

Thesis Critique and Rewrite

QUESTION: To what extent and in what ways did the goals and interests of European leaders diverge from those of colonial citizens? Support your answer with specific and relevant historical information from the period 1607 to 1754.

Thesis:

While European leaders used the mercantilist system of economy, American settlers wanted political and religious freedom.

QUESTION: Some historians argue that regional differences significantly increased in the United States between 1800 and 1848. Support, modify, or refute this contention using specific evidence.

Thesis:

Though the time period was punctuated by the Era of Good Feelings where only one political party existed, to a greater degree the country grew more divided.

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QUESTION: Compare and contrast the development of the Massachusetts Bay Colony with the Chesapeake Bay Colony during the period 1607-1650

Thesis:

The Massachusetts Bay Colony was founded for religious freedom while the Chesapeake Bay colony was intended for making it rich.

QUESTION: What factors most influenced the development of a sense of American Identity in the years leading up to the American Revolution?

Thesis:

While American identity developed from many factors before the Revolutionary War, most important were the distance from the Mother Country and the policy of Salutary Neglect.