In the 1600s, many people from England sailed to America. They wanted to build new towns and start new lives. The first permanent English settlement was Jamestown. It was founded in Virginia in 1607. The Pilgrims founded Plymouth in 1620. There was another colony before either of these two, but it disappeared.

In 1585, Sir Walter Raleigh sent 108 men to America. They landed on Roanoke Island. That is off the coast of what is now North Carolina. A year later they were starving. So they returned to England.

In 1587, Raleigh sent another group of settlers to Roanoke. There were 117 men, women, and children. The leader was a man named John White. His daughter was Eleanor Dare. She had a baby soon after the group arrived. The baby was named Virginia Dare. She was the first English child born in America.

After only a week at Roanoke, John White sailed back to England. He had to get more tools and supplies. But England went to war with Spain soon after that. So White stayed in England for almost three years.

When John White finally returned to Roanoke in 1590, the people were gone. The only clue left behind was the word Croatoan. It was carved into a post. Croatoan was the name of a nearby island. So White thought the people had moved to a better place. However, none of the colonists was ever seen again. To this day, no one knows what happened to them.

Directions: Read the passage. Then use the information from the passage to answer questions 1–5.

The Lost Colony

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1. What is this passage mostly about?
   A) the colony of Jamestown, Virginia
   B) the birth of a child named Virginia Dare
   C) a colony in America that disappeared
   D) the war between England and Spain

2. According to the passage, where was the first English settlement in America?
   A) Jamestown
   B) Croatoan
   C) Plymouth
   D) Roanoke Island

3. In one sentence, write the main idea of the third paragraph in your own words.
   _______________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________

4. Which detail supports the idea that the people of the Roanoke colony had planned to move to another place?
   A) John White remained in England.
   B) The word Croatoan was carved into a post.
   C) England went to war with Spain.
   D) The first English child was born at Roanoke.

5. Write a detail from the passage supporting the idea that John White stayed in England too long before he returned to Roanoke.
   _______________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________