
⇒ Read the four statements below and answer the question for each one. You are given a choice of three answers... will you pick the correct one?

A- In 1640, Marguerite is 20 years old. One day, she “feels the touch of grace” and decides to “give herself to God.” After she is refused by a cloistered community, she joins the extern congregation of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame de Troyes. For thirteen years she lives a very enriching, if sometimes dangerous, experience, which will prepare her for her future adventures in the New World.

⇒ What does Marguerite do while she is in the extern congregation?

1. Because her mother died, she stays at home and takes care of her younger brothers and sisters.
2. *In addition to catechism, she teaches reading and writing to children and women in the poorer areas of Troyes. Her objective is for them to learn how to earn a living.*
3. She signs up as a sailor on a ship and travels the seven seas battling pirates.

B- In 1639, a group of Frenchmen, led by Jérôme Le Royer de la Dauversière and Jean-Jacques Olier, found the Société Notre-Dame de Montréal. This group wishes to establish a colony of settlers on the island of Montreal in New France. The establishment of Ville-Marie by Paul de Chomedey de Maisonneuve and Jeanne Mance, in 1642, will be pivotal in the life of Marguerite Bourgeoys.

⇒ What is the main purpose of the Société Notre-Dame de Montréal?

1. What is the main purpose of the Société Notre-Dame de Montréal?
2. Establish a fishing port and export fur pelts in France.
3. *Found an institution which will embody the ideal of the first Christian community for the purpose of converting the Amerindians to Christianity and spreading the Christian faith.*

C- In 1652, ten years after the establishment of Ville-Marie, Paul de Chomedey de Maisonneuve returns to France in search of recruits. The colony needs to be repopulated because many of the first 40 settlers either went back to their native land or died. The Congrégation Notre-Dame à Troyes offers to establish a convent in Ville-Marie, as the Ursulines did in Quebec City. But de Maisonneuve declines their proposal because he thinks that life in the colony is too difficult, precarious and unpredictable for a community of cloistered sisters. He is willing, however, to take with him a secular teacher, Marguerite Bourgeoys, who had efficiently administered and expanded the extern congregation.

➔ *What mission was Marguerite entrusted in New France?*

1. Befriend Jeanne Mance, foundress of the Hôtel-Dieu, first hospital of Ville-Marie, thanks to the generosity of Angélique Faure de Bullion.
2. *Open the first school of Ville-Marie and implement the basis of education in the fledgling society.*
3. Cook up home-made taffy to pacify the Iroquois so that they would stop attacking the French.

D- Jesuit and Recollet missionaries had attempted to convert the Amerindians to Christianity as early as 1611 and 1615. In addition to its “duty to evangelize”, France, like the other colonizing powers, also has commercial interests in Canada such as finding precious metals and a route to Asia. In the end, it is the fur trade that motivates France to form an alliance with the Montagnais Amerindian nation, declare war on the Iroquois and establish posts and then permanent warehouses in the territory. However, populating New France was always a difficult challenge for France.

➔ *Which of these measures HAS NO bearing on the challenge of populating the colony?*

1. The establishment of the Compagnie des Cent-Associés in 1627. In exchange for the monopoly on the fur trade, this state-administered company is mandated to assist thousands of settlers establish themselves in the colony.
2. The peace treaties with the Amerindian nations in view of ensuring the safety of the colony and of its settlers.
3. *The high demand for felt hats made from beaver pelts for fashion-conscious gentlemen in Europe.*

- ☞ From the statements below, choose those you associate with living conditions on a ship at sea during the 17th century (the others refer more to travelling on a cruise ship in the 21st century!):

Onboard doctors and nurses are on hand at all times and medication is available at the infirmary.

In cases of serious illness or accidents, it is possible to contact emergency services by radio transmission.

Living in close quarters does not permit privacy or tranquility.

Private rooms are comfortable and quite spacious.

Drinkable water must be rationed so that it does not run out during the voyage.

Meals prepared by chefs are copious, healthy and delicious.

Because there are no toilets, chamber pots are used and the contents thrown overboard.

In addition to scurvy, the crew could be stricken by the plague or other often mortal diseases.

To relax, passengers are welcome to enjoy spa facilities, such as massages.

