

Points-of-View Statements

Wampanoag's Perspective	Event	Colonists' Perspective
<p>Wampanoag girl</p> <p>This is the land of my people. We have lived here for thousands of years. But strange bearded men with loud weapons and metal clothes have begun to come to our land. Some are friendly, but others mean us harm. They captured some of our men and took them to their large boats. They were prevented from leaving. Their families still cry for them.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1614:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Englishmen exploring Cape Cod kidnap 27 Wampanoag men.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">September 1620:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Mayflower</i> departs from England.</p>	<p>Colonial girl</p> <p>The ship is terribly crowded, and my belly has been greatly troubled with sickness. I miss my home in Holland. We are going to the New World where father says our church and family will prosper. Others on the ship do not belong to our church. But we all want to own land and be farmers.</p>
<p>Wampanoag young man</p> <p>From the dunes, we saw a ship. When it came closer, we hid ourselves and watched it. We've seen strangers like them before, but never have they brought women and children.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">November 1620:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Mayflower</i> arrives near the Wampanoag village of Measham.</p>	<p>Colonial woman</p> <p>By God's Providence, after a long voyage, we spy land. Some speak of the bounty that we will find. Others are afraid and call the land a vast and hideous wilderness. In time we hope to teach the wild men of this land about our God.</p>
<p>Wampanoag woman</p> <p>What kind of people would steal what isn't theirs? The corn was a family's seed for planting next spring, as well as food to carry them through until harvest.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">November 1620:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">While exploring Cape Cod, the colonists find corn buried in the ground.</p>	<p>Colonial man</p> <p>While exploring, we discovered many places where Indian wheat was buried. We dugged it up and took away as much as we could carry. We saw none of the Indians, but we will pay the owners if we can find them.</p>

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<p>Wampanoag man</p> <p>The English are building at Patuxet. Once our people lived there, but most of the Patuxeuck died in the great sickness. We don't understand why the English are building there. They have not spoken to our leaders or our elders.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">December 1620:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The colonists choose to settle in Plymouth.</p>	<p>Colonial man</p> <p>We have found a place to make our plantation. It is a most hopeful place, with plenty of fish and fowl, good soil, and brooks with sweet water. We will make better use of this land than the Indians do. They know nothing of improving the land.</p>
<p>Wampanoag man</p> <p>Thousands of our people have died from the great sickness. Massasoit believes that allying with the English will make our villages stronger against our enemies, the Narragansett.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">March 1620/21:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Massasoit, Quadequina, and Governor Carver sign a treaty of mutual protection.</p>	<p>Colonial woman</p> <p>We have made a treaty with King Massasoit and his people. It is good to have allies among the Indians of this land. Now we may think of trading with them. Others think of the chance to convert them.</p>
<p>Wampanoag young man</p> <p>Our people living near Patuxet heard the sound of many musket shots being fired. Messages were sent to our villages by runners. Massasoit and 90 men journeyed Patuxet to investigate.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Autumn 1621:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The colonists celebrate a good harvest; Massasoit and at least 90 men attend.</p>	<p>Colonial man</p> <p>Our corn grew well, God be praised. Governor Bradford sent several men to hunt so we might join together and celebrate our good harvest. Many of the to Indians including King Massasoit came among us.</p>

Glossary for Points-of-View Statements

Allies: people linked together by a treaty.

Allying with: becoming connected to; entering into a treaty

Convert: to change someone from one religion to another. The colonists wanted the Wampanoag to become Christians.

Digged: dug up

God's Providence: God's wishes. The colonists believed that God made everything happen, and that everything happened for a reason.

Great sickness: a plague that came from Europe. From 1616 to 1618, it spread from the north and along the coast southward until it reached Narragansett Bay. As it spread, it killed tens of thousands of Native People, among them the Massachusetts Nation (Boston Area) and the Wampanoag village of Patuxet.

Holland: a country in Europe now known as The Netherlands. Some of the colonists had left their homes in England and moved to Holland. In Holland they could worship as they wished without fear of punishment. About half of the colonists who came to New England had lived in Holland.

Indian wheat: one of the names that the English colonists had for the grain native to America, which they called Indian corn

Narragansett: a nation of Native People who, in the 17th century, lived on the western side of Narragansett Bay. This was opposite the village of Pokanoket, where Massasoit lived. The Narragansett still live in present-day Rhode Island.

Patuxet: a thriving Wampanoag village until 1616, when a great sickness came and killed most of the people. The English colonists chose to settle in Patuxet, which they called Plymouth, partly because no Native People were living there and because fields were already cleared.

Patuxeuck: the name for the Wampanoag who lived at Patuxet

Plantation: a place of planting. The colonists at Plymouth (and other colonies such as Jamestown) were farmers. They called their settlements "plantations." They sometimes called themselves "planters."

Point of View: also called perspective; the way you think about things and look at the world. Your age, culture, gender, religion, and the place you live all affect how you view things.

Spy: to see or view from far away

Sweet water: wholesome, fresh water. In England and Holland, much of the water was polluted and not good to drink.

Tisquantum: the actual name of the Patuxet Wampanoag man who assisted the colonists. The English called him "Squanto."

Treaty of mutual protection: an alliance between the English colonists and the Wampanoag. The treaty also established ground rules for how the two groups would behave toward each other.

Vast and hideous wilderness: a huge and ugly place. The English colonists were used to living in cities, or in or near towns. They didn't like wild places. The environment of New England frightened them.