

Ticonderoga and Bunker Hill

Following Lexington and Concord, Boston was quarantined by British soldiers, and General Gage forced almost half of the population out of the city to conserve food. British soldiers found themselves trapped by the 10,000 colonial militiamen outside the city.

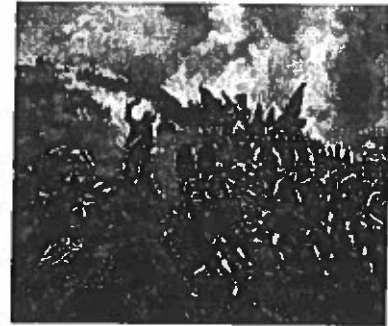
Desperate for supplies to fulfill the needs of colonial troops, the Massachusetts Committee of Safety sent Benedict Arnold and a force of 400 men to New York to attack a British garrison at Fort Ticonderoga. Samuel Adams, also realizing the opportunity, suggested trying to capture Ticonderoga as soon as possible. The colonists needed cannons, muskets, and ammunition, and the fort in northeast New York was stocked with all of these things. Ticonderoga was so important that it had often been referred to as the *Gibraltar of America*, in reference to the famous island fortification off the coast of Spain.

The confusion resulted in second group (known as the Green Mountain Boys), led by Ethan Allen, marching for Ticonderoga. After much arguing as to who was in charge, and the flaring of tempers, Allen and Arnold captured the fort without firing a shot. The successful campaign resulted in the Patriots capturing 78 cannons, 30,000 flintlock muskets, and a stockpile of ammunition. Yet, the much needed supplies were more than 300 miles away from Boston.

While the Patriots attempted to inventory and secure the haul from Ticonderoga, British reinforcements under General Howe arrived in Boston with orders to drive the colonial militia away from the city. Before the British could formulate a plan, they awoke on the morning of June 17, 1775 to an aweing sight. During the night, the Patriot army had built substantial fortifications on nearby Breed's Hill. The British navy opened fire while their generals argued over what to do.

Before long, the June sun was at full steam and temperatures swelled into the upper nineties. The British lined up in battle formation as Bostonians crowded rooftops to watch the assault. The Redcoats approached in columns, their drums tapping out an ominous cadence.

Israel Putnam, commanding American troops inside the fortifications, declared, "Don't fire 'til you see the whites of their eyes!" The Patriots waited until the British were 50 yards away before firing a massive volley that crippled the British forces. Some units lost more than 3/4 of their men before fleeing. A second British attempt was made, and it too was repulsed.



The Battle of Bunker Hill

Many Patriot bullets were coming from snipers in nearby Charleston, and British officers ordered the town to be bombarded by the navy, and before long, all 300 houses were ablaze, making for an eerie backdrop as Howe ordered another assault. Out of ammunition, the Patriot forces were forced to retreat.

The famous conflict is known as the Battle of Bunker Hill, although it actually occurred on Breed's Hill. The British won, but at a heavy cost. A staggering 19 officers and 207 men had been killed. Seventy more officers and 828 others were wounded for more than 40% casualties. To the Americans, it ended up being a moral victory. They had fought the best army in the world, toe to toe, and held their own.

Shortly after Bunker Hill, General Washington arrived to take command of the Continental Army. He dispatched Henry Knox, a Boston book seller, to retrieve the heavy cannons from Ticonderoga. Knox's men built 42 gigantic sleds and hired 160 oxen to pull 125,000 pounds of cannons and ammunition to Boston.

When General Howe arose one morning to find the cannons atop Dorchester Heights to the south of Boston, he knew he would have to retreat. "The Rebels have done more in one night than my whole army could do in months," the general declared. Reluctantly, Howe decided to leave by way of Boston Harbor. Massachusetts, the colony that started the Revolution, wouldn't see another British soldier for the remainder of the war.