There is non-stop entertainment, such as, the casino, shows, discotheques, swimming pools, arcades, gyms, shops and much more.

If weak winds cause the voyage to be longer than expected, food can fall short. Already unsavoury, it could actually go stale or dry out.

Hygiene is practically non-existent. Filth and odours are part of everyday life onboard.

The ship is luxurious, safe and enjoyable. A place for a great vacation!

To avoid epidemics, the dead cannot remain onboard while waiting to arrive to destination for burial. Their bodies must be thrown overboard.

- ☞ From the statements below, choose those you associate with life in Ville-Marie and in New France in the 17th century:

The homes are comfortable, well insulated and heated.

The territory is made up of impenetrable forests. There are very few roads; the rivers and streams are the main ways to travel.

Travelling is long and arduous. The canoe is very useful. During the winter, snow shoes are essential.

Because of threats of Iroquois or British attacks, safety was always foremost on people's minds.

Travelling from Montreal to Quebec City by bus or train takes just a few hours.

Electric lights and appliances such as refrigerators, washers and dryers, dish washers and microwave ovens make life much easier.

In winter, it is extremely cold and apparel brought from Europe must be adapted to the climate. In summer, the heat and humidity as well as the mosquitoes are unbearable.

Typhus, measles and chicken pox are highly contagious diseases which affect many families.

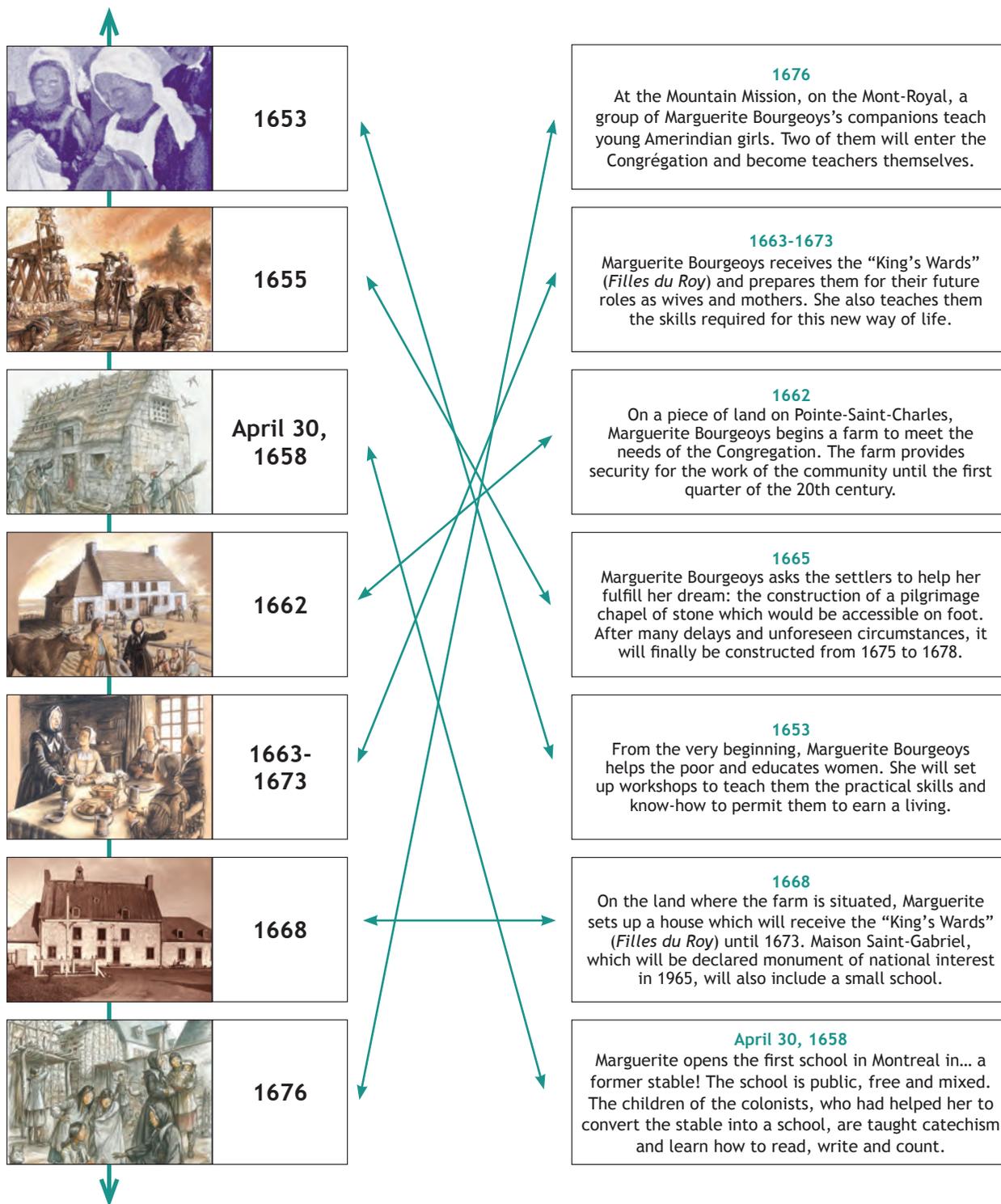
Telephone or internet communications are very easy.

