

Government Grade 5

The following question is based on the accompanying documents (1 - 5). It is designed to test your ability to examine and interpret the meaning of the documents. Then you will write a final essay which uses important information from the documents you have analyzed.

Directions:

- ❑ Write an introductory paragraph.
- ❑ Use specific details from at least three documents in Part A.
- ❑ You may include any other outside information that you have learned.
- ❑ Finish with a concluding paragraph.

Historic Background: The United States of America was build based on the ideas of freedom and opportunities for citizens to have a voice in their government. A democratic government works well when its citizens take an interest in what is happening and understanding how their government works.

Many historical events have influenced and shaped our roles and responsibilities as citizens and our participation in a democratic country.

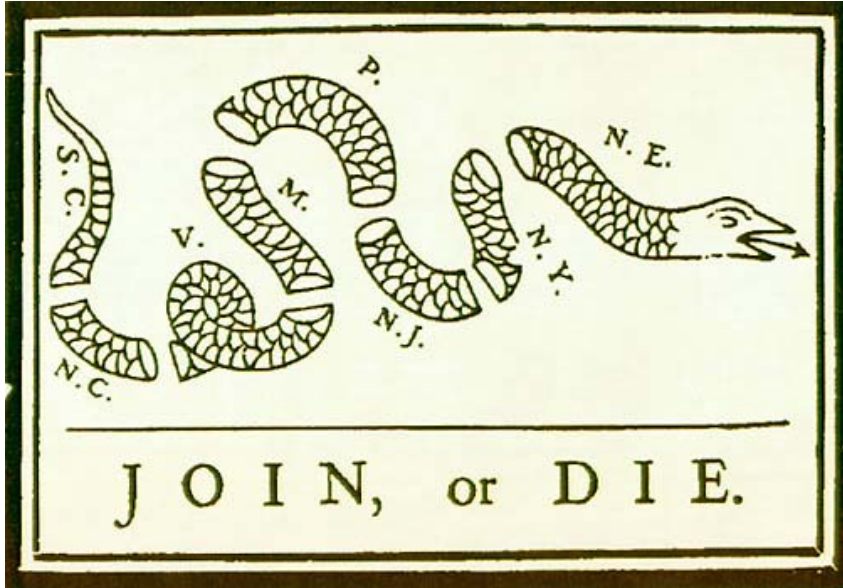
Task:

For Part A, read **each** document carefully and answer the question or questions after each document. Then read the directions for Part B and write your essay.

For Part B, use your answers from Part A, information from the documents, and your knowledge of social studies to write a well organized essay. In the essay you should:

Explain how the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship have developed throughout history.

Document 1:



1. What do the part of the snake represent?

2. Explain what "Join, or Die" means.

Document 2

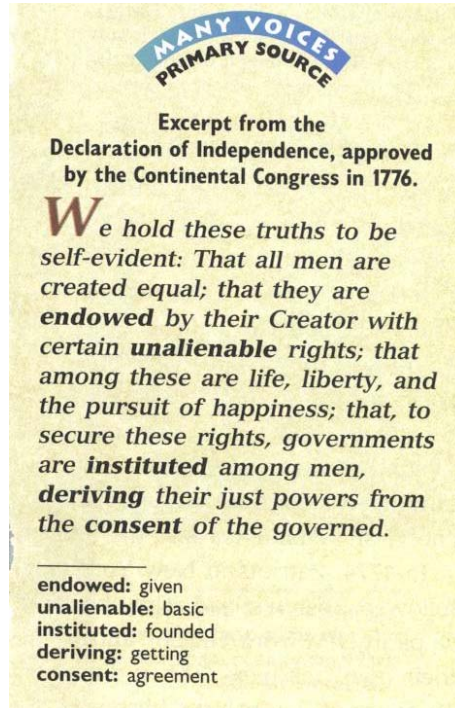
The Stamp Act required tax stamps (right) to be placed on newspapers and pamphlets



1. What items were taxed under the Stamp Act?

2. What action did the colonist take in response to the Stamp Act?

Document 3:



1. Identify two rights that the colonists had as a result of the Declaration of Independence.

1) _____

2) _____

Why was the Declaration of Independence an important statement for our country?

The Separation of Powers



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
(Congress)
Makes the laws



EXECUTIVE BRANCH
(President)
Carries out and enforces
the laws



JUDICIAL BRANCH
(Courts)
Interprets laws and
Punishes law
breakers

1. Identify the three branches of government.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

2. Why was separation of powers important to American democracy?

Document 5:



1. What is one important responsibility of an American citizen?
