

Name _____

PATRIOT, LOYALIST, OR NEUTRAL?

Directions: Read each person's biography and determine whether he or she would most likely be a patriot, loyalist, or neutral. Circle your choice then explain your reasoning in the space below.

COLONIST A

Colonist A is a poor farmer in the Hudson Valley of New York. Colonist A has paid no attention to the trouble brewing in the colonies. His day to day struggle to maintain his farm and family is what worries him. His problems have recently become worse; his landowner, a Loyalist, has had some financial troubles and to get himself out of his enormous debts, his landowner raised Colonist A's rent three times in the last five months. Colonist A barely earns enough from selling his crops to pay the original rent amount and now with the raise in the rent, Colonist A will be evicted from his farm. He and his wife have six children and fear they will have nowhere to go if they are forced to leave the farm.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision:

COLONIST B

Colonist B is a wealthy woman from New York City. Her husband's business earns tremendous wealth and honor for the family. She frequently claims to be related to several members of the House of Lords in the British Parliament. She worries about the amount of violence being committed by mobs of men called the Sons of Liberty. She and her husband fear that their wealth and their connections to Britain may cause them to be targets of the mob.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision:

COLONIST C



Colonist C is a wealthy tea merchant in Boston. Colonist C's goal in life is to make money and he doesn't care if he violates the law. Since the Townshend Acts placed a tax on tea, Colonist C has been illegally importing tea from the Dutch. His ships frequently have to hide from the British navy and British customs officials who can board his ships whenever they please. Recently he was caught smuggling in tea, but fortunately he was able to buy off the official with a large sum of money. Friends have informed Colonist C that the Royal Governor of Massachusetts has issued an arrest warrant for Colonist C, and friends advise him to go into hiding.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral

Reason for decision:

COLONIST D

Colonist D is a merchant from rural Virginia. He follows the British laws and sells all of his goods, mainly tobacco to the British. Colonist D's lifestyle is extravagant and spends large amounts of his money purchasing the finest clothes and furnishings from Europe. As a young boy, his father sent him to study in Britain and he hopes that next year, he too will send his son to Britain, the only place in his mind one can get a decent education. Due to his rich lifestyle, Colonist D is in heavy debt with several British banks. He fears that the people he owes money to will foreclose his property.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision:

COLONIST E

Colonist E is originally from Germany and lives on the Pennsylvania Frontier. Colonist E decided to move her family out of the Pennsylvania colony into the fertile Ohio Valley after her husband died. She plans to move near a British fort in the Ohio Valley which can provide protection from Indians. As she moved with her children towards the Ohio Valley, British soldiers stopped her and informed her that the Proclamation of 1763 prohibits them from moving into the Ohio Valley.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision:

COLONIST F

Colonist F is a merchant in New York City. His business imports many products from Europe, especially Britain. Colonist F has secretly grown concerned over the recent talk of independence from Britain. He fears an independent America could not protect his ships at sea; the British navy escorts colonial ships as they cross the Atlantic to protect the ships from pirates or foreign ships wanting to steal goods. Since the Townshend Acts, the Sons of Liberty have been bullying storeowners into removing British goods from their shelves. A store owner friend of his was badly beaten up by a mob of Son's of Liberty for selling British products. Since hearing of his friend's attack, Colonist F has participated with the boycotts.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision:

COLONIST G

Colonist G lives close to Boston's waterfront. He has very little money and cares little about politics. He works on docks loading and unloading the ships and at night he hangs out and plays cards in one of the many taverns along the waterfront. He has been known to spend a few nights in jail after fighting in the taverns. His toughness has caught the eye of the Sons of Liberty and for months they have been trying to recruit him. Colonist G accepted their rum and ale but refused to join the Sons of Liberty. Yesterday, Colonists G was informed that he was out of a job because the British passed a series of acts called the Intolerable Acts which closed Boston Harbor to trade.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision:

Part Two - Recruiting a Spy!

Directions: *During the American Revolution both the American Continental Army and the British Army had spies to keep track of their enemy. You have been hired by the British to recruit a spy in the colonies. You must choose your spy from one of colonists above. When making your decision use the following criteria:*

- 1) The spy cannot be someone who the Patriots mistrust. The spy should be a person who appears to agree with the Patriots.
- 2) The spy should live in a populated area where the Patriots are active and can report on Patriot activity. A colonist in a rural area will have little information to provide.
- 3) The spy should need something from the British, such as money or military protection, to entice him or her to risk his/her life.

