

King Philip's War (1676) Options

Option 1: To band together, fight the English colonists, and remove them from all of our lands (Join King Philip)

You are a Narragansett sachem (chief) and King Philip (Metacom), leader of the Wampanoag, your traditional enemy, is trying to persuade you to fight against the English who keep taking over more of your land. Even though you have been fighting the Wampanoag for many generations, the threat of the English encroachment is more of a threat than your traditional enemies. You are ready to stop these English colonists from taking more and more of your lands. Fighting against the English, who care nothing for your culture and traditions, is a more serious threat than your lifelong enemies. You remember the way the English killed the Pequot women and children at Mystic River. Now is the time for all tribes to band together and fight the English.

Option 2: To join the English, live in peace with the English, and fight against King Philip's Confederation (Fight King Philip)

You are a Narragansett sachem (chief) and your people have been fighting King Philip's people, the Wampanoag, for many years. The English are new to the area and the real threat to your tribe is still the Wampanoag and several other tribes in the area fighting with him. Another reason to join with the English is Roger Williams, founder of the Rhode Island colony, has always treated your people with kindness and respect. The information that you have received from scouts tells you that King Philip is targeting your new English friend. Finally, even your old enemies the Mohegan have decided to side with the English. Fighting against the English will mean the destruction of the Narragansett.

Option 3: To leave our territory and go North, joining the Western Abenaki in Vermont (Stay Out Of The Fighting)

You are a Narragansett sachem (chief) and you realize that the time has come to move out of your traditional homeland. Your longtime leader Miontonimo was killed nearly 30 years ago and your tribe has not gained back the power it lost at that time. You realize the struggle to regain the land you lost will never happen because the English are growing at an alarming rate. Some of your enemies and friends are choosing sides in the upcoming war. The best course of action is to avoid the war and leave the area. You could go to Vermont where there are no

English settlers. The Western Abenaki have extended a hand of friendship and offered a new home in their villages. Also, the French settlers in nearby Canada get along better with Indians. Adoption and survival among the Abenaki is better than total destruction.