Multiple Choice: *Select the choice that completes the statement or answers the question.*

1. _____ Which colony did not send delegates to the First Continental Congress?
 - a. Connecticut
 - b. New Jersey
 - c. Rhode Island
 - d. Georgia

2. _____ What did the Continental Congress draft in 1774 for the purpose of submitting in to King George III?
 - a. A Declaration of Rights and Sentiments
 - b. A Peace Petition
 - c. An Olive Branch Petition
 - d. A Declaration and Resolves

3. _____ The First Continental Congress met in
 - a. New York City, New York
 - b. Providence, Rhode Island
 - c. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 - d. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

4. _____ Who said, "Give me liberty or give me death!"?
 - a. George Washington
 - b. Patrick Henry
 - c. Thomas Paine
 - d. Sam Adams

5. _____ What name was given to the militia units who were prepared to fight at a moment's notice?
 - a. Patriots
 - b. Grenadiers
 - c. Minutemen
 - d. Tories

TRUE/FALSE: *Indicate whether the statement is true or false. If the statement is false, write the correct word or phrase in the space provided to make the statement true.*

6. _____ The First Continental Congress met in Carpenter's Hall in Pittsburgh.

7. _____ Continental Congress encouraged each colony to begin preparing their colonial militias for war. _____

8. _____ The Declaration and Resolves emphasized the colonists' rights to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." _____

9. _____ Delegates agreed to meet again in 1776 if the king refused their petition.

10. _____ Patrick Henry argued that the boycotting had already begun.

Guided Reading: *Fill in the blanks below to create complete sentences.*

1. For many colonists, the harsh reaction of Parliament to the _____ was the final straw in a long list of abuses.

2. Patrick Henry believed that _____ was unavoidable.

3. Many delegates from the _____ colonies argued that peace with Britain should be kept at all costs.

4. The First Continental Congress agreed to continue _____ trade with Britain until the Intolerable (Coercive Acts) were lifted.

5. Continental Congress insisted that the original settlers of the American colonies had not _____ any of their "rights, liberties, and immunities."

6. The First Continental Congress did not seek _____ from Great Britain.

7. Patrick Henry encouraged his fellow _____ to support the Patriot cause.

8. The request to lift the _____ was met with more rules and British troops being sent to the colonies.

9. As 1775 approached, many colonists were preparing for a _____.

10. The more radical offshoots of the colonial militia vowed to be ready to fight at a _____ notice.

Vocabulary Check: *Select the option that best identifies the use of the underlined word.*

1. _____ In the opening sentence, the use of the word harsh implies
 - a. Kindly; amiable.
 - b. Of good birth or family; wellborn.
 - c. Not severe, rough, or violent; mild.
 - d. Grim or unpleasantly severe; stern; cruel.

2. _____ In the second paragraph, the word unavoidable implies
 - a. Not likely to happen.
 - b. Unable to be avoided; inevitable.
 - c. Something that is promised.
 - d. Probably or apparently destined.

3. _____ In the third paragraph, the word realm means
 - a. A royal domain; kingdom.
 - b. A passing or casual reference.
 - c. Any radial or radiating part.
 - d. Outside the influence of a governing body.

4. _____ When Patrick Henry used the word extenuate, he seemed to mean
 - a. To represent as less serious.
 - b. To represent as more severe.
 - c. To make light or fun of.
 - d. To jump to unjustified conclusions.

5. _____ "Our brethren are already in the field!" In the previous sentence, the word brethren means
 - a. A native or inhabitant of Brittany.
 - b. An adversary or opponent.
 - c. A male numbered among the same kinship group, nationality, race, profession, etc.
 - d. An inhabitant of an enemy state.

Student Response: *Please respond to the questions raised below. A thorough response should be a paragraph of at least three to five complete sentences.*

6. Imagine that you were a delegate at the First Continental Congress. Would you have agreed with Patrick Henry or the more moderate delegates from the mid-Atlantic colonies? Why? What arguments would you have made that were not mentioned in the reading?