Which colonist will make the best spy? _____

Why did you choose this colonist?

Directions: *Now, pretend you have been hired by the Sons of Liberty to recruit a spy in the colonies. You must choose your spy from one of colonists above.*

Which colonist will make the best spy for the Patriot cause? _____

Why did you choose this colonist?

Name Answer Key

PIRIOT, LOYALIST, OR NEUTRAL?

Directions: Read each person's biography and determine whether he or she would be a patriot, loyalist, or neutral. Circle your choice then explain your reasoning in the space below.

COLONIST A

Colonist A is a poor farmer in the Hudson Valley of New York. Colonist A has paid no attention to the trouble brewing in the colonies. His day to day struggle to maintain his farm and family is what worries him. His problems have recently become worse; his landowner, a Loyalist, has had some financial troubles and to get himself out of his enormous debts, his landowner raised Colonist A's rent three times in the last five months. Colonist A barely earns enough from selling his crops to pay the original rent amount and now with the raise in the rent, Colonist A will be evicted from his farm. He and his wife have six children and fear they will have nowhere to go if they are forced to leave the farm.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision:

Colonist A would most likely be neutral because he has paid no attention to the trouble brewing and would rather focus on his farm and his family.

COLONIST B

Colonist B is a wealthy woman from New York City. Her husband's business earns tremendous wealth and honor for the family. She frequently claims to be related to several members of the House of Lords in the British Parliament. She worries about the amount of violence being committed by mobs of men called the Sons of Liberty. She and her husband fear that their wealth and their connections to Britain may cause them to be targets of the mob.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision:

Colonist B would most likely be a Loyalist because her husband's business is connected to the House of Lords and brings great wealth to their family. She is also worried about violence and the Sons of Liberty.

COLONIST C



Colonist C is a wealthy tea merchant in Boston. Colonist C's goal in life is to make money and he doesn't care if he violates the law. Since the Townshend Acts placed a tax on tea, Colonist C has been illegally importing tea from the Dutch. His ships frequently have to hide from the British navy and British customs officials who can board his ships whenever they please. Recently he was caught smuggling in tea, but fortunately he was able to buy off the official with a large sum of money. Friends have informed Colonist C that the Royal Governor of Massachusetts has issued an arrest warrant for Colonist C, and friends advise him to go into hiding.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral

Reason for decision:

Colonist C would most likely be a Patriot because he doesn't care about violating British laws if he feels it benefits himself. He would also be arrested if caught by the British, so independence for America would bring him safety.

COLONIST D

Colonist D is a merchant from rural Virginia. He follows the British laws and sells all of his goods, mainly tobacco to the British. Colonist D's lifestyle is extravagant and spends large amounts of his money purchasing the finest clothes and furnishings from Europe. As a young boy, his father sent him to study in Britain and he hopes that next year, he too will send his son to Britain, the only place in his mind one can get a decent education. Due to his rich lifestyle, Colonist D is in heavy debt with several British banks. He fears that the people he owes money to will foreclose his property.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision:

COLONIST E

Colonist E is originally from Germany and lives on the Pennsylvania Frontier. Colonist E decided to move her family out of the Pennsylvania colony into the fertile Ohio Valley after her husband died. She plans to move near a British fort in the Ohio Valley which can provide protection from Indians. As she moved with her children towards the Ohio Valley, British soldiers stopped her and informed her that the Proclamation of 1763 prohibits them from moving into the Ohio Valley.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision:

Colonist E would most likely be a Loyalist because she wants protection from the British fort on the frontier in the Ohio Valley. If America became independent, she would lose that protection and could face violence from Indians.

