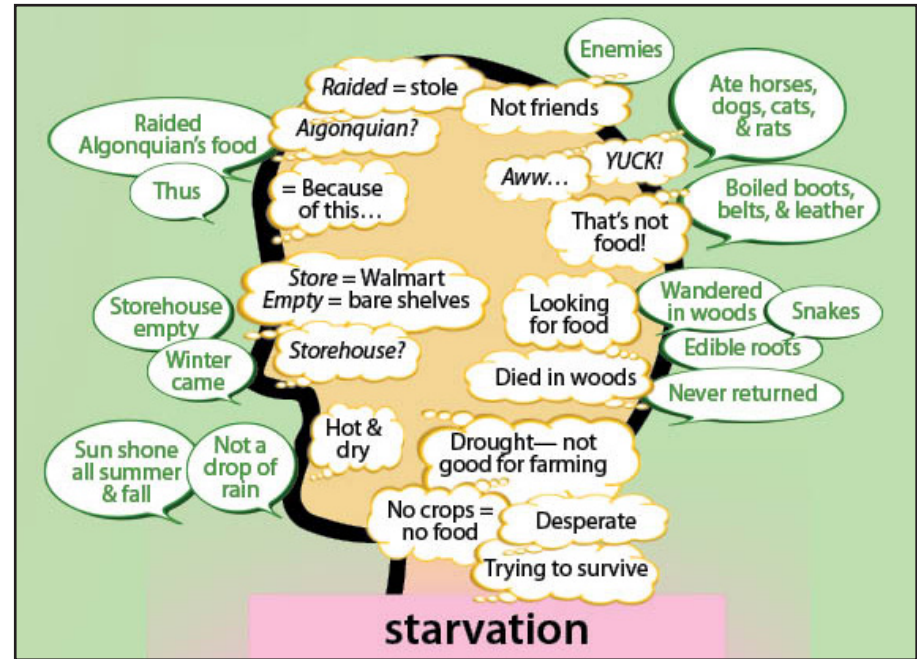


ORIGINAL TEXT | The sun shone all summer and fall. Not a drop of rain fell. When winter came, the storehouse was empty. Thus, the American Colonists raided the Algonquians' food, causing them to become bitter enemies. People ate their horses, dogs, cats, and even rats. The Colonists resorted to boiling their boots, belts, and every scrap of leather to make broth. People wandered about in the woods in search of snakes or edible roots. Most of them never returned to the settlement.

PROMPT| After reading *You Wouldn't Want to Be an American Colonist!* predict the cause of the Colonists' behavior.



© SMEKENS EDUCATION SOLUTIONS, INC.

## POLISHED constructed response—

### INFERENCE

Starvation caused the Colonists' behavior.

### EVIDENCE

According to the text, the Colonists ate their "horses, dogs," and "cats."

### ELABORATION

This means that they were killing and eating animals that were likely pets they loved.

### EVIDENCE

The text also stated that the Colonists made "broth" from boiling their own "boots, belts," and "leather."

### ELABORATION

This suggests that they were willing to eat things that weren't part of a normal human's diet.

### EXPLANATION

These details prove that the Colonists were starving because they were desperately doing anything they could to survive.