**Encounters and Foundations to 1800**



**Study Questions**

**Directions: Please answer the following questions on your own paper. This sheet will be stapled to your answers. Answers on this sheet will not be graded.**

1) When did European explorers first set foot on land in our hemisphere?

2) Who were the first to set their feet on this hemisphere or the *New World*?

3) What does J.H. Perry state in his book *The Spanish Seaborne Empire*?

**Forming New Relationships**

4) What did the interactions between Europeans and American Indians involve?

5) How did the Europeans and American Indians rely on each other?

6) In 1600, what was the American Indians population in New England?

**Battling New Diseases**

7) What impact did the arrival of the European settlers have on Native Americans and how?

8) Which disease sometimes killed off a village’s entire population?

9) Who was William Bradford? How many times was he elected?

10) What happened to the Native Americans who survived the smallpox epidemic?

**Explorers’ Writings**

11) What was the New World the focus of?

12) When did Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca land on the west coast of what is now Florida? How many years was this after Cloumbus first sighted that flickering fire on the beach of San Salvador?

13) What happened to Cabeza de Vaca and the others who left the ship to march inland?

14) What does Cabeza de Vaca’s narrative of his journeys through Texas include?

**A Closer Look: Social Influences** ***The Salem Witchcraft Trials***

*15)* When did the Salem Witchcraft Trials take place?

16) Who was Samuel Parris? What happened to his daughter and niece?

17) Who did the girls accuse of bewitching them? Who were these women?

18) What happened to Sarah Good and Tituba?

19) Who was Cotton Mather and what did he argue?

20) Why did the prisons in Salem become overcrowded?

21) How many people were killed between June-September? What happened to Giles Corey?

22) What do historians believe to have led to the bitterness, aggression, and outright paranoia in Salem?

23) Statistically, who were “witches?”

24) What does the great American play, Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible* draw from?

**The Puritan Legacy**

25) What has been central to the development of the American literary traditions?

26) What does the term *Puritan* mean? What did English Puritans wish to return to?

27) What didn’t the Puritans believe?

28) What did many Puritans suffer in England?

29) Why did a small group of Puritans flee from England to Holland?

**Puritan Beliefs: Sinners All?**

30) Why was there an uneasy mixture of certainty and doubt at the center of Puritan theology?

31) Who were the “elect” and who were the “unregenerate?”

32) According to the Puritans, what were the two principal indications of the state of mans soul?

33) What does it mean to be “reborn?”

34) What were the ideal qualities needed to carve out a new society in a strange land?

**Puritan Politics: Government by Contract**

35) According to the Puritans, what existed between God and humanity? What did the Puritans believe regarding this spiritual covenant?

36) What was the Mayflower Compact?

**The Bible in America**

37) How did the Puritans read the Bible? What did they connect the stories in the Bible to?

38) How were Puritans trained to see life?

39) What did the Puritans believe about the Bible?

40) When and why was Harvard College founded?

41) What year was the first printing press set up?

42) Why were diaries and histories so important to Puritans?

**The Age of Reason: Tinkerers and Experiment**

43) What is the Age of Reason or the Enlightenment? What is rationalism?

44) What did Sir Isaac Newton compare God to and why?

45) What did the rationalist believe was God’s special gift to humanity?

46) According to the rationalist, what did everyone have the capacity to do?

47) From the early Colonial days, what did Americans have to do?

**The Smallpox Plague**

48) What happened in April of 1721? What is this disease compared to today?

49) Why was Cotton Mather’s home bombed in November 1721?

50) Did Mather’s inoculation work? How many people did he cure from small pox? How many people died from the disease?

51) What did the smallpox controversy illustrate about American life?

**Deism: Are People Basically Good?**

52) What is deism? What do deists believe?

53) According to deism, what is the best form of worship?

54) What were the arguments of the Declaration of Independence based on?

**Self-made Americans**

55) What was most literature intended to serve?

56) What was most important following the Revolutionary War?

57) What is the masterpiece of the American Age of Reason and why?