People get water from streams or wells. They heat it on the fire so they can wash themselves from time to time.

Travelling on the high-way by car from downtown Montreal to Pointe-aux-Trembles takes just 20 minutes.

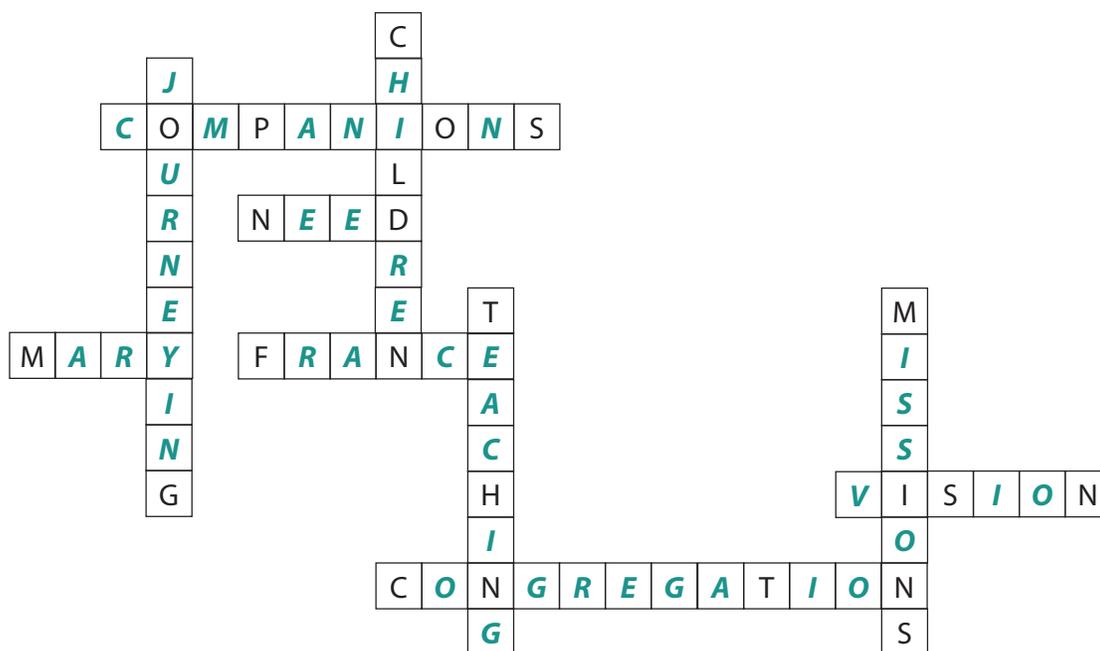
Wood is used for heating. Hot-water bottles are placed under the sheets to warm the beds made of straw or reeds. Bedtime is at sunset because the days are exhausting and candles must not be wasted.

Dim light is also provided by a type of lamp called "bec-de-corbeau". For entertainment, people played card games or music.



⇒ Read the following passage on the Congrégation de Notre-Dame de Montréal in the 17th century, then try to complete the Word Search (the ten words are in the passage)!

Word Search



- ⇒ Read the list of words below. Can you find their proper place in the text that follows?
You will find out about important events that took place during those years!

