

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Primary Source: Thomas Harriot's *Briefe and True Report***

Scientist Thomas Harriot published a book about his experiences on Roanoke Island with the Ralph Lane settlement in 1588. It was the first glimpse that many in England had of life in the New World. The full report can be found at [www.nps.gov/archive/fora/hariotreport.htm](http://www.nps.gov/archive/fora/hariotreport.htm).

**Directions:** Read the following excerpts and answer the questions below.

### **CONCERNING THE NATURE AND MANNERS OF THE PEOPLE**

It remains to speak a word or two about the native inhabitants, their nature and manners, leaving detailed discourse about them until a later, more convenient time. Now it is only necessary to reassure you that they are not to be feared. I do not think they will trouble our living there or obstruct our farming. I rather believe that they will have cause both to fear and to love us.

The clothing of the natives consists of loose deerskin mantles and aprons of the same fur which they wear around their waists; they wear nothing else. In stature they differ one from another, much as we do in England. They have no edged tools or weapons of iron or steel to attack us with, nor do they know how to make them. The only weapons they possess are bows made of witch hazel, arrows made of reeds, and flat-edged wooden truncheons, which are about a yard long. For defense they wear armour made of sticks wickered together with thread, and they carry shields made of bark.

If we should ever fight the inhabitants, the results can easily be imagined. We have great advantages over them, for we have disciplined soldiers, strange weapons, devices of all sorts, and especially we have large and small ordnance. So far we found their best defense against us was to turn on their heels and run away.

1. Harriot believes the natives had reason to "fear and to love" the Englishmen. Name some reasons the natives would have feared the Europeans and why they would have loved them. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. After reading Harriot's description of Native Americans, what opinion would an English man or woman have of them? \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. What were some of the "great advantages" that Englishmen had over the natives? \_\_\_\_\_  
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