

## Section 2.A

*Joseph Warren was a medical doctor who was a leader in the American Revolution.*

*Abigail Adams was the wife of patriot John Adams, who later became president. They wrote to each other whenever they were apart. This letter from Abigail to John describes the Battle of Bunker Hill.*

Sunday June 18 1775 The Day, perhaps the decisive Day, is come on which the fate of America depends. My bursting Heart must find vent at my pen. I have just heard that our dear Friend Dr. Warren is no more but fell gloriously fighting for his Country-saying better to die honourably in the field than ignominiously [disgracefully] hang upon the Gallows. Great is our Loss. He has distinguished himself in every engagement, by his courage and fortitude [strength], by animating the Soldiers & leading them on by his own example. A particular account of these dreadful, but I hope Glorious, Days will be transmitted you, no doubt in the exactest manner. . . . Charlestown is laid in ashes. The Battle began upon our intrenchments upon Bunker's Hill, a Saturday morning about 3 o'clock & has not ceased yet & tis now 3 o'clock Sabbath [Sunday] afternoon. Tis expected they will come out over the Neck to night, & a dreadful Battle must ensue [begin]. Almighty God, cover the heads of our Country men & be a shield to our Dear Friends. How many have fallen we know not. The constant roar of the cannon is so distressing that we cannot Eat, Drink, or Sleep. May we be supported and sustained in the dreadful conflict. I shall tarry [stay] here till tis thought unsafe by my Friends, & then I have secured myself a retreat at your Brother's who has kindly offered me part of his house. I cannot compose myself to write any further at present. I will add more as I hear further . . .

*1. What did Abigail Adams say about him in her letter to her husband?*

- A. Warren was hanged.
- B. Warren was wounded.
- C. Warren died in the battle.
- D. Warren was missing.

*2. According to Abigail Adams, when did the Battle of Bunker Hill begin?*

- A. Friday, June 16
- B. Saturday, June 17
- C. Sunday, June 18
- D. Monday, June 19

*3. How did Abigail describe the cannon in the battle?*

- A. The cannon destroyed part of John Adams' brother's house.
- B. The sound of the cannon could not be heard from Abigail's location.
- C. The cannon made her leave and go to John Adams' brother's house.
- D. The sound of the cannon made it impossible to eat or sleep.

*4. The tone of the letter could best be described as*

- A. unconcerned.
- B. upset.
- C. happy.
- D. rude.

## Section 2.B

*The picture shows George Washington and the Continental Army.*



*1. Who proposed that Congress create the army and name Washington its commander?*

- A. Patrick Henry
- B. Benjamin Franklin
- C. John Adams
- D. Thomas Jefferson

*2. When Washington took command of the Continental Army, he found that*

- A. it was well supplied with gunpowder.
- B. its soldiers were well disciplined.
- C. it had few barrels of gunpowder.
- D. it had a great supply of heavy artillery.

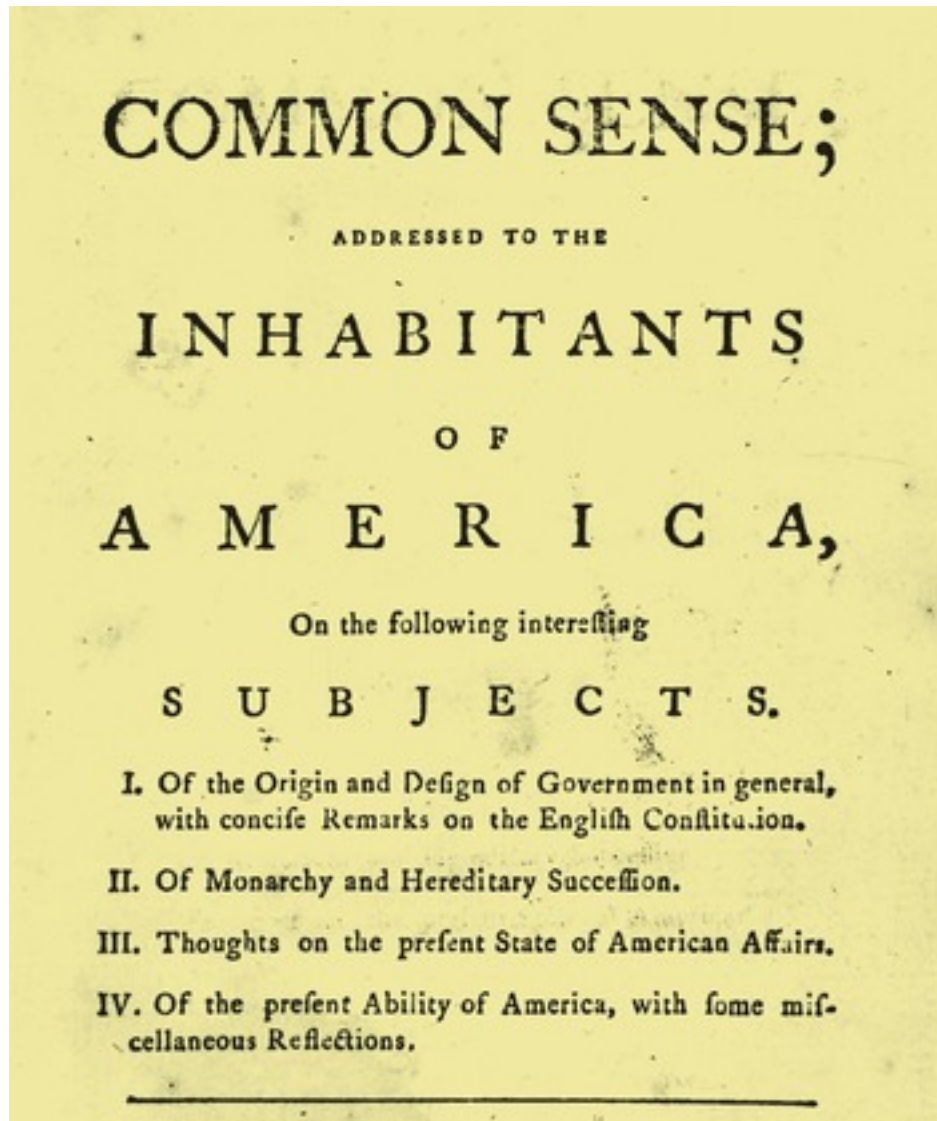
*3. How did General Washington find the cannons he needed to attack the British in Boston?*

