

# Native American literature: Post-Colonization

## Recap: Pre-Colonization

Somewhere between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Native Americans thrived in North America before Columbus arrived in 1492.

## Pre-Colonial Literature: Genres and Styles

- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (no written language)
- \_\_\_\_\_ to explain mysteries of the universe
- \_\_\_\_\_ were types of myths that explain the origin of the earth and/or humanity
- \_\_\_\_\_ were stories to pass on moral values/lessons
- \_\_\_\_\_ were a specific type of folktale with a “trickster” character
- \_\_\_\_\_ were for religious purposes

## Common Pre-Colonial Topics and Themes

- \_\_\_\_\_  
-Stories or myths may show that certain actions or beliefs are good or bad
- \_\_\_\_\_  
-Stories or myths may show how closely intertwined Native Americans were with their environment--particularly with animals
- \_\_\_\_\_  
-Stories or myths may have a Yin/Yang message to them--opposites cannot exist without each other, every person has good and bad in them, extremes should be avoided, etc.

## Native American Literature: Post-Colonization

Columbus and European settlers arrived in \_\_\_\_\_.

Peaceful, if \_\_\_\_\_ -- the English depended on the Native Americans to learn how to cook, travel, make clothing, and plant crops.

Relationship founded on trade--in exchange for \_\_\_\_\_ (metal tools, guns, jewelry, mirrors, other manufactured goods), tribes provided \_\_\_\_\_ to colonists (food, clothing, shelter, knowledge of the area).

Unknowingly, the English exposed the Native Americans to new \_\_\_\_\_, like smallpox and influenza.

Native Americans had no natural \_\_\_\_\_ built up against these diseases (like the English had).

The Native American populations suffered a \_\_\_\_\_ decrease after contact with these diseases.

### **Puritan “Superiority”**

The colonists were also known as Puritans--they left Europe because of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Church with the goal of starting their own, “purer” sect of Christianity in the New World.

Puritans took the Native Americans dying as a sign from God that they (Puritans) were \_\_\_\_\_ from sickness because of their religious morals, while the “immoral Indians:” were being \_\_\_\_\_ for their non-Christian ways.

### **Westward Expansion**

As more and more colonists arrived in North America, Native American tribes were pushed further West due to the growing population. This led to \_\_\_\_\_ over territory lines.

### **Attempts at Peace**

English tried to establish peace through \_\_\_\_\_ (agreements between two nations that becomes law).

Native Americans agreed to submit to English control in exchange for peace. In exchange, the English set aside \_\_\_\_\_, or smaller areas of original Native American territories that they could live on undisturbed by settlers.

Unfortunately, the treaties were \_\_\_\_\_, and European settlers moved onto reservation lands and restricted Native American use of non-reservation land.

### **Tail of Tears**

Five tribes (the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_) refused to leave their home territories for the government’s reservations.

In 1838, the Georgia militia was ordered to force the Native Americans out of Georgia.

\_\_\_\_\_ Native Americans were brutally rounded up and marched to Indian territory in Oklahoma.

As many as \_\_\_\_\_ dies along the "Trail of Tears"

### **Assimilate or Eliminate**

Ultimately, Native Americans would be \_\_\_\_\_ in every aspect of their lives by the colonization of Europeans.

In addition to being forced to live on reservations, Europeans forced Native Americans to adopt their religion, dress, and \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Post-Colonial Styles & Genres of Literature**

- \_\_\_\_\_ - folk tales, myths, histories, maps, etc. were transposed to written tradition.
- Adoption of \_\_\_\_\_ writings and styles--including poems, short stories, and novels.

### **Common Post-Colonial Themes and Topics**

- \_\_\_\_\_ (literally or emotionally/spiritually)
- Protecting tribal history
- Tribal life and hardship (particularly \_\_\_\_\_)
- The struggle to find a voice in a white-dominated society
- Finding \_\_\_\_\_ between Native American and white culture