The Two Sides

Following years of failed negotiations, the tensions between the colonies and Great Britain exploded into war. After King George III rejected the Olive Branch Petition and sent additional troops to North America, a full-scale war with Britain became unavoidable. Many expected a quick end to the hostilities, and few Patriots agreed with John Adams when he wrote, "We shall have a long and bloody war to go through." With the escalation of conflict on the horizon, how did the two sides stack up against one another?

The Revolutionary War was a "David v. Goliath" type of match up. Great Britain had a population of over 8 million people, while the colonies had a little over 2 million. Of those 2 million, only about 175,000 could be put into military service.

The British also had an extreme advantage when it came to the economy. Britain had the wealth of a world empire to draw from, while the colonies' revenue had always depended on trade with Great Britain. The British spent around 12 million pounds a year to fight the war, while the colonies had to rely on loans from European countries such as France, Spain, and the Netherlands to fund their war efforts.



Soldiers in the Continental Army

Great Britain had the strongest navy in the world in 1776, with more than 130 warships known as ships of the line. In contrast, the American colonies had no navy whatsoever. This lack of armed vessels led to each colony commissioning small ships to protect their coastal waters. The Continental Congress did commission a navy in 1775, but the Continental Navy never launched any ships of the line, and the small vessels that were built were used primarily for commerce raiding.

In addition, Great Britain had a professional, well experienced military that was armed with the finest weapons available. American soldiers, consisting of volunteers and militia, lacked experience, and weapons, munitions, and food were almost always in short supply.

However, the Americans did have some advantages. First, the colonists were fighting for a cause they believed in. British soldiers were fighting because it was their job, while Americans were fighting for their freedom.

Another advantage the colonists had was the fact that American forces were fighting on their own ground. They knew the terrain, roads, mountain passes, and swamplands of the colonies. British soldiers were largely foreign to the environment, and supplies and troops had to be shipped across the Atlantic Ocean.

A third factor that ultimately led to a large colonial advantage was the fighting styles implemented by the opposing armies. British soldiers had trained in the traditional firing line methods used by European armies, but many colonial soldiers were frontiersmen accustomed to hunting small prey. This made them expert marksmen. By the midpoint of the war, this advantage led to a radical change in the way American soldiers were trained.

One final advantage, and perhaps the greatest of them all, was leadership. Up and down the ranks, the colonies had capable men who knew what they were doing. While most British commanders had extensive military training, their generals often disliked one another, held vendettas, and frequently disagreed with each other. Also, in the British Army, where a man could buy a commission for himself or his son, it was customary to appoint and promote officers based on family ties, titles of nobility, loyalty to the Crown, and political connections. In contrast, the Continental Congress and George Washington promoted officers based on individual merit and performance on the battlefield.

Multiple Choice: *Select the choice that completes the statement or answers the question.*

1. _____ The economy of the American colonies had always depended on
 - a. Trade with the Dutch
 - b. Fishing
 - c. Trade with Great Britain
 - d. Cotton planting in the South

2. _____ What were large warships called in 1776?
 - a. Sloops
 - b. Drifters
 - c. Ships of the line
 - d. Carriers

3. _____ How did the American colonies attempt to protect their ports and shipping from British sea power?
 - a. The built a massive navy of their own.
 - b. Each colony commissioned small ships to protect their coastal waters.
 - c. The built submarines to attack British shipping lanes.
 - d. They abandoned their port cities and retreated inland.

4. _____ During the Revolutionary War, American fighting forces consisted primarily of
 - a. Conscripts.
 - b. Volunteers and colonial militia.
 - c. Hired Mercenaries from the German Confederation.
 - d. Escaped slaves fighting for their freedom and Native American Indians.

5. _____ Which of the following was a major obstacle that British forces faced during the Revolutionary War?
 - a. They had a major naval advantage.
 - b. They had a major naval disadvantage.
 - c. Troops and supplies had to be shipped across the Atlantic Ocean.
 - d. American officers were better educated in the art of war.

TRUE/FALSE: *Indicate whether the statement is true or false. If the statement is false, write the correct word or phrase in the space provided to make the statement true.*

6. _____ Sam Adams believed that the war with Britain would be long and bloody.

