

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## USH Homework: The Carolinas and Georgia (MYP)

### Directions:

1. *Actively* read the information below about the Carolina and Georgia colonies (highlight key facts, circle and look up vocabulary words you don't know, and make notes in the margin)
2. Using the Handmade Thinking handout as a reference, create TWO Handmade Thinking panels – one for the Carolinas, and one for Georgia.

**Excerpts from *Give Me Liberty*, by Eric Foner** (Norton, Second Edition, 2009) Adapted for younger readers

### 1. The Founding of Carolina (p. 90 – 92 and p. 133 - 34)

**How it started:** In 1663, the king of England, Charles II, gave eight wealthy men the right to establish a proprietary colony to the north of Florida. The first settlers arrived in 1670 and founded **Carolina**. The first settlers to Carolina came from another English settlement -- Barbados in the Caribbean. The economy on Barbados was based on planting cash crops like sugar cane on large plantations, but in the mid-1600s, there was a shortage of land, and this led wealthy plantation owners to send their sons to Carolina, where they would also establish plantations.

**Relations with Native Americans:** At first, Carolinians gave friendly American Indians weapons and used them to attack the Spanish in Florida. They also enslaved other American Indians, shipping them to other colonies and the West Indies (Caribbean). Between 1670 and 1720, the number of Indian slaves exported from Charleston (Carolina's main harbor city) was larger than the number of African slaves imported. In 1715, the Yamasee and Creek rebelled. The English settlers crushed the rebellion, and most of the remaining Indians were enslaved or driven out of the colony into Spanish Florida, from where they occasionally launched raids against English settlements.

**Government and Economy:** The proprietors of Carolina wanted their colony to have a system of feudalism (like in the Middle Ages in Europe), but that didn't actually end up happening. They wanted to attract settlers quickly, so they created an elected law-making assembly and religious toleration. They also instituted a **headright** system – a system in which male heads of households would get 150 acres for each member of an arriving family.

Wealthy plantation owners from Barbados brought slaves with them, and slavery made Carolina an extremely hierarchical (ranked) society. The proprietors put in place strict laws that promised slave owners “absolute power and authority” over their slaves and included imported slaves in the headright system. This meant that anyone who settled in Carolina and brought slaves with them, like those Barbados plantation owners, would instantly get a huge amount of land. Carolina actually grew slowly until planters discovered a profitable cash-crop -- rice. Just like in Virginia, the discovery of a profitable cash crop, in this case rice, led to fast economic development. Because rice requires heavy labor, this led to the importation of slaves. South Carolina was the first mainland colony to have more slaves than white settlers. By the 1730s (by which time North Carolina had become a separate colony), two-thirds of its population was black. In the 1740s, another staple, indigo (a crop used in producing blue dye), was developed. Like rice, indigo required heavy labor and was grown by slaves.

### 2. The Georgia Experiment (p. 134 – 135)

Growing rice also spread into Georgia in the mid-1700s. Georgia was founded in 1733 by a group of people led by James Oglethorpe, a wealthy man who wanted to help others. He wanted to help people who were in debt, and he also wanted to abolish slavery. Oglethorpe wanted to set up a colony that would be a haven (safe place) where poor debtors of England could start a new life and have opportunities. He asked the government in London if he could create the colony of Georgia, and they supported the creation of Georgia as a buffer between the Spanish in Florida and the rest of the 13 colonies.

At first, Oglethorpe banned both alcohol and slavery in Georgia. This made the settlers unhappy, because they wanted both alcohol and slavery. By the 1740s, Georgia settlers were arguing that they should have self-government so that they could make laws introducing slavery. In 1751, Oglethorpe turned the colony over to the king. The colonists quickly won the right to self-government through electing representatives to a law-making assembly, which met in Savannah, Georgia's main settlement. It repealed (overturned) the ban on slavery (and liquor). Georgia became a miniature version of South Carolina. By 1770, as many as 15,000 slaves worked on its coastal rice plantations.

**Handmade Thinking Panels:** Choose one of the Handmade Thinking formats and use it to create one panel for each of these readings! You can use the space below OR use a separate sheet of paper.

**Carolinas: Format = \_\_\_\_\_**



**Georgia: Format = \_\_\_\_\_**



