**The first English settlers: *Developing critical thinking***

The two extract we read both are about the life, projects and feelings of the first English settlers in America. English colonists were people who left England for can practice their religion and cults freely. They were called puritan because they professed austerity, predestination and individualism. These values can be link with the main ideas of work rather than pleasure and linking between God’s belief and success in business.

The main differ of the two texts is the point of view from where they tells us information.
The firs text is an extract from William Bradford’s “History of Plymouth Plantation”. William Bradford was one of the Pilgrim Fathers who sailed to America on the Mayflower in 1620.
The text is a piece of his journal and so it reports the contemporary feelings of colonists. Right from the title we can understand this feelings were not good by the use of the world “Hardships” that underlines they faced a lot of difficulties. It makes an evident negative view of the new land and even more if compared with the second text it seems like to show a racist view. The new land and its natives were shown as wild land and population. This is underlined by the insistent repetition of negative adjectives like “sharp and violent”, “cruel and fierce”, “dangerous”, “hideous and desolate” and also by absolute negations as “no friends”, “nor inns”, “no houses” and “neither”. Bradford seems to saw Natives Americans as “barbarians” that don’t gave any help and this is also underlined by the latest line, where he said they could only had trust in the Spirit of God and his Grace.

The second text is an extract from a more recent book, written by Dee Brown and published in 1971. We can understand the view it would give just from the book’s subtitle “An Indian History of the American West” that underlines it was written from the Native American’s view. The title also gives us information using the word “Colonisation” that make an idea of a forced settlement.
This text shows an opposite view of natives than the first one. It says most English colonist would not have survived without natives’ help. Indians taught them how to cultivate and catch food by themselves and gave them some seed corn. The texts seems like to want to denounce English colonists conduct, because they took advantage of Indian natives. It condemns colonist’s appropriated of land finally their building of new settlements without brake or limit.