

Episode 1: After the Mayflower

Analysis Questions

These analysis questions challenge the student's careful viewing of "After the Mayflower." They can be used as a handout for students to fill out as each answer is revealed in the film.

Chapter 1

First Thanksgiving

The first "thanks-giving" and its unique moment in history

1 Why were the Wampanoag and the Pilgrims interested in forming an alliance in 1621?

Chapter 2

The People of the First Light

Native peoples prior to 1620; consequences of European contact

2 What does the word Wampanoag mean?

3 Who were the Algonquian people and where were they located?

4 What was the significance of the Green Corn Festival?

5 What was the relationship of the Wampanoag with the nearby Narragansett tribe?

6 What contact did the Wampanoag have with Europeans prior to 1617?

7 What is a "virgin soil" epidemic? How did they impact European-Native American relations?

What would have happened throughout North America if Native Americans had not been so vulnerable to these diseases? (Students might want to consider British colonial regions in which there was no comparable loss of life from these epidemics, for example, India, South Africa.)



Chapter 3

The Pilgrims

The Mayflower lands and Massasoit's leadership is tested

8 What did the Pilgrims find in the Wampanoag village of Patuxet in December 1620? How did they interpret this?

9 Why didn't Massasoit and his people attack the Pilgrims?

10 Describe Massasoit and his leadership style.

Chapter 4

An Alliance - *Massasoit forms an alliance with the Pilgrims*

- 11 What happened at the first treaty encounter?
- 12 How did Tisquantum help the two parties talk to each other and form an alliance?
- 13 What were some of the terms of the agreement?
- 14 How did Winslow treat Massasoit to win his respect?

Chapter 5

Living Together - *Alliance leads to reciprocal trade*

- 15 Why did the developing relationship between the Wampanoag and Pilgrims make some Pilgrims uneasy?
- 16 What was the effect of the preemptive raid led by Miles Standish on the Massachusetts tribe in 1623?
- 17 What trade products did the English want from the Wampanoag? What did the Wampanoag have that the English needed to survive?
- 18 What trade items did Native peoples want from the English?
- 19 What is wampum?

Chapter 6

The Great Migration

English colonies grow at a rapid rate, depleting resources and amassing power

- 20 How did the increase in European population and unsustainable trading practices, including the collapse of the beaver trade, lead to the Indians selling land?
- 21 How was the Connecticut River used for trade by both Native peoples and white settlers?
- 22 What was the outcome of the Pequot War? How did this affect the actions of Massasoit and other Indian groups in the area?



Colonial empires in America



The Connecticut River and colonial settlements



The Pequot nation

Chapter 7

Dispossession

King Philip's youth and Massasoit's death

23 Why did the new generation of Plymouth leaders treat Massasoit's son differently than their fathers had treated Massasoit? How did this treatment differ?

24 What did Massasoit do to protect the culture of the Wampanoag people?

25 What were the praying towns? Why did Massasoit and Philip mistrust the missionaries and their efforts?

26 Describe an underhanded way in which the English claimed possession of Native lands.

Chapter 8

King Philip's War

The rise of a defiant Philip

27 Why did the English authorities summon Philip to Taunton in 1671?

28 What were some of the causes of King Philip's War? How did the early victories of the Native peoples in this war affect the English colonists?

29 Why were Native Americans relatively successful in the initial months of the war?

Chapter 9

The War's End

The destruction of King Philip's War

30 What turned the tide in favor of the English during King Philip's War?

31 Philip's head was left on a pole at Plymouth for two decades. What did that symbolize to the English?