

The Independence Movement Document Based Question

This question is based on the accompanying documents. The question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Some of these documents have been edited for the purpose of this question. As you analyze the documents, take into account the source of each document and any point of view that may be presented in the document.

Historical Context:

The French and Indian War would mark the end of the Salutary Neglect era. To pay off the war debt England began imposing new taxes on the American Colonies. Upset over their lack of representation in British Government, colonists began to consider rebellion against their mother country. This led to a split in public opinion over the issue of independence. The two groups would become known as the patriots who favored independence and the loyalists who wanted to remain loyal to England.

Task:

Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of United States History, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A, Your answers to the questions will help you write the Part B essay (thematic arc response) in which you will be asked to

Choose *at least* **four** topics from The Independence Movement Thematic and for each

- describe its historical circumstance
- discuss its relation to The Independence Movement
- discuss its impact

Examples of topics from the Independence Movement Thematic include the Colonies response to Britain's Mercantilist Policies (the Stamp Act and the Tea Act, for example), Colonial Non-Importation Agreements, the Boston Massacre, The Boston Tea Party, Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*, the conflict between Patriots and Tories, and the First Continental Congress.

In developing your answer to Part B, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

(a) describe means "to illustrate something in words or tell about it"

(b) discuss means to "to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present something in detail"

Part A
Short-Answer Questions

Directions: Analyze the documents and answer the short-answer questions that follow each document in the space provided.

Document 1

This excerpt is from “Considerations . . .,” a pamphlet written by Thomas Whately. Whately was an advisor to George Grenville, British Chancellor of the Exchequer (1763–1765) and the author of the Stamp Act. In this pamphlet, Whately explained why the British were justified in levying taxes on their American colonists.

We are not yet recovered from a War undertaken solely for their [the Americans’] Protection . . . a War undertaken for their defense only . . . they should contribute to the Preservation of the Advantages they have received. . . .

Source: Thomas Whately, “Considerations”

1 According to Thomas Whately, why should American Colonists be willing to pay higher taxes? [1]

(1.) _____

Score

Document 2a

On March 5, 1770 a crowd of Boston boys and men surrounded a number of British soldiers and began taunting and cursing them while pelting them with snowballs. Order quickly broke down and the frightened soldiers fired into the crowd. When the shooting ended, several people were dead and more were wounded.

Source: J. Weston Walch Publishers 1999.

Document 2b

Paul Revere's engraving of the Boston massacre depicts the British firing on civilians in Boston. Events such as the Boston massacre served as motivating factors for colonists to support independence.



Source: Paul Revere, "The Boston Massacre"- American Antiquarian Society 1770

2a Identify **one** way that the two descriptions of the Boston Massacre differ? [1]

(1) _____

Score

2b Based on document 2b, how did Colonists respond to documents like Paul Revere's etching? [1]

(1) _____

Score

Document 3a

In May 1773, in a move to help the struggling British East India [trading] Company, Parliament passed the Tea Act. The law gave that company the right to sell its tea in America without paying the normal Taxes...The Tea Act would make the British East India Company's tea even less expensive than smuggled tea, thereby driving the American tea merchants out of Business.

Source: Cayton, Andrew et. al., America: Pathways to the Present, Prentice Hall 2003 (Adapted)

Document 3b



Source: Cooper, W.D., "The Boston Tea Party", The History of North America

3a According to document 3a, who benefited from the Tea Act? [1]

Score

3b According to document 3b, how did the Colonists respond to the Britain's Mercantilist laws? [1]

Score

Document 4

The First Continental Congress was called with the original purpose of discussing ways to resolve the conflict between the colonies and England without war

The foundation of English Liberty, and of all free government, is a right of the people to participate in their legislative council: and as the English colonists are not represented, and... cannot properly be represented in the British parliament, they are entitled to a free and exclusive power of legislation in their several provincial legislatures, where their right of representation can alone be preserved.

Source: Declaration and Resolves of the First Continental Congress, 1774 (Adapted)

4 According to the document what was the goal of the First Continental Congress? [1]

Score

Document 5

This Excerpt is from Thomas Paine's pamphlet "Common Sense" was a turning point for the independence movement in the colonies.

...Because any submission to or dependence on Great Britain tends directly to involve this continent [America] in European wars and quarrels, and sets us at variance with nations who would otherwise seek our friendship and against whom we have neither anger nor complaint. As Europe is our market for trade, we ought to form no partial connection with any part of it...Europe is too thickly planted with kingdoms to be long at peace, and whenever a war breaks out between England and any foreign power, the trade of America goes to ruin because of her connection with Britain...Small islands not capable of protecting themselves are the proper objects for kingdoms to take under their care, but there is something very absurd in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island...

Source: Excerpt from Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" (Adapted) 1775

5 According to Thomas Paine what were **two** reasons the colonies should declare independence from Great Britain? [2]

(1.) _____

Score

(2.) _____

Score

Document 6

Reverend Charles Inglis, an American Torre (loyalist) wrote this piece in response to Paine’s **Common Sense**. Within he explains the advantages of maintaining loyalty to England

... I think it no difficult matter to point out many advantages which will certainly attend our reconciliation and connection with Great Britain...I shall select a few of these; and that their importance may be more clearly discerned. By a reconciliation with Britain, a period would [end] be put to the present calamitous [chaotic] war by which so many lives have been lost, and so many more must be lost if it continues. Agriculture, commerce, and industry would resume their wonted vigor. At present, they languish and droop, both here and in Britain, and must continue to do so while this unhappy contest remains unsettled. By a connection with Great Britain, our trade would still have the protection of the greatest naval power in the world...Such exactly is the power whose protection we want for our commerce. Past experience shows that Britain is able to defend our commerce and our coasts, and we have no reason to doubt of her being able to do so for the future

Source: Excerpt from Charles Inglis’ “The Deceiver Unmasked” (Adapted) 1776

6a. According to Charles Inglis what was **one** economic reasons the colonies should remain loyal to Great Britain? [1]

Score

6b. According to Charles Inglis what was **one** military reasons the colonies should remain loyal to Great Britain? [1]

Score