**DEVELOPING CRITICAL THINKING**

Both texts were written after the first Pilgrims arrived in America: the William Bradford’s one was written in 1650-1651, when the Englishmen had already established in America, but not many years later (about thirty), whereas Dee Brown’s one was written lots of years later, just in 1971. Thus points of view are different, in fact the ways of thinking change over time, also Bradford had a direct experience, whereas Brown could analyze the fact in a detached way. So Bradford’s text is influenced by Puritan point of view, so a subjective one, whereas Brown’s text has an impartial one.

Both documents tell about the Colonisation of the America by the Pilgrims and their hardships to familiarize themselves to the new land, but there are two different points of view, in fact Bradford has a negative opinion about the Indians, Brown defends them and has a negative opinion about Englishmen’s behaviour, instead.

William Bradford’s text provides an idea about Indians as a savage and cruel population, who is not civil and welcoming. In fact the writer uses words such as “savage”, “no small kindness”, “barbarians”, “wild men” to describe them and their behaviour and the absolute negation to emphasize the hardships the Pilgrims experienced when they arrived in America, for example “no friends”, “no houses”, “no inns”, “no small kindness”. He describes the territory in a negative way, in fact he writes it is inhospitable, therefore he uses words such as “it was winter”, “to be sharp and violent” and “cruel and fierce storms” to describe the weather and “dangerous to travel”, “hideous and desolate wilderness”, “wild beasts and wild men”, “full of woods and tickets”, “a wild and savage hue” and “mighty Ocean” to describe the land and what the Pilgrims saw, once they had landed.

Finally the writer underlines his religious sense, in fact in the text recall three times religious aspects: two are connect to the Bible “Apostle and his shipwrecked company” and the “Pisgah” and one is connected directly to God “What could now sustain them, but the Spirit of God and His grace?”, in fact Bradford affirms that the only thing they could do was to trust in God’s grace to survive in that land.

The second text is all the contrary of the first, in fact it tells about the malice of the Englishmen. First of all Dee Brown doesn’t write the land was wilderness, he doesn’t describe it, and about the Indians he affirms they helped the Englishmen to survive, so he provides a positive idea of the Natives. He tells the reader they shared with the white man their food “they shared corn” and showed how and where to catch fish, thus they helped Pilgrims to survive the Winter. Brown also underlines the Indians considered the Pilgrims as helpless children, for that reason they helped the colonists, this means they were civilize. Finally they helped Englishmen not only during the Winter, but also when arrived the Springs, in fact Indians showed them how to plant and cultivate corn.

Brown continues his text saying that for several years colonists and Indians lived in peace, but due to lots of new colonists’ arrival in America, things went worse. In fact at first the colonists asked to Samoset, a Pemaquid Indian, to give them additional acres and he accepted even if he believed the land belonged to no man, but within a few years, colonists pushed back into the wilderness the Pemasquids without asking them. The writer focuses the reader’s attention on the bad behaviour of the white man and the different conception of the nature, in fact the Englishmen thought they had to be land’s owners, the Indians believed the land belonged to the Spirit.