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Reflection 1 – ePortfolio

History 7A

July 13th, 2014

Micmac Chief’s Observation of the French

This document interpretation assignment was my very first original historical document to read, be able to understand, and then to interpret. Even though the subject of Native Indians presented a great interest to me, this document wasn’t easy to read, let alone to understand. Chief Micmac had an interesting way of expressing himself. Thus I had to do some extra readings about Chief Micmac and Native Indian history in general. Then I found a pattern in other documents, available online, of how Native Indians had a specific way of expressing themselves, in most cases it sounded like they were speaking, writing or addressing their conversation partner from a third person. And pretty much they spoke about themselves and their feeling as if they were speaking of a third person. I guess this expressed respect towards the other party, even when they were addressing an enemy.

By all means this assignment has improved my academic patience and persuasion skills and helped me not to give up on challenging tasks. Once I was able to understand the whole document I felt like I have accomplished something significant and learned something valuable about one of the most interesting tribal nations that ever walked this Earth. I also developed an enormous respect towards Native Indians and their knowledge and respect to our Mother Nature. They seemed to be real gurus in how to understand the language of nature and treated it with utmost respect. I only regret that our history textbook did not dedicate more chapters to this amazing nation that was so soullessly destroyed by the colonists.

Even though I feel like I could paid more attention to details and use a few quotes of Chief Micmac, I appreciate my decision of choosing this particular document as it helped me to become a better reader of historical documents and prompted me to learn more about the history of Native Indians.