On January 12, 1700, Marguerite Bourgeoys dies as she has lived, her soul turned to God, and her **HEART** to her neighbour.

Marguerite met life's hardships with courage and serenity. Her **EXAMPLE** continues to inspire the Sisters of the Congregation which she founded. The **INSPIRATION** which she discovered in the journeying life of Mary is considered a "spirit to preserve" and is handed down from generation to generation.

At the beginning of the 18th century, the Great **PEACE** of Montreal is signed between France and 39 **AMERINDIAN** nations. However conflicts break out once again in Europe. France cedes to Great Britain her claims to **ACADIA**, Newfoundland and Hudson Bay. Peace is restored and maintained for 30 years. The economy diversifies and the population increases, but the fate of New France will soon be sealed...

The inhabitants of Canada develop a **CULTURE** which is distinct from that of their home land. It is differentiated by their new way of life and by their living closely with the Amerindian peoples. The Church has a great **INFLUENCE** on the society of New France, whether social, cultural, economic or political.

For its part, the Congrégation de Notre-Dame de Montréal is busy meeting the needs of **LARGER** families. It expands the Mother House and educates new teachers. It builds a boarding school in Montreal and establishes or restores several village schools and **MISSIONS** in both the **QUEBEC** and Montreal regions. It even opens a school on Cape Breton Island, where the fortress of **LOUISBOURG** was erected.

The Seven Years' War begins in North America in 1754, and two years later in Europe. France and **GREAT BRITAIN** are still fighting over their respective claims on North American soil. In 1755, Great Britain systematically **DEPORTS** about 10,000 of 13,000 Acadians to their other colonies.

At the beginning of the war, the French win a number of victories. But in 1758, the Louisbourg fortress is **CONQUERED** for the second time in its history. In 1759, Quebec City is besieged by the British navy. On September 13, the French are conquered during the **BATTLE** of the Plains of Abraham. In September 1760, **MONTREAL** also falls. In 1763, the Treaty of **PARIS** is signed ending the war. France cedes most of its North American possessions, including New France, to the British.

⇒ *Read the text on the post-Conquest years and the evolution of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame in the 1800's, then choose whether the eight statements which follow are TRUE OR FALSE.*

1. The new régime, put in place after the British Conquest did not bring any change in the lives of the settlers of New France. **FALSE**
2. 1768 was the first time that the Mother House of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame was destroyed by fire. **FALSE**
3. War and the change in régime brought about poverty and worry among the French Canadian population. **TRUE**
4. Farming on Île Saint-Paul financially sustained the Congregation and its missions. **TRUE**
5. During the first half of the 19th century, the Congregation recruited an important number of members. This enabled it to open several missions. **TRUE**
6. The Sisters of the Congregation only taught children of notable families in private schools. **FALSE**
7. The Congrégation de Notre-Dame never opened schools outside of Quebec. **FALSE**
8. The clergy and Catholic schools preserved the Catholic religion and the French language. **TRUE**

⇒ Which answer does not belong?

1. The four Provinces of Canada at the time of Confederation in 1867 were New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and *Manitoba*.
2. In the 19th century there were still tensions among *the French*, the Amerindians, the French-speaking Canadians and the English-speaking Canadians.
3. From 1850, Canada saw: a first phase of industrialization, the building of a railway system, *the creation of Nunavut*, continued waves of immigration and the emigration from rural areas and the growth of urban centers.
4. In the first half of the 20th century, Canada witnessed the following events: a second phase of industrialization, economic expansion, unions, groups against poverty and delinquency, movements advocating women's rights (including the right to education), *the first man on the moon*, World War I, the Great Depression, World War II and a baby boom.
5. During the 19th and 20th centuries, the Congrégation de Notre-Dame developed several educational programmes for elementary and high schools as well as for universities. They focused on grammar, history, drawing, accounting, business, domestic science, trades, *aerospace science*, pedagogy and music.
6. From 1850 to 1950, the Congregation extended its missions throughout Quebec, in the rest of Canada, in the United States, *in Spain* and in Japan.
7. The Sisters of the Congregation taught girls and sometimes boys, young women, children of fishers, miners, industrialists or merchants, in rural areas or urban centers, the poor and the rich, Catholics and non-Catholics, religious and non-religious teachers, *political leaders*, etc.