

# Handout C: Mercantilism Primary Sources

## Document 1: Austria Over All, If She Only Will, 1684

### Source:

Philipp von Hörnigk (1640–1712) laid out one of the clearest statements of mercantile policy in his 1684 *Österreich Über Alles, Wenn Sie Nur Will* (*Austria Over All, If She Only Will*).

Text
To inspect the country's soil with the greatest care, and not to leave the agricultural possibilities of a single corner or clod of earth unconsidered. . . .
All commodities found in a country, which cannot be used in their natural state, should be worked up within the country... Attention should be given to the population, that it may be as large as the country can support. . . .
Gold and silver once in the country . . . are under no circumstances to be taken out for any purpose. . . .
The inhabitants of the country should make every effort to get along with their domestic products . . .
[Foreign commodities should be obtained] not for gold or silver, but in exchange for other domestic wares. . . .
Such foreign commodities should in this case be imported in unfinished form, and worked up within the country. . . .
Opportunities should be sought night and day for selling the country's superfluous goods to these foreigners in manufactured form. . . .
No importation should be allowed under any circumstances of commodities of which there is a sufficient supply of suitable quality at home.

1. What are the principle rules of mercantilism, according to this source (Document 1)?

---

---

---

---

## Document 2: Navigation Act of September 13, 1660

### Text

FOR the increase of shipping and encouragement of the navigation of this nation wherein, under the good providence and protection of God, the wealth, safety, and strength of this kingdom is so much concerned; [2] be it enacted by the king's most excellent Majesty, and by the Lords and Co[m]mons in this present Parliament, assembled and by the authority thereof, that from and after the first day of December, one thousand six hundred and sixty, and from thence forward, no goods or commodities whatsoever shall be imported into or exported out of any lands, islands, plantations, or territories to his Majesty belonging or in his possession, or which may hereafter belong unto or be in the possession of his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, in Asia, Africa, or America, in any other ship or ships, vessel or vessels whatsoever, but in such ships or vessels as do truly and without fraud belong only to the people of England or Ireland, dominion of Wales, or town of Berwick upon Tweed, or are of the built of and belonging to any the said lands, islands, plantations, or territories, as the proprietors and right owners thereof, and whereof the master and three fourths of the mariners at least are English; [3] under the penalty of the forfeiture and loss of all the goods and commodities which shall be imported into or exported out of any the aforesaid places in any other ship or vessel, as also of the ship or vessel, with all its guns, furniture, tackle, ammunition, and apparel . . . [4] and all admirals and other commanders at sea of any the ships of war or other ship having commission from his Majesty or from his heirs or successors, are hereby authorized and strictly required to seize and bring in as prize all such ships or vessels as shall have offended contrary hereunto, and deliver them to the court of admiralty. . .

II. . . And be it enacted, that no alien or person not born within the allegiance of our sovereign lord the king, his heirs and successors, or naturalized, or made a free denizen, shall from and after the first day of February, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred sixty-one, exercise the trade or occupation of a merchant or factor in any the said places; [2] upon pain of the forfeiture and loss of all his goods and chattels, or which are in his possession; one third to his Majesty, his heirs and successors; one third to the governor of the plantation where such person shall so offend; and the other third to him or them that shall inform or sue for the same in any of his Majesty's courts in the plantation where such offence shall be committed; [3] and all governors of the said lands, islands, plantations, or territories, and every of them, are hereby strictly required and commanded, and all who hereafter shall be made governors of any such islands, plantations, or territories, by his Majesty, his heirs or successors, shall before their entrance into their government take a solemn oath to do their utmost, that every the aforementioned clauses, and all the matters and things therein contained, shall be punctually and bona fide observed according to the true intent and meaning thereof.

2. What is the primary goal of this Navigation Act (Document 2)?

---

---

---

---

## Document 3: Navigation Act of April 10, 1696

### Text

II. Be it enacted . . . that after the five and twentieth day of March, one thousand six hundred and ninety-eight, no goods or merchandises whatsoever shall be imported into, or exported out of, any colony or plantation . . . or shall be laden in, or carried from any one port or place in the said colonies or plantations to any other port or place in the same, the kingdom of England, dominion of Wales, or towns of Berwick upon Tweed, in any ship or bottom but what is or shall be of the built of England, or of the built of Ireland, or the said colonies or plantations, and wholly owned by the people thereof.

3. How many years have passed between the Navigation Act in Document 2 and Document 3?

---

---

---

4. What modifications were made to the previous Navigation Act?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

5. What key principles of mercantilism do all three sources share?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Hypothesis:**  
How might mercantilism have affected the ...

How might mercantilism have affected the ...

New England Colonies	Middle Colonies	Southern Colonies
Effects:	Effects:	Effects:
Significance:		

**Conclusion:**

---

---

---

---

**Directions:**

Draw a political cartoon or infographic in the space below illustrating the mercantilist relationship between the North American colonies and Great Britain.