settlers surely (_____) would have died without the help of the local Powhatan Indians. The Indians gave the settlers food. They (_____) taught them how to live in the forest. And (_____) the Powhatan Indians showed the settlers how to plant new crops and how to clear the land for building.

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The settlers accepted the Indians' help. Then (_____), however, the settlers took whatever else they wanted by force. In 1622, the local Indians attacked the settlers for interfering with (_____) Indian land. Three hundred forty settlers died. The colonists answered the attack by destroying the Indian (_____) tribes living along Virginia's coast.

The settlers recognized that they would have to grow their (_____) own food and survive on their own without (_____) help from England or anyone else. The Jamestown colony was clearly established by 1624. It was (_____) even beginning to earn money by (_____) growing and selling a new crop, tobacco (_____).

The other early English settlements in North America were much to the north of Virginia, in the present (_____) state of Massachusetts. The people who settled there left England for different (_____) reasons than those who (_____) settled in Jamestown. The Virginia settlers were looking (_____) for ways to earn money for English (_____) businesses. The settlers in (_____) Massachusetts were seeking religious freedom.

King Henry (_____) the Eighth of England had separated from the Roman Catholic Church. His (_____) daughter, Queen Elizabeth, established the Protestant religion in England. It (_____) was called the Church of England, or the Anglican Church. The Anglican Church, however (_____), was similar to that of the Roman Catholic Church.

Not all Protestants liked this. Some wanted to leave the Anglican Church and (_____) form religious (_____)groups of their own. In 1606, members of (_____) one such group in the town of Scrooby did separate from the Anglican Church. About one hundred twenty-five people left England for (_____) Holland. They (_____) found problems there too, so they decided to move again...to the New World.

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