Geography

- Every colony had access to the coast
- Short growing season
- Harsh winters/cold climate
- Hard/rocky soil
- Large forests

Also:
- Mayflower Compact – 1st doc of self-gov’t
- Fundamental Orders of CT – 1st constitution
INSTITUTIONS

NEW ENGLAND COLONIES

Fishing, shipbuilding, trade, naval stores, furs. Thin, rocky soil made farming unproductive.

ECONOMIC

How shall we eat?

The New England Colonies 1750

Major Exports
- Fishing
- Trade
- Naval Stores
- Furs
- Thin, rocky soil made farming unproductive.

INSTITUTIONS

NEW ENGLAND COLONIES

RELIGIOUS

What is the meaning of life?
— origin?
— destination?
— purpose?

Congregational Church
the state, tax-supported church (except in R.I.)
Middle Colonies

- Every colony had access to the coast
- Moderate growing season
- Mild winters/warm summers
- Fertile soil good for farming
- Large forests
- Iron ore mined in the mountains

Geo-relationships:

- New England Colonies
- Middle Colonies
- Southern Colonies
Nicknamed the “Bread Basket”

• Small scale manufacturing
  - Woodworking/sawyer
  - Candle-making
  - Textiles
  - Blacksmith
• Also:
  – Most ethnically (nationalities) diverse colonies
  – Treated most people as equals
Southern Colonies

**Geography**
- Long growing season
- Hot climate
- Flat land and good soil
- Many rivers to transport crops
- Every colony on the coast

**Institutions**

**Southern Colonies**

**Political**
- Who shall be in charge?
  - Virginia Company
  - White male property owner
  - King made appointments only in the royal colonies, although he ruled all.

**Economic**
- How shall we eat?
  - Plantations and small farms—tobacco, cotton, rice, indigo

**Institutions**

**Southern Colonies**

**Economic**
- Also:
  - Best suited for mercantilism (country controls the trade)
Easy availability of land
Limit immigrant workers
Hiring workers becomes difficult

- Indentured servants
  - Labor under contract
- Slaves (by 1700, legal in all colonies)