Rahul Narvekar

Dr. Kathleen DuVal

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***Encounters Paragraph***

As centuries went on, communication and mutual respect between Native Americans and their European counterparts greatly increased, allowing a deeper understanding of each other’s culture between the 1500s and 1600s. In the early 1500’s, French fisherman met the Montagnais Indians for the very first time. They noted that the Indians were awestruck by their big moving sail ships. The fisherman further stated that the Indians believed their wine and hardtack were mistaken as blood and bones. The fisherman did not seem to understand or even care for the culture of the natives. They referred to their canoes being made of “only bark.”1 In stark contract however, in 1673 Jacques Marquette was travelling the Mississippi to spread gospel. Along the way they met a group of Indians they called the “wild oats.” Marquette had a profound knowledge of the way the Indians farmed, and he consulted their advice along his journey. He stated that “wild oats” told him not to proceed and informed him about the woes of war-torn tribes further up the river. Jacques had knowledge about the Native Americans he met and could communicate with them effectively as opposed to his counterparts a near century ago.2 This key difference in time periods shows how the Natives and Europeans learned to communicate and understand each other.