

## Colonial Primary Source Answer Key

1. The biggest challenge is creating a strong, united community that follows God's will.
2. It suggests the settlers were deeply religious and believed their colony should follow Christian values.
3. The writer worries that disagreements or selfish actions could cause the settlement to fail.
4. It shows settlers came for religious purposes and wanted to build a society based on their faith.

5. **Example**

**Answer:**

This excerpt shows that life in the Massachusetts Bay Colony involved both hard physical labor and strict religious values. Settlers believed their community must honor God to succeed. Cooperation was necessary because survival was difficult in the new environment. It helps us understand how religion shaped laws and behavior in the colony.

6. Answers will vary but should include reasonable historical reasoning.

### Teacher's Guide

#### Differentiation Tips

- **Support:**
  - Highlight or define difficult words such as "quarrels" and "selfish ways"
  - Provide sentence starters for Part B and C
- **Challenge:**
  - Ask students to compare this excerpt with a different colonial source (e.g., a law from Virginia)
  - Incorporate citation of specific phrases from the text

#### Extension Opportunities

- Students write a short response **as a fellow settler** adding to the letter
- Research deeper: What rules or laws did Puritans create to maintain unity?
- Timeline addition: Place this letter within the broader development of the Massachusetts Bay Colony