

# INSTRUCTIONAL TASK 25 MODEL

## TASK 25 DOCUMENT ANALYSIS/SOURCING

### STEP 1: Select Document(s)

#### FROM THE HISTORICAL THINKING: AMELIA FOUND—COLLECTION #1102 COMPETING VERSIONS OF JOHN SMITH'S FIRST MEETING WITH POHATAN, AND HIS DAUGHTER POCAHONTAS

both by John Smith

"A TRUE RELATION OF SUCH OCCURRENCES AND ACCIDENTS OF NOTE AS HATH HAPNED IN VIRGINIA SINCE THE FIRST PLANTING OF THAT COLONY, WHICH IS NOW RESIDENT IN THE SOUTH PART THEREOF, TILL THE LAST RETURN FROM THENCE. WRITTEN BY CAPTAINE SMITH ONE OF THE SAID COLLONY, TO A WORSHIPFULL FRIEND OF HIS IN ENGLAND." ACCESSED JULY 1, 2013.

<http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/etcbin/jamestown-browsemod?id=J1007>

### STEP 2: Apply the following processes to the document. There is no particular order, teacher should initially model as a "talk through".

Not all categories will fit all documents, the objective is to make this process a 'habit of mind' when students are given documents to examine.

- Sourcing/Summarizing:** find any information or evidence that is explicitly available from the source.
- Contextualizing** locate the source within time and space
- Inferring** read subtexts and make inferences
- Monitoring** reflect upon their initial assumptions
- Corroborating** comparing the information gleaned from multiple sources
- Close Reading**

#### DOCUMENT 1

A True Relation of Such Occurrences and Accidents of Note as Hath Hapned in Virginia Since the First Planting of that Colony, which is now resident in the South part thereof, till the last returne from thence. Written by Captaine Smith one of the said Collony, to a worshipfull friend of his in England.

(EXCERPT)

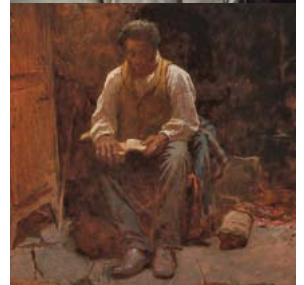
SMITH, JOHN, 1608

Arriving at Weramocomoco [? On or about 5 January 1608], their Emperor proudly lying upon a Bedstead a foot high, upon ten or twelves Mats richly hung with many chains of great pearls about his neck, and covered with a great Covering of Rahaughcums. At head sat a woman, at his feet another; on each side sitting upon a mat upon the ground, were ranged his chief men on each side of the fire, ten in a rank, and behind them as many young women, each a great Chain of white Beads over their shoulders, their heads painted in red: and with such a grave and Magestic countenance, as draw me into admiration to see such state in a naked Savage.

(Continued next page)



labeling?



This account is written in 1st person, written in 1608, presumably right after the event

Powhatan was wealthy.

-ROBERT



# INSTRUCTIONAL TASK 25 MODEL (continued)

He kindly welcomed me with such 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... He demanded why we went further with our Boat... He promised to give me Corn, Venison, or 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 with all the kindness he could devise, sought to content me, he sent me home, with 4 men: one that usually carried my Gown and Knapsack after me, two other loaded with bread, and one to accompany me.

Smith, John. "The Generall Historie of Virginia, New-England, and the Summer Isles: With the Names of the Adventurers, Planters, and Governours From Their First Beginning Ano: 1584. To This Present 1624. With the Proceedings of Those Severall Colonies and the Accidents That Befell Them in All Their Journyes and Discoveries. Also the Maps and Descriptions of All Those Countreyes, Their Commodities, People, Government, Customes, and Religion Yet Knowne. Divided Into Sixe Bookes. By Captaine John Smith, Sometymes Governour in Those Countreyes & Admirall of New England." Accessed July 1, 2013.

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/southlit/smith/menu.html>

## DOCUMENT 2

The Generall Historie of Virginia, New-England, and the Summer Isles: With the Names of the Adventurers, Planters, and Governours From Their First Beginning Ano: 1584. To This Present 1624. With the Proceedings of Those Severall Colonies and the Accidents That Befell Them in All Their Journyes and Discoveries. Also the Maps and Descriptions of All Those Countreyes, Their Commodities, People, Government, Customes, and Religion Yet Knowne. Divided Into Sixe Bookes. By Captaine John Smith, Sometymes Governour in Those Countreyes & Admirall of New England.

by John Smith

At last they brought him [Smith] to Meronocomoco, where was Powhatan their Emperor... [T]wo great stones were brought before Powhatan: then as many as could laid hands on him [Smith], dragged him to them, and thereon laid his head, and being ready with their clubs, to beat out his brains, Pocahontas the Kings dearest daughter, when no entreaty could prevail, got his head in her arms, and laid her own upon his to save him from death: whereat the Emperor was contented he should live....

Two days after, Powhatan having disguised himself in the most fearefullest manner he could, caused Capt. Smith to be brought forth to a great house in the woods... then Powhatan... came unto him and told him now they were friends, and presently he should go to Jamestown, to send him two great guns, and a grindstone, for which he would give him the Country of Capahowosick, and forever esteem him as his son Nantaquoud.

Welcomed and fed him

He was not kept prisoner, although it sounds like initially he may have been forced to go there? Need to check that

Was he angry????

Exchanged food for metal and tools

Overall, a friendly and productive visit, very business-like

This is written many years later

Why is this written in third person?

There is no mention of this in the first account

Interestingly enough, both these accounts are in the same "publication"... but who is the audience?

A much more emotional story... at first he is threatening, then disguises himself, then is friends, then "adopts" him...  
-ROBERT