

Chapter Two
Primary Source Exercise
HIST 2111 FA 19

Reading: *Charter of Massachusetts Bay* (1629):

<http://www.let.rug.nl/usa/documents/1600-1650/charter-of-massachusetts-bay-1629.php>

After you have read the primary source listed above (as well as Chapter Two, and watched the video for this module), answer the following questions, based on what you know about the Puritans, as well as what you know about the Massachusetts Bay Colony itself:

1. What seems to be the explicit purpose of this document? Who was this written by, and for whom was it written and why? Can you identify an example from the text?

2. Can you discern any implicit purpose(s) in this document? What else might the authors reasonably have had in mind, why, and what evidence can you locate to substantiate this?

3. What type(s) of people appear in this document? What role(s) are those people supposed to play?

4. What type(s) of people do not appear in this document, even though their lives will be impacted by the words of this document? What role(s) are those people supposed to play?