

Critical Thinking Skills



American Wars Big Book

American Revolutionary War – American Civil War – Both books

Skills For Critical Thinking		Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Section 6
LEVEL 1 Remembering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall Details Match Sequence List 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 2 Understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare Characters Summarize State Main Idea Describe Interpret 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 3 Applying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose Information Identify Outcomes Apply What is Learned Make Connections 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 4 Analysing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw Conclusions Infer Character Motivations Identify Relationships 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 5 Evaluating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State and Defend an Opinion Make Judgements Explain 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LEVEL 6 Creating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predict Design Create 	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

Based on Bloom's Taxonomy

NAME: _____



Major Figures



1. Can you name any major figure in the Revolutionary War?

2. Who was George Washington and why do you think he was important?

3. Who was Thomas Jefferson? What do you know about him?

4. Match the word on the left to its meaning on the right.

1

plantation

the officer who holds the supreme command

A

2

nickname

the actions and activities assigned to or required or expected of a person or group

B

3

role

an estate where cash crops are grown on a large scale

C

4

pamphlets

consider in a comprehensive way

D

5

commander-in-chief

an unbound printed work

E

6

survey

a descriptive name added to or replacing the actual name of a person, place or thing

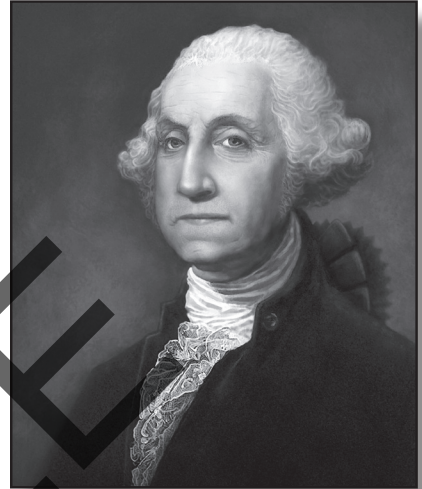
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Major Figures

There were many people that played important roles during the **American Revolution**.

George Washington was born on February 22, 1732 in Westmoreland County, Virginia. He went to school until he was fifteen. Washington then trained and worked as a land surveyor. When his brother died, he received the family property and returned there to be a farmer on the **plantation**. He married Martha Custis and got more land through his marriage to her. Their main house was on a Virginia plantation called **Mount Vernon**.



