

# Facts and Opinions: Colonial America

People use both facts and opinions when talking about history. Here's how to tell the difference.

A **fact** is a true statement you can prove. Facts can be measured, observed, or looked up in official records.

An **opinion** is something a person believes, thinks, or feels. Opinions can't be proven true for everyone.

Take a look at examples of facts and opinions about colonial America:

## In the Thirteen Colonies, most families lived in rural areas.

This statement is a **fact**. It can be proven by researching original housing documents from the 1700s.

## In the Thirteen Colonies, it was better to live in rural areas than in cities.

This statement is an **opinion**. It is what one person thinks, and it can't be proven true for everyone.



**Directions:** Read each statement below. Circle the correct answer.

- Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston, Massachusetts.  
**fact**                      **opinion**
- The lost colony of Roanoke Island is an interesting mystery to think about.  
**fact**                      **opinion**
- Only men arrived on the first voyage to Jamestown in 1607.  
**fact**                      **opinion**
- The Mayflower is the most important ship to ever cross the Atlantic Ocean.  
**fact**                      **opinion**
- The Thirteen Colonies declared their independence from Great Britain in 1776.  
**fact**                      **opinion**
- The United States Constitution was written in 1787.  
**fact**                      **opinion**
- George Washington was the greatest colonial leader.  
**fact**                      **opinion**