

Comparison Chart

Graphic Organizer

As you read the Core Interactive Text and view the video segments, take notes on the political rights, social standing, daily lives, and education level of the various colonial groups discussed in the text. **NOTE: NOT ALL CELLS CAN BE COMPLETED.**

Criteria:	Political Rights	Social Standing	Daily Life	Education
Children		Children were viewed as miniature adults. Boys could become apprentices. Girls learned domestic skills until married. Only rich children had time for leisure and play.	They were expected to work alongside their parents (as age and strength allowed).	It varied by geography, gender, and class. Education included reading, writing, and simple math. Boys were instructed in farm tasks; girls learned domestic tasks.
Men	Free, white males were allowed to vote in Virginia.	Men were the head of the colonial household.	Men spent most of their time working by running the farms. They also built their homes and hunted animals for food.	Men learned how to operate a farm or carry out the family trade.
Women	A woman could inherit property, but it was forfeited to her husband at marriage. English law did not recognize the right of a woman to direct in a will who would receive the property she brought into the marriage.	Women were not allowed to be ministers and could not preach to men. Women were expected to obey men quietly and cheerfully. Girls commonly married at 13 or 14.	In New England, women did household tasks. Pennsylvania German women worked in the fields/barns with men. Few women engaged in business/trade.	Women learned domestic tasks as children.
Africans and African Americans	They were not equal to whites under the law.	Few white people regarded them as equals.	They held many of the same jobs as enslaved persons in the North but were paid and could come and go as they pleased.	Some were able to obtain an education.
Gentry		They were upper class individuals who owned large amounts of land. In the North, they were merchants and lawyers.	Hunting on horseback was a popular leisure activity.	

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Middle Class		They were small farmers who owned their own land. Merchants and artisans were also part of the middle class.		
Lower Class		Those who did not own land, such as tenant farmers and poor laborers/indentured servants.	Hunted for food.	
Indentured Servants	Required to give 4-7 years of service and entitled to a small amount of land when finished. They were not allowed to marry without their master's consent. They could sue abusive masters and testify in court.	After their terms of service, they often became tenants on others lands until they could afford their own farms.	They worked for the person who paid for their passage to the colonies. They were forced to engage in hard labor.	
Enslaved People	They had neither civil rights nor basic human rights. They were not free to marry without their owner's consent.	They were at the bottom of the social ladder and were considered property.	They worked on plantations in the fields and in the owner's home. They were ranked as 1) house servants, 2) artisans, 3) field laborers.	They were forbidden to learn to read.
Urban Citizens	Cities were the focus of politics as the meeting places of government. People discussed politics in coffee houses and taverns.	Only about 1 in 20 people lived in a colonial city.	Merchants became wealthy via trade.	Philadelphia was the most literate colonial city with many book stores and the first public library. Cities were centers of education.
Rural Citizens			Farming was the main way of life. Surplus goods were sold in cities.	