*U.S. History (Gr. 11) New West Charter Instructor: Ms. Hynes*

**Simulation: Early Colonial America**

Scenario 1: Pueblo and Apache Summit (1680)

*You, the Pueblos and Apaches of the Southwest, have a decision to make as a group. The Spanish presidios and missions have been part of your world all your lives, and many of you benefit from being attached to or associated with them. Some of you are angry because the military officials or missionary priests mistreat you. A local Pueblo medicine man named* ***Po’pay*** *has been preaching for some time that the foreigners must be driven out, and he has been performing ritual dances to aid the ancient spirits in bringing about a removal of the Spanish. He has been whipped publicly twice since the Spanish priests at the Santa Fe Mission consider his ritual dances to be witchcraft. Now, he is summoning all the first peoples of this region, the Pueblos and Apaches of all nearby tribes, to join him in his rebellion. Will you join him openly? Will you quietly aid him? Will you remain neutral in the conflict? Will you side with the Spanish? Listen to all members of your group as they voice their concerns and try to reach a consensus as best you can.*

**Role 1:**

You are a respected elder of the Mescalero Apache tribe and you sit on the tribal council. You are skilled in the arts of war, strategies, and battle tactics such as guerilla warfare and would likely be a very valuable ally. You have an intense hatred for the Spanish since they have pursued your nomadic people for years across the Southwest, and your people are highly skilled and feared warriors who have conducted raids on the Spanish in Mexico multiple times. However, hostilities have been at a standstill between your people and the Spanish for several years now since the build-up of missions in your region has slowed down. If you get involved in this rebellion now, you invite the possibility that the Spanish will renew the violence against your people. You are cautious and conservative by nature, and your ultimate goal of attending this summit is to get enough information to decide whether or not you will join Po’pay’s coalition.

What will you do?

TIP: There is a person at this summit who’s dressed in European clothing and speaks only speaks Spanish, but who is clearly a Native American. You are immediately suspicious of him and make it your business to subtly find out what he’s doing here. *Place a post-it note somewhere visible on your clothing which reads “Mescalero Apache Elder”.*

**Role 2:**

You are a farmer who grows food for the Santa Fe Mission. You have lived your whole life in the mission; the priests took you in as a child after virtually everyone in your home village had died from a smallpox epidemic. You are a Christian and a devout believer. You gladly work for the mission, wear European clothes, speak Spanish (you can’t really remember how to speak your native language). You see that the missionary priests and soldiers do mistreat those first peoples that don’t assimilate. Those who refuse to convert or adopt European dress or habits are often beaten, and those who often willingly convert to Christianity are later forcibly prevented from leaving the mission. You yourself do not feel that you have been similarly mistreated, and you believe that at heart, the priests have good intentions. You heard about this summit from one of the Santa Fe Mission priests. He trusts you and has asked that you attend this meeting and report back to them about any plans the rebels concoct. Will you spy for the mission priest? Will you join the rebellion? Will you stay out of the whole thing?

What will you do?

TIP: It is up to you to decide whether you want to mention that you live and work at the Santa Fe mission. Since it was the site of Po’pay’s flogging, it is the subject of much outrage in the Native community. Since you are dressed as a European and speak mostly Spanish, they might consider you suspect. Think about how you might handle this. *Place a post-it note somewhere visible on your clothing which reads “European dress, speaks Spanish”.*

**Role 3 (two people)**

You are siblings from the Nambe Pueblo tribe and your village is quite closely located to the Santa Fe mission. Your village has largely had a good relationship with the missionary priests and the soldiers who protect them, but recently that situation has changed. The priests have always made regular visits to your village to recruit your people for work at the Mission and to convert to Christianity. Some of your people have converted, but those numbers have declined sharply in the last 10 years. Now, to keep the mission going, the priests have decided to arbitrarily tax your village. They are asking all Nambe peoples to give them the traditional tithe (10% of your income), even though most of you are not Christians. When many of your people refused to pay, the soldiers at the local presidio came to your village and demanded these payments with threats of force. Most have paid to avoid the inevitable violence, but you and your people are ready to take action.

**TIP:** There is a respected elder of the Mescalero Apache tribe present at the meeting. You have heard legends of his prowess as a warrior against the Spanish in years past and you know that his people are fierce and skilled fighters. It would be a great comfort to your tribe if you could persuade him to pledge his support and that of his people to the rebellion. It would give your people greater courage to resist the Spanish.

**Role 4**

You are a farmer of the Taos Pueblo tribe. You live about a day’s ride away from the Santa Fe Mission, but that hasn’t prevented the lives of the people in your village from being disrupted by the priests at the mission and the soldiers who protect them. Two years ago, priests from the Mission visited your group and asked for worker volunteers to fill the declining mission, promising them a good living and instruction in the Christian religion. Your community has always been distrustful of the Spanish. Plus, with your people’s rich farmland, hunting and fishing resources, and extensive trade relationships, you have no need of the Spanish, and so no one in your village volunteered. Since then, the soldiers at the local presidio have returned to your village to pressure your people multiple times. Their behavior and treatment of your people has steadily worsened in the last six months with village men being beaten for resisting and several village women being sexually attacked. The overwhelming weaponry the soldiers possess is a threat that your tribe can’t stand up to on your own, but perhaps if all the first peoples join together, they can drive them out for good.

**TIP:** You are intensely angry with the Spanish and you really want all of the people at the summit to commit to opposing them. You also understand that while many Native groups in this region hate the Spanish, they often distrust each other as well. Try to be a voice of unity in the group and try to defuse whatever tensions you sense between the other attendees at the summit.