

What were indentured servants?	Those who, out of work in England's economy thanks to the enclosure movement, traded several years of labor for passage to their colonies and an eventual payment—usually clothes, some corn, and possibly a small amount of land. These laborers populated the colonies in the Chesapeake area until around 1700; they represented almost 75% of immigrants to the colonies and provided cheap labor that supported the tobacco plantations. Eventually, the lives of the “white slaves” grew harder and less land was available to them upon becoming free. Many were forced to work for their former masters upon being freed, often for extremely low wages, because they had nowhere else to go.
What was the Headright System?	A system by which Virginia and Maryland were populated: fifty acres of land went to anyone who would pay for a laborer to join the colony. Those who could afford it turned their savings into vast stretches of land by bringing indentured servants from England. The masters got the double benefit of the land and the labor.
Who was William Berkeley?	Governor of Virginia during the late seventeenth century, he was discontented with his lot as governor of so many low-class citizens; he monopolized the fur trade with Indians.
What was the Bacon Rebellion?	As indentured servants were freed, they found themselves discontent: penniless and pushed to the frontiers or backcountry to farm. In 1676, when governor Berkeley refused to retaliate for Indian attacks on frontier settlements, Nathaniel Bacon and about one thousand other frustrated Virginians rose up. They attacked the Indians brutally, burned the capital, and chased Berkeley to Jamestown before going on a campaign of attack and pillage. The civil war ended suddenly when Bacon died of a disease and Berkeley hanged 20 of his conspirators.
Why did the slave trade begin in the colonies?	At first, most African slaves went to the Indies, or to Spanish and Portuguese settlements in South America. English colonists, struggling to establish settlement and stay alive, could not afford costly slaves, especially when servants were available from England. However, this changed in the 1680's. A wave of jobs after the 1666 London Fire, as well as an improvement in the economy, led to a decrease in the availability of indentured servants; and in the wake of Bacon's rebellion, colonists were wary of them. After the Royal African Company lost its charter—its monopoly on African trade—colonists were free to trade directly; the availability of slaves rose. At this point, African slaves in America became the main work force, at least in the southern colonies. As more slaves populated the colonies, slave codes were established, making slaves and their children the property of their masters; these codes were largely related to distinctions between race.
What was the Middle Passage?	The sea passage from Africa to America; a gruesome trip for slaves. Branded and bound, they were packed onto ships, with death rates around 20%. This came after being traded on the west coast of Africa and before being traded in American markets.
Who were the first families of Virginia?	The first settlers, they ended up controlling much of the land, in huge plantations; and most of the government positions. They were extremely wealthy and held power and prestige, but were more businesslike than fancy gentry.
What was the rest of the Virginia social structure like?	As time went on, a defined social hierarchy developed. Below the “first families” were the poorer landowners. This was the largest group, though not as powerful as the first families; the small landowners had modest fields, few slaves, and lived a comparatively meagre existence. Below them were the landless, mostly former indentured servants; they decreased as slavery grew more widespread.
What was the Half-Way Covenant? Why was it needed?	As Puritan colonial life went on, churches (which were open only to visible saints) found that the time of religious zealots was ending, as a new generation was born and more people were pushed out farther away from Church influence. Leaders first reacted with <i>jeremiads</i> , sermons full of fire and admonishment (based off sefer Yirmiyahu). The next reaction—especially do dropping conversion rates—was a modified agreement between the church and the people that allowed the children of members to be accepted in the church and baptized, although not to receive “full communion”. It began an end to distinctions between the religious elite and others. From this time, women began to participate in Puritan congregations.
What were the Salem witch trials?	In 1629, Salem Massachusetts was swept by a witch-hunt hysteria, motivated by resentments between social classes as well as religious fervor. During one summer, 20 were killed.