

# ANSWER KEY

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## LESSON ONE

### *Two Views of Religious Liberty: Massachusetts Bay and Rhode Island*

#### **Essay: Massachusetts Bay and Rhode Island—Two Views of Religious Liberty**

1. Winthrop was the first governor, and he was the author of “A Model of Christian Charity,” which defined the purpose of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.
2. Government required all residents to adhere to the Puritan’s faith and program of religious exercise; the colony was governed by religious principles—for example, biblical citations were provided for laws in the Massachusetts Body of Liberties.
3. Williams advocated separation from, rather than reform of, the Anglican Church, and asserted that religious belief could not be enforced. He argued that people of all faiths should receive the same protection from government.
4. The colony had no established faith and full free exercise. Rhode Island was the first place in modern history where separation of church and state was put into practice.
5. The colonists would be testing the “hypothesis” that people of varying religious faiths (or no religious faith) could live side by side in peace, and that an arrangement where government did not enforce uniformity of religion was best.

#### **Handout D: Winthrop and Williams—Two Views of Religious Liberty**

*John Winthrop*

1. Who: a company who declare themselves fellow members of Christ; What: to establish a way of life both civil and ecclesiastical; Why: to improve their lives, be more free from corruption, and work out their salvation; How: they will love and care for one another.
2. The purpose is to fulfill a covenant between the colonists and God.

3. God’s favor, as well as the colonists’ reputation in the eyes of the world, are at stake.

*Roger Williams*

1. Individuals being made to suffer by government because of their personal religious beliefs.
2. Civil officers have no just role in enforcing religious belief.
3. God commands that individuals should have freedom of conscience and worship; God does not require uniformity of religion; enforced uniformity leads to war and strife; “true civility and Christianity” can thrive even if people have different beliefs.

#### **Handout E: Venn Diagram**

Accept a variety of reasoned answers. Likely responses include:

Massachusetts: John Winthrop; Puritans; “Model of Christian Charity;” Massachusetts Body of Liberties; Nathaniel Ward; Religious Liberty includes a peoples’ right to exclude non-believers.

Rhode Island: Roger Williams; Separation of Church and State; Rhode Island Charter; Providence Agreement; Bloody Tenet of Persecution; Religious Liberty means freedom of individual conscience.

Both: Established in part for the purpose of proving something to the world; Theological arguments for religious liberty; Goal of peaceful and successful way of life.

## LESSON TWO

### *The Constitution, the First Amendment, and Religious Liberty*

#### **Essay: The Constitution, the First Amendment, and Religious Liberty**

*Comprehension and Critical Thinking Questions*

1. A law that would assess a property tax to support ministers of various Christian denominations. Supporters said religion promoted civic virtue