

Chapter One
Primary Source Exercise
HIST 2111 FA 19

Reading: Nathaniel Bacon, *Declaration in the Name of the People* (July 30, 1676):
<http://www.let.rug.nl/usa/documents/1651-1700/bacons-declaration-in-the-name-of-the-people-30-july-1676.php>

After you have read the primary source listed above (as well as Chapter One, and watched the video for this module), answer the following questions, based on what you know about the Virginia colony, as well as what you know about Bacon himself:

1. What do you think caused Bacon to express his anger towards Governor Berkeley in this declaration? Can you identify an example from the text? What might this reveal about his purpose for writing the text?

2. In Bacon's mind, which do you think is a bigger threat to Virginia: Governor Berkeley or the Indians? Why? Can you identify an example from the text? What might this reveal about the audience for whom he wrote this text?

3. Why do you think Bacon declares himself "Generall by Consent of the people?" What might this action reveal about his true motives, given the list of misdeeds he attributes to Berkeley? Can you identify an example from the text?

4. Given what else you know about Virginia at this time, who do you think are "the people" Bacon is talking to (to get them to support him)? Why? Who do you think are going to hear Bacon's message and think him dangerous? Why?