Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

**Examining Passenger Lists** - What can passenger lists tell us about who settled in the New World and where they settled?

**Background**: Between 1150 – 1650, England’s population increased from 3 to 5 million. The colonies provided an outlet and an opportunity for people who needed jobs or who lost farmland in England. Many of these people became indentured servants, but the number of indentured servants differed from colony to colony. 75-80% of the English men and women who came to Virginia / Chesapeake in the 1600’s were servants. 35% of those who came to New England were servants. In 1634, the King of England told officials in London to record information on all the people sailing abroad. He didn’t want England to lose its wealthier subjects and he wanted to make sure that passengers were loyal to the King and Church of England. Today, you’re going to look at two passenger lists from ships headed to the colonies.

**Use the information on the passenger lists to complete the chart below and answer the questions that follow:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **To Virginia** | **To New England** |
| **Total Passengers** |  |  |
| **Ratio of Males to Females** |  |  |
| **Age Distribution**  0-4 (infants)  5-13 (children)  14 – 24 (young adults)  25-59 (adults)  60+ (elderly) |  |  |
| **Number of married passengers** |  |  |
| **Number of passengers traveling with at least one family member** |  |  |

1. Describe the “typical” English immigrant to the new World in terms of gender, age, and marital status on each of the ships. How does this differ on the two ships?
2. What can you tell about the social background and wealth of the average passenger on each of the ships? Does one of the ships have richer passengers? What do you predict the passengers on the *America* will do when they arrive in Virginia?

**Critical Thinking Questions:**

1. What are the biggest differences between the two ships? What does this information tell you about the differences between New England and Virginia in the 1630’s?
2. What do you think will change once plantation owners in the Chesapeake area begin replacing indentured servants with African slaves? Explain.
3. Imagine the setting: Officials are collecting this information as passengers aboard the ship. Is the setting noisy or orderly? Are officials guaranteed to get accurate information? How do you explain the fact that all the passengers swore allegiance to the Church of England (we know that many immigrants were religious dissenters, like the Puritans who were escaping because of religious persecution)?
4. What more do you want to know about these passengers? What information is missing from these lists? How might you go about finding that information?