7. _____ Around 175,000 colonists were capable of bearing arms during the Revolutionary War. _____

8. _____ The British spent around 21 million pounds a year to fight the war.

9. _____ The British military had no warships whatsoever.

10. _____ Great Britain had a professional, well experienced military.

Guided Reading: *Fill in the blanks below to create complete sentences.*

1. Once King George III rejected the _____ and sent additional troops to North America, a full-scale war with Britain became unavoidable.

2. At the time of the Revolutionary War, Great Britain had a population of _____ people.

3. The _____ had an extreme advantage when it came to the economy.

4. The colonies had to rely on _____ from European countries to fund their war efforts.

5. American soldiers lacked _____, and weapons and supplies were almost always in short supply.

6. British soldiers were well trained in the traditional _____ methods used by European armies.

7. Many _____ soldiers were accustomed to hunting small prey on the frontier.

8. In the British military, a _____ could be purchased by a wealthy person.

9. Titles of _____ earned many British officers their rank.

10. George Washington and the Continental Congress promoted officers based on _____ and performance on the battlefield.

Vocabulary Check: *Select the option that best identifies the use of the underlined word.*

1. _____ In the opening paragraph, the word escalation implies
 - a. To raise the value or price of.
 - b. To raise, lower, rise, or descend on a location.
 - c. To lower in intensity, magnitude, etc.
 - d. To increase in intensity, magnitude, etc.

2. _____ "In contrast, the American colonies had no navy whatsoever." In the previous sentence, the word contrast means
 - a. To compare in order to show unlikeness or differences.
 - b. Goods imported or exported illegally.
 - c. A person who has escaped persecution in one country and is seeking asylum in another.
 - d. To compare in order to show likeness or similarity.

3. _____ In the fourth paragraph, the word primarily means
 - a. In the early years of one's education.
 - b. In the later years of service.
 - c. Essentially; mostly; chiefly; principally.
 - d. In the first instance.

4. _____ In the second to last paragraph, the word implemented seems to mean
 - a. To provide with implements.
 - b. To put into effect according to or by means of a definite plan or procedure.
 - c. To put in a particular or the proper order or arrangement.
 - d. To put in a particular or suitable place.

5. _____ In the final paragraph, vendettas seems to mean
 - a. Prolonged, bitter feuds, rivalries, contentions, or the like.
 - b. An undertaking involving uncertainty as to the outcome.
 - c. A friendly relation or intimacy.
 - d. Something that is or is to be kept in mind in making a decision, evaluating facts, etc.

Student Response: *Please respond to the questions raised below. A thorough response should be a paragraph of at least three to five complete sentences.*

6. After reading about the advantages and disadvantages of the two opposing sides in the Revolutionary War, explain which of the two you believe had the biggest advantage and why. Be sure to provide a thorough explanation.

Canada and New York

After winning victories at Concord, Ticonderoga, and Boston, Patriot leaders had to determine how to approach the next phase of the conflict. Many argued that the colonies should focus on fighting a defensive war, while others hoped to invade Canada and make it the 14th colony. What did the Patriot leaders decide to do?

In the fall of 1775, two separate American armies invaded Canada with the hopes of securing the territory for the Patriot cause. In November, a force led by General Richard Montgomery captured Montreal. The second army, under the leadership of Benedict Arnold and Daniel Morgan, faced a much more daunting task as they journeyed through the backcountry of Maine. With much of the land flooded, Arnold and Morgan lost nearly half of their force to desertion, starvation, and freezing temperatures as their men waded through waist-deep freezing water. To survive, men were reduced to eating wax, soap, and leather shoes and pants. The trip was supposed to take 20 days, but it lasted for 45. The distance was predicted to be 180 miles, but the men ended up travelling over 350. When Arnold's first attempt at capturing Quebec failed, he chose to wait on reinforcements from General Montgomery before attacking again.

Using a howling blizzard to conceal their movements, the two armies launched an assault on New Year's Eve. Montgomery was killed and Arnold wounded during the attack. Morgan's men, many of whom entered the city, were easily defeated. With the crushing defeat, Patriot hopes of capturing Canada quickly faded.