- A. He sent letters to colonial leaders begging them for cannons.
- B. He sent Henry Knox to Fort Ticonderoga to bring cannons to Boston.
- C. He sent Henry Knox to Canada to bring cannons to Boston.
- D. He ordered the colonies to manufacture cannons for the army.

*4. Why did British troops under General Howe abandon Boston?*

- A. Colonial troops had surrounded them with cannons.
- B. The king had ordered them to return to Great Britain.
- C. They left to march to Lexington and Concord.
- D. The king had ordered them to invade Canada.

# Section 3



1. *Why did Thomas Paine write "Common Sense"?*

- A. to argue that colonists should pay more taxes to Britain
- B. to become the first best-selling author in the colonies
- C. to argue that the colonies should separate from Britain
- D. to explain why he disliked King George and Britain

2. *Colonial printing used the letter F instead of S. In which part of "Common Sense" did Paine likely describe King George as a crowned ruffian?*

- A. Part I
- B. Part II
- C. Part III
- D. Part IV

3. *Why did Paine have a difficult time finding a publisher to print "Common Sense"?*

- A. The topic of independence was controversial.
- B. Publishers thought the essay was too long.
- C. Benjamin Rush tried to prevent its publication.
- D. Paine refused to publish under his real name.

4. *Which of the following explained the success of "Common Sense"?*

- A. It could only be understood by highly educated colonists.
- B. More people read the essay after Paine was executed for treason.
- C. It used plain language to present an argument to a mass audience.
- D. It presented an idea no other colonial leader had expressed.

# Section 4

***The first paragraph of the Declaration is the introduction. Written by Thomas Jefferson, the Declaration of Independence formally announced the separation of the colonies from Britain. Congress approved the final version of the declaration on July 4, 1776.***

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America, When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,—That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. . . . We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

*1. It says that when people dissolve political ties with another country, they should*

- A. declare war against the other country.
- B. hold an election for president.
- C. declare the reasons for the separation.
- D. ask the ruler of the other country to resign.

*2. What is the meaning of "unalienable Rights"?*

- A. rights that a government grants to people
- B. rights that a government takes away from people
- C. the right to separate from another country
- D. rights that cannot be given up or transferred

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*4. In the final paragraph of this passage, to whom was Jefferson referring when he wrote "We . . . solemnly publish and declare"?*

- A. members of Congress
- B. people of the colonies
- C. Patriots in the colonies
- D. people of the world



# Section 5

On July 3, 1776, John Adams wrote to his wife, Abigail, that Congress voted for independence on July 2. Congress voted to approve the final version of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

. . . The Second Day of July 1776 . . . will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews [shows], Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more. You will think me transported with Enthusiasm but I am not. I am well aware of the Toil and Blood and Treasure, that it will cost Us to maintain this Declaration, and support and defend these States. Yet through all the Gloom I can see the Rays of ravishing Light and Glory. I can see that the End is more than worth all the Means. And that Posterity will triumph in that Day's Transaction, even although We should rue it, which I trust in God We shall not

*1. What holiday was Adams describing in his letter?*

- A. Labor Day
- B. Independence Day
- C. Patriots' Day
- D. Declaration Day

*2. How did Adams think America's birthday should be celebrated?*

- A. as a day filled with silence and prayer
- B. as a day filled with parades and fireworks
- C. as a quiet day of thanksgiving
- D. as a day that marks the start of summer

3. *Read the last paragraph of the passage. What did Adams mean when he wrote "Day's Transaction"?*

- A. Congress's decision to declare the colonies independent
- B. Congress's decision to appoint Thomas Jefferson to write the Declaration
- C. Congress's decision to declare war against Britain
- D. Congress's decision to celebrate Independence Day as an annual holiday

4. *By writing "succeeding Generations" in the first paragraph of the passage, Adams was referring to*

- A. Americans in 1776
- B. Americans in the past
- C. successful Americans
- D. Americans in the future