

## **DOCUMENT A**

### **“TRUE RELATION” (Modified)**

Arriving at Werowocomoco, their **emperor** proudly lying upon a bedstead a foot high upon ten or twelve mats ... with such grave and majestic **countenance**, as drove me into admiration...

He kindly welcomed me with good words and great platters of **sundry victuals**, assuring me his friendship, and my liberty within four days.... He asked me the cause of our coming ... demanded why we went further with our boat ... He promised to give me what I wanted to feed us, hatchets and copper we should make him, and none should disturb us. This request I promised to perform. And thus having all the kindness he could devise, sought to content me, he sent me home.

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Source: Excerpt adapted from John Smith (1608), A true relation of such occurrences and accidents of note as hath happened in Virginia since the first planting of that colony.

#### **WORD BANK**

**Emperor** - ruler, king  
**Countenance** - facial expression  
**Sundry** - several  
**Victuals** - foods

## DOCUMENT B

### “GENERAL HISTORY” (Modified)

At last they brought (Smith) to Meronocomoco, to meet Powhatan their Emperor. At his entrance all the people gave a great shout ... and ... having feasted him after their best **barbarous** manner they could, a long **consultation** was held. But the conclusion was, two great stones were brought before Powhatan. Then, as many as could laid hands upon him, dragged him to them, and thereon laid his head, and being ready with their clubs, to beat out his brains. Pocahontas, the King's dearest daughter, when no **entreaty** could **prevail**, got his head in her arms, and laid down her own upon his to save him from death; whereat the Emperor was contented Smith should live.

Two days after, Powhatan having disguised himself in the most fearful manner he could, caused Captain Smith to be brought forth to a great house in the woods, and there upon a mat by the fire to be left alone... then, Powhatan, more like a devil than a man, came unto him and told him how they were friends, and presently he should go to Jamestown, to send him two great guns, and grindstone, for which he would forever **esteem** him as a son...

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Source: From Smith's later version of the story in General History of Virginia, New England and the Summer Isles, published in 1624.

#### WORD BANK

**barbarous** - brutal

**consultation** - discussion

**entreaty** - request, plea

**prevail** - succeed

**esteem** - value, respect