

Document A: *True Relation* (Modified)

Arriving in Werowocomoco, the emperor welcomed me with good words and great platters of food. He promised me his friendship and my freedom within four days. . . . He asked me why we came and why we went further with our boat. . . . He promised to give me what I wanted and to feed us if we made him **hatchets** and copper. I promised to do this. And so, with all this kindness, he sent me home.

Source: Excerpt from John Smith's book *A True Relation of Such Occurrences and Accidents of Note as hath Happened in Virginia Since the First Planting of that Colony*, published in 1608.

Vocabulary

hatchet: a small ax

Document B: *General History* (Modified)

They brought me to Meronocomoco, where I saw Powhatan, their Emperor. Two great stones were brought before Powhatan. Then I was dragged by many hands, and they laid my head on the stones, ready to beat out my brains. Pocahontas, the King's dearest daughter took my head in her arms and laid down her own upon it to save me from death. Then the Emperor said I should live.

Two days later, Powhatan met me and said we were friends. He told me to bring him two guns and a **grindstone** and he would consider me his son.

Source: Excerpt from Smith's later version of the story in *General History of Virginia, New England and the Summer Isles*, published in 1624.

Vocabulary

grindstone: a round stone wheel used for sharpening

Pocahontas Graphic Organizer

	Document A: <i>True Relation</i>	Document B: <i>General History</i>
Source: Who wrote this document? When was it written? What type of document is this?		
Close Reading: According to this document, did Pocahontas save John Smith's life?		
Contextualization: What events occurred before Smith wrote this document? How might those events have influenced Smith's story?		

Which document, *A True Relation* or *A General History*, do you think provides a more believable version of whether or not Pocahontas saved John Smith's life? Why? Make sure to use evidence from each document in your answer,