COLONIST F

Colonist F is a merchant in New York City. His business imports many products from Europe, especially Britain. Colonist F has secretly grown concerned over the recent talk of independence from Britain. He fears an independent America could not protect his ships at sea; the British navy escorts colonial ships as they cross the Atlantic to protect the ships from pirates or foreign ships wanting to steal goods. Since the Townshend Acts, the Sons of Liberty have been bullying storeowners into removing British goods from their shelves. A store owner friend of his was badly beaten up by a mob of Son's of Liberty for selling British products. Since hearing of his friend's attack, Colonist F has participated with the boycotts.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral



Reason for decision: Colonist F would most likely be a Loyalist because his business imports many products from Europe, especially Britain. He wants protection from the British Navy for his ships.

COLONIST G

Colonist G lives close to Boston's waterfront. He has very little money and cares little about politics. He works on docks loading and unloading the ships and at night he hangs out and plays cards in one of the many taverns along the waterfront. He has been known to spend a few nights in jail after fighting in the taverns. His toughness has caught the eye of the Sons of Liberty and for months they have been trying to recruit him. Colonist G accepted their rum and ale but refused to join the Sons of Liberty. Yesterday, Colonists G was informed that he was out of a job because the British passed a series of acts called the Intolerable Acts which closed Boston Harbor to trade.

Patriot

Loyalist

Neutral

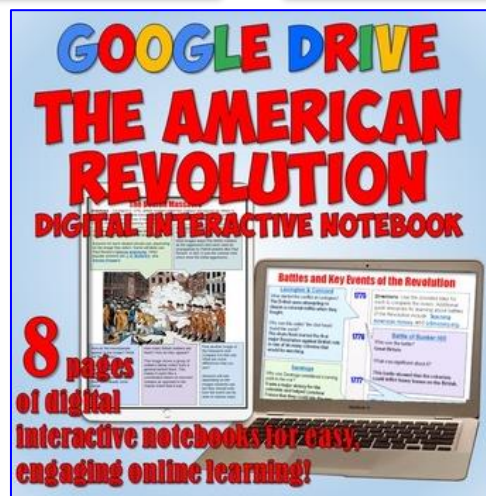
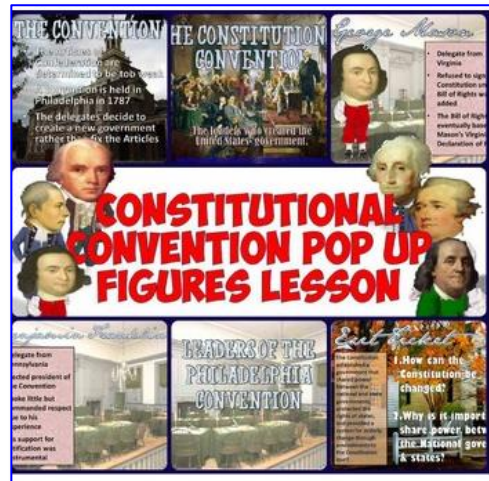
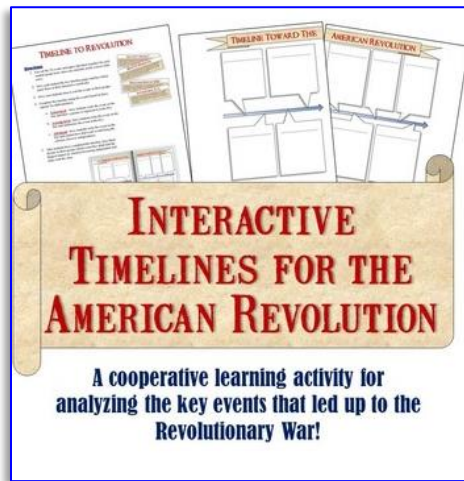


Reason for decision: Colonist G would most likely be a Patriot because he has been recruited by the Sons of Liberty whereas he has been arrested several times by the British authorities. After the Intolerable Acts were passed, he will likely join the Sons of Liberty because the Harbor will close.

GOOGLE DRIVE

Are you in a paperless classroom? You can access the [Google Drive Version of this resource here!](#) This link will have you make a copy of the Google Doc, so be sure to be signed in to your Google account. The answer key is not included there, so you can share directly with your students. It also includes links for further research.

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TESTIMONIALS

THIS IS TRULY INSPIRED!!! This changed the way my students thought of and interacted with their community, and it changed the way I thought of myself as their teacher. One of my students even ended up on the news for raising over \$500 for the local homeless shelter because of this assignment! What a great way to teach citizenship! Not to mention, this package is so complete and detailed.

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