Following the failed invasion of Canada, New York City became the next battleground. General Washington had moved his army there, expecting it to be the target of the approaching British invasion. In the summer of 1776, the largest army Britain had ever assembled, 32,000 men, arrived in New York. The harbor looked like a forest of ships with 400 transport vessels and 30 ships of war. The British also brought 8,000 German Hessians. Their commander, Sir William Howe, hoped that the sheer size of his force would convince Washington and the Patriots to surrender. He was soon disappointed.

Although Washington only had an army of 20,000, many of whom were militia, the Patriots were determined to fight. In a series of battles, General Howe's army pounded the Patriots away from the city, eventually pushing them off of Long Island and across the Hudson River into New Jersey. Howe's revenge for his embarrassing loss at Boston was complete.

The most famous incident out of the New York campaign is the story of Nathan Hale, a 21-year-old teacher who was caught spying for the Continentals. He was a large man with bright red hair, which made him stand out. He also had a bad habit of writing down information. When British soldiers stopped him for questioning, they found documents on British troop numbers and positions hidden in the soles of his shoes. Hale was sentenced to hang the following day. Hale's final words before his execution were, "My only regret is that I have but one life to lose for my country."



The Last Words of Nathan Hale

Multiple Choice: *Select the choice that completes the statement or answers the question.*

1. _____ A dual invasion of this territory was made in an attempt to make it the "14th colony".

- a. Maine
- b. Ohio
- c. Kentucky
- d. Canada

2. _____ Which general successfully captured the city of Montreal?

- a. George Washington
- b. Nathan Hale
- c. Benedict Arnold
- d. Richard Montgomery

3. _____ The major Patriot assault on Quebec occurred on

- a. Christmas Eve
- b. Christmas Day
- c. New Year's Eve
- d. New Year's Day

4. _____ What British general commanded the invasion of New York?

- a. Sir Henry Clinton
- b. Sir William Howe
- c. Thomas Gage
- d. Sir Henry Clinton

5. _____ What was the name of the teacher arrested for spying on the British?

- a. Richard Montgomery
- b. Benedict Arnold
- c. Nathan Hale
- d. Philip Schuyler

TRUE/FALSE: *Indicate whether the statement is true or false. If the statement is false, write the correct word in the space provided to make the statement true.*

6. _____ The journey to Quebec required Arnold's men to march more than 450 miles.

7. _____ Benedict Arnold was killed during the attack on Quebec.

8. _____ Following the failed invasion of Canada, New York City became the next battleground. _____

9. _____ The British invasion force at New York included 8,000 German Hessians.

10. _____ When the battles for New York began, Washington's army numbered around 40,000. _____

Guided Reading: *Fill in the blanks below to create complete sentences.*

1. Many argued that the colonies should focus on fighting a _____ war.

2. The army under the command of _____ and Daniel Morgan faced a difficult journey through the backcountry of Maine.

3. Arnold and Morgan lost nearly _____ of their force to desertion, starvation, and freezing temperatures.

4. When Arnold's first attempt at capturing _____ failed, he chose to wait on reinforcements.

5. With the crushing defeat at Quebec, Patriot hopes of capturing _____ quickly faded.

6. In the summer of 1776, _____ British soldiers arrived in New York.

7. General Howe's army pushed Washington off of Long Island and across the _____ River.

8. After abandoning New York, Washington's army retreated to the colony of _____.

9. Nathan Hale was caught _____ for the Continentals.

10. Nathan Hale's final words were, "My only regret is that I have but _____".

Vocabulary Check: *Select the option that best identifies the use of the underlined word.*

1. _____ In the opening paragraph, the word defensive implies
 - a. Having an appearance of truth or reason; seemingly worthy of approval or acceptance.
 - b. Able to provide moderately steady growth with minimal risk.
 - c. Excessively concerned with guarding against the real or imagined threat of criticism.
 - d. Serving to defend territory held; protective.

