

NEW JERSEY COLONY Reading Comprehension

New Jersey's early colonial history is similar to New York's. Like New York, the area was first colonized by Dutch settlers around 1613. The colony was called New Netherland and included parts of modern-day New York and New Jersey. In 1660, the town of Bergen became the first established town in the New Jersey portion of New Netherland. Today, it is a large city named Jersey City.

By 1664, the British had claimed the entire region and had driven the Dutch out. New Netherland was renamed New Jersey and New Amsterdam was renamed New York. Although King Charles originally gave the region to his brother, the Duke of York, eventually, he decided to divide the region and gave the land between the Hudson and Delaware River (New Jersey) to two of his friends, Sir George Carteret and Lord Berkeley of Stratton.

Carteret and Berkeley began attracting people to the area by offering land and guaranteeing religious freedom. In return for the land, the settlers were supposed to pay a yearly tax called a quitrent. The quitrents proved hard to collect, which prompted the sale of the land to the Quakers in 1673. Upon the sale, New Jersey was divided into West Jersey and East Jersey. However, by 1702, the two divisions were united as the royal colony of New Jersey.

1.) How was the founding of the colony of New Jersey similar to the founding of New York?

- a.) They were both originally Dutch.
- b.) They were both founded by the Puritans.
- c.) They were both founded within five years of each other.
- d.) They were both originally English.

2.) _____ is the modern name of the first established town in New Jersey.

- a.) New York
- b.) New Netherland
- c.) Jersey City
- d.) Bergen

3.) After the British took over the region...

- a.) New Netherland was renamed New York, and New Amsterdam was renamed New Jersey.
- b.) Both New Netherland and New Amsterdam were renamed New York.
- c.) New Netherland was renamed New Jersey, and New Amsterdam was renamed New York.
- d.) The Dutch remained in control of New Netherland.

4.) New Jersey was considered the land in between...

- a.) New Amsterdam and New Netherland.
- b.) The Delaware River and the Hudson River.
- c.) The Hudson River and the Jersey River.
- d.) The Delaware River and the Atlantic Ocean.

5.) Who did the king give TEMPORARY possession of the land to that would become New York and New Jersey?

- a.) King Charles
- b.) Lord Berkeley
- c.) The Duke of York
- d.) George Cateret

6.) What question is answered in the second paragraph?

- a.) Why did King Charles decide to divide the region?
- b.) What country eliminated the Dutch from New Netherland and New Amsterdam?
- c.) How much profit did Lord Stratton make?
- d.) How did the Duke of York feel about King Charles's decision?

7.) Which of the following WAS NOT true of the New Jersey colony?

- a.) New Jersey eventually became a royal colony.
- b.) It offered religious freedom.
- c.) New Jersey was eventually sold to the Quakers.
- d.) Settlers were not required to pay taxes.

8.) What was a quitrent?

- A. A tax
- B. A parcel of land
- C. A weapon
- D. A contract

9.) Why was New Jersey sold to the Quakers?

- A. New Jersey had become unmanageable.
- B. England was waging a war.
- C. Taxes were hard to collect.
- D. The Quakers offered a high price.

10.) East and West New Jersey...

- A. would eventually be united.
- B. would be dissolved.
- C. would never be united.
- D. would become different states.