

The Mayflower Compact

In the name of God Amen. We, whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our **dread sovereign** Lord King James by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland king, defender of the Faith, etc.

Having undertaken, for the glory of God, and advancement of Christian faith and honour of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia. Do by these presents **solemnly** and **mutually** in the presence of God, and one of another, **covenant** and combine our selves together into a **civil body politic**; for our better ordering, and preservation and furtherance of the ends **aforesaid**; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the Colony: unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape Cod, the 11 of November, in the year of the reign of our sovereign Lord King James of England, France, and Ireland the eighteenth and of Scotland the fifty-fourth.

Anno Dom. 1620.

John Carver	James Chilton	John Rigdale	Richard Clark	William Bradford	John
Craxton	Edward Fuller	Richard Gardiner	Edward Winslow		
John Billington		John Turner	John Allerton	William Brewster	Richard Warren
	Francis Eaton	Thomas English	Issac Allerton	John Howland	
Moses Fletcher	Edward Doten	Miles Standish	Steven Hopkins	Digery Priest	Edward Liester
John Alden	Edward Tilly	Thomas Williams			
John Goodman	Samuel Fuller	John Tilly	Gilbert Winslow	George Soule	
Christopher Martin		Francis Cook	Edmond Margeson		
Richard Bitteridge		Williams Mullins	Thomas Rogers		
Peter Brown	William White	Thomas Tinker			

dread-causing great fear

sovereign-ruler, king

civic body politic-the people organized as a nation considered as a group

Anno Dom.—short for Anno Domini, “in the year of our Lord” (after the birth of Christ); usually written A.D.

covenant-pledge

solemnly: seriously

mutually: acting together in common

aforesaid-previously mentioned

1. According to the Mayflower Compact, what was the **purpose** of the voyage?

Name: _____ Core: _____ Date: _____ TOC: _____

2. Using the text, where did the voyagers land?

3. What was the name of the colony they established?

4. What do the signers promise?

5. When was the Mayflower Compact signed?

6. What is the document's **main idea**?

7. Who is the document's **audience**? How do you know this?

8. What might have happened if the Mayflower's passengers had not created this agreement?

9. Which laws do you think the colonists will create first? Why?