

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

TO
THE
PAST

Directions: After reading the background information and examining the source, answer the questions below.

Background Information: *While Samuel de Champlain is often seen as the “Father of New France” due to his founding of Quebec City in 1608, the earliest exploration done by France in North America was conducted by Jacques Cartier, who conducted three expeditions in the Gulf of St. Lawrence between 1534 and 1542.*

Featured Source:

Ten years later, in April, 1534, a brave **Breton** sailor, Jacques Cartier, of St. Malo, sailed away to see if by any means he might find the short passage to the East.

Breton: *A person from the region of Brittany in France.*

... He found the country **well wooded** and thought it very beautiful. In open places he found ripe strawberries, for it was the 30th of June. He soon entered a great bay, which he called Baye des Chalewrs, or Bay of Heat.

Well-Wooded: *Heavily forested / Covered in trees*

...From the Indians Cartier learned that there was a larger town called Hochelaga, farther up the river, which then bore the same name. Cartier determined to visit this place. The Indians tried by every means to prevent his doing so...but Cartier was **resolute**.

He took one of his ships, two open boats and fifty men, and started on his journey. It was the latter part of September. The trees of Eastern Canada wore their gorgeous autumn dress. The bright sun shone on the broad, sparkling river. The air was pure and fresh as new wine. We can imagine the light-hearted Frenchmen **beguiling** their voyage with song and **jest** or **whiling** away the hours with many a **merry** tale as they rested by their evening camp-fire.

Beguiling: *Charming*

Jest: *Jokes / Playful remarks*

Whiling: *Passing time in a leisurely or enjoyable way*

Merry: *Happy / Lively and joyful*

Source: Lawson, Maria (1908) *History of Canada*, edited by A.H. Reynar

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Your Task: Examine the inferences below and return to the text. Which inference is best supported by the source?

Alternative Inferences	
Person 1:	The author wants to portray Jacques Cartier as a brave and admirable explorer.
Person 2	The author wants to portray Cartier and his French companions as lazy and living simply for pleasure and fun.

Multiple Choice: Which inference is most plausible?

- a) Person 1's inference is most plausible
- b) Person 2's inference is most plausible
- c) Both Person 1 and Person 2's inferences are equally plausible
- d) Neither meaning is plausible

Short Answer Response: Explain your reasoning below.