2. _____ In the second paragraph, the word daunting means
 - a. Causing fear or discouragement; intimidating.
 - b. To inspire with courage, spirit, or confidence.
 - c. To stimulate by assistance, approval, etc.
 - d. To keep in existence or continuance; preserve; retain.

3. _____ “The distance was predicted to be 180 miles, but the men ended up traveling over 350.” In the previous sentence, the word predicted means
 - a. Acquaintance with facts, truths, or principles, as from study or investigation; general erudition.
 - b. Recognition of the realities, possibilities, or requirements of a situation, event, decision etc., after its occurrence.
 - c. To state or make a declaration about in advance, especially on a reasoned basis; foretell.
 - d. To state or make a declaration as an afterthought.

4. _____ In the third paragraph, the word conceal implies
 - a. Violation of faith; betrayal of trust; treason.
 - b. Something that deceives or is intended to deceive; fraud; artifice.
 - c. An action that entices or lures another person or thing into danger, a trap, or the like.
 - d. To hide; withdraw or remove from observation; cover or keep from sight.

5. _____ “Their commander, Sir William Howe, hoped that the sheer size of his force would convince Washington and the Patriots to surrender.” In the previous sentence, the word sheer means
 - a. Transparently thin; diaphanous, as some fabrics.
 - b. A deviation or divergence, as of a ship from its course; swerve.
 - c. Clear; unquestionable; absolute.
 - d. Unmixed with anything else.

Student Response: *Please respond to the questions raised below. A thorough response should be a paragraph of at least three to five complete sentences.*

6. Why do you suppose that harsh punishments are used in cases such as the one involving Nathan Hale? What does it say about Nathan Hale, that he volunteered to spy, knowing he would be executed if he were caught?

Common Sense

As the war entered its second year, many Americans still hoped to avoid a complete break with the British Empire; but even as news of the defeat in Canada reached Continental Congress in Philadelphia, support for an absolute break with Britain was growing. Where was this sentiment coming from?

While the politicians bickered, people across the colonies were reading an argument for independence that was far more powerful than any yet made by an American. In January of 1776, Thomas Paine, an Englishman who had been in the American colonies for less than two years, assaulted the concept of peace with Britain, scoffing at the idea that King George III should be viewed as the symbolic father of the country. "Of more worth is one honest man to society and in the sight of God, than all the crowned ruffians that ever lived," Paine wrote.



He went on to refer to the king as "the royal brute of Great Britain" before hacking away at the idea that the Mother Country nurtured America and made her rich within the British Empire. "Nothing can be more fallacious (unsound) than that kind of argument," Paine declared.

Paine stated that America suffered because of its connection to England due to the endless European wars that it had been dragged into. He also argued that the distance between America and England, along with their stark difference in size, were other arguments for independence. "There is something absurd in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island" he wrote.

Paine insisted that "a new era in politics is struck" and that all proposals for reconciliation made no sense since blood had been shed. Paine backed this argument with a claim that it was now America's mission to be a champion of liberty. In bold language, the 47-page pamphlet went on to call for complete independence from Britain, arguing that it was "common sense" to stop following the "royal brute". He declared that the American struggle was not simply one over taxes, but a struggle for freedom. Paine argued that citizens, not kings or queens, should make their laws.

The pamphlet caught the attention of Americans, changing the way that many viewed the king. It made very strong arguments for creating economic freedom for America as well as the colonists' right to military self-defense. Paine cried out against tyranny (abuse of government power) and the public listened as 120,000 copies of *Common Sense* rolled off of the presses in the first three months – the equivalent of selling almost 20 million books in modern America.

Common Sense went through 25 printings in 1776 alone, selling more than 500,000 copies in America and Europe. It was printed in multiple newspapers and read at town meetings throughout the colonies. Paine published the work anonymously (without his name) and donated the royalties to George Washington's Army, not only galvanizing the call to war, but helping to fund it.

