**EXERCISES FROM THE HISTORY FILE, DOCUMENT T4**

**Focus on communication**

Complete the sentences below with your own words.

1. (ll. 1-3) When the Pilgrim Fathers landed in America, they didn’t find **friends to welcome them, nor inns to entertain, nor houses or towns to repair, to seek for succour.**
2. (ll. 3-7)The natives they met were **welcoming** unlike the inhabitants of Malta who **attacked Apostles with their arrows.**
3. (ll. 7-10) Moreover it was **winter** , which is a **sharp and violent** season in America.
4. (ll. 10-12) Around them they could only see **a desolate wilderness.**
5. (ll. 12-15) They felt hopeless because unlike Moses, they couldn’t climb up **the Pisgah** and get a view **of the Promised Land**.
6. (ll. 15 - 17) The landscape in front of them was **full of woods and thickets, wild and savage.**
7. (ll. 17-19) The ocean behind them was **mighty.**
8. (ll. 19-20) They knew they were separated **from all the civil parts of the world** and only God **‘s spirit and grace could sustain them.**

**Focus on literature**

1. Bradford creates a moving and dramatic picture of the colonists’ situation by using the following devices. Give at least one more example of each device.
   * Negative indefinite adjectives: “no friends … nor inns” (ll. 1-2),

**- “no houses”, “no small kindness”**

* + Evocative adjectives: “cruel and fierce storms” (l. 10)

**- “mighty ocean”**

* + Biblical parallels: “the Apostles” (l. 4)

**- “Pisgah”**

1. How do you think the Biblical references contained in the passage apply to the colonists’ situation?

**- The Biblical references perfectly reflect the strong Puritan beliefs regarding the total trust they had in the principles of the Bible; their convictions are at the bases of their prejudices about the Native People who lived in America before the English colonization.**

1. The text also contrasts “civilization” with ”savagery”. Complete the table by quoting from the passage.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | CIVILIZATION | SAVAGERY |
| Living beings | **Civilized world** | Wild beasts, wild men |
| Places | Towns, inns | **wilderness** |
| Weather | Summer | **Winter/storms** |
| Feelings | **Spirit of God, God’s grace, to welcome, to entertain, to refresh, to repair, to succour** | No small kindness, little solace or content |

1. How would you define Bradford’s attitude to the new land? Give reasons for your answers.

**- Bradford’s attitude to the new land is racist because he divided the world in “good” and “bad”: good was the part of the colonists, bad the one of barbarians.**

**EXERCISES FROM THE HISTORY FILE, DOCUMENT T5**

**Get your bearings**

Are the following statements true or false? Correct the false ones.

1. The English Puritans first set foot in America in the spring of 1620. **(F)**
2. Without the Indians’ help the colonists would not have survived. **(T)**
3. The natives’ attitude towards the newcomers was protective. **(T)**
4. They fed them with fish from their tribal stores. **(F)**
5. The colonists were skilled farmers while the Indians were not. **(F)**
6. In order to build new settlements, the colonists cut down the forests along the coast. **(T)**
7. Although they did not believe in private property, the Pemaquids agreed to sell part of their land to please the colonists. **(T)**
8. In less than thirty years the Native Americans were driven out of their territories. **(F)**

CORRECTION

**b. The English Puritans first set foot in America in the winter of 1620.**

**d.** **They fed them with corn from their tribal stores.**

**e. The Indians were skilled farmers while the colonists were not.**

**h. In 42 years (1620-1662) the Native Americans were driven out of their territories.**