

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How long did it take Thomas Jefferson to write the Declaration of Independence?
  - a. It took him seven days.
  - b. It took him two weeks exactly.
  - c. It took him a little more than two weeks.
  - d. It took him a month
2. What caused representatives to meet at the Second Continental Congress?
  - a. The battles of Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts
  - b. They wanted to negotiate with the British
  - c. They wanted to write the Declaration of Independence
  - d. The need to clarify the colonists' relationship with England
3. Why does the author most likely say, "the time for negotiating with Britain was over"?
  - a. The sides would have to fight rather than talk.
  - b. The war for independence was coming to an end.
  - c. The British had run out of time and lost control.
  - d. The Americans no longer wanted to gain independence.
4. Read the following sentences: "The Declaration of Independence clarified the values of the colonists. The war was not just about taxes. It was about freedom."

The word **clarified** means

- a. changed
  - b. made improvements to
  - c. drew pictures of
  - d. made easier to understand
5. The passage "The Declaration of Independence" is mostly about
  - a. famous declarations of independence throughout history and how the United States' was different.
  - b. the Second Continental Congress and the states that were there.
  - c. what led up to the Declaration of Independence being written and what it was about.
  - d. the process of writing the Declaration of Independence and the people who were involved.

6. What did the representatives agree to at the Second Continental Congress?

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7. Based on the passage, explain why Patrick Henry said, "give me liberty or give me death!"

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8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence.

The Americans needed to explain their reasons, \_\_\_\_\_ Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence.

- a. because
- b. after
- c. so
- d. although

9. Read the following sentence.

**In 1775, representatives from every colony met in Philadelphia to form the Second Continental Congress.**

Answer the questions below based on the information provided in the sentence you just read. One of the questions has already been answered for you.

- 1. Who? representatives from every colony
- 2. What did representatives do? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. When? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Why? \_\_\_\_\_