Multiple Choice: *Select the choice that completes the statement or answers the question.*

1. _____ Paine referred to King George III as
 - a. The demagogue of Great Britain.
 - b. The royal brute of Normandy.
 - c. The royal brute of Great Britain.
 - d. The border ruffian.

2. _____ Which of the following was not a reason Paine argued that America should be independent from Britain?
 - a. Economic prosperity.
 - b. The difference in size.
 - c. The distance between the two.
 - d. Protection from Native American tribes.

3. _____ Thomas Paine wrote that it was America's mission to be a champion of

a. Liberty	c. Socialism
b. Capitalism	d. Independence

4. _____ How long was the pamphlet *Common Sense*?

a. 25 pages	c. 150 pages
b. 47 pages	d. 275 pages

5. _____ How many copies of *Common Sense* were printed in the first three months?

a. 75,000	c. 120,000
b. 100,000	d. 250,000

TRUE/FALSE: *Indicate whether the statement is true or false. If the statement is false, write the correct word in the space provided to make the statement true.*

6. _____ In early 1776, support for an absolute break with Britain was faltering.

7. _____ Paine assaulted the concept of peace with Britain.

8. _____ Paine stated that America prospered because of its connection to England.

9. _____ Paine argued that all proposals for reconciliation made no sense since blood had been shed. _____

10. _____ Paine argued that kings or queens should make the laws.

Guided Reading: *Fill in the blanks below to create complete sentences.*

1. People across the colonies were reading an argument for _____ that was far more powerful than any yet made by an American.

2. Thomas Paine was an _____ who had been in the American colonies for less than two years.

3. Paine scoffed at the idea that _____ should be viewed as the symbolic father of the country.

4. Paine wrote "Of more worth is one _____ to society and in the sight of God, than all the crowned ruffians that ever lived."

5. Paine wrote that "There is something absurd in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an _____."

6. *Common Sense* called for complete _____ from Britain.

7. *Common Sense* declared that the American struggle was not simply one over taxes, but a struggle for _____.

8. *Common Sense* changed the way that many Americans viewed _____.

9. Paine's writings made very strong arguments for creating _____ freedom for America.

10. In 1776 alone, *Common Sense* sold _____ copies in America and Europe.

Vocabulary Check: *Select the option that best identifies the use of the underlined word.*

1. _____ In the opening paragraph, the word sentiment means
 - a. Not based on prior study or examination.
 - b. The power to exercise choice and make decisions without constraint; self-determination.
 - c. An attitude toward something; regard; opinion.
 - d. The inward nature or true substance of anything, as opposed to what is accidental, phenomenal or illusory.

2. _____ In the second paragraph, the word scoffing implies
 - a. To speak or write derisively; mock; jeer.
 - b. To eat voraciously.
 - c. To speak with exaggeration and excessive pride, especially about oneself.
 - d. A malicious, false, and defamatory statement or report.

3. _____ "He also argued that the distance between America and England, along with their stark difference in size, were other arguments for independence." In the previous sentence, the word stark seems to mean
 - a. Stiff or rigid in substance, muscles, etc.
 - b. Harsh, grim, or desolate, as a view, place, etc.
 - c. Sheer, extreme, obvious, or severe.
 - d. Not mitigated; not softened or lessened.

4. _____ "There is something absurd in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island." In the previous sentence, Paine's use of the word perpetually means
 - a. Not permanent.
 - b. Lasting, existing, serving, or effective for a time only.
 - c. Savage; cruel; inhuman.
 - d. Continuing or enduring forever; everlasting.

5. _____ In the fifth paragraph, the word reconciliation means
 - a. To settle a quarrel, dispute, etc.
 - b. To accept an undesired consequence.
 - c. A person or thing of equal rank or importance; an equal.
 - d. To place or class in the same order, rank, division, etc.

Student Response: *Please respond to the questions raised below. A thorough response should be a paragraph of at least three to five complete sentences.*

6. Considering that the leaders in Congress were divided on the issue of independence, why do you imagine that Americans responded positively to Thomas Paine's arguments? Why do you suppose Paine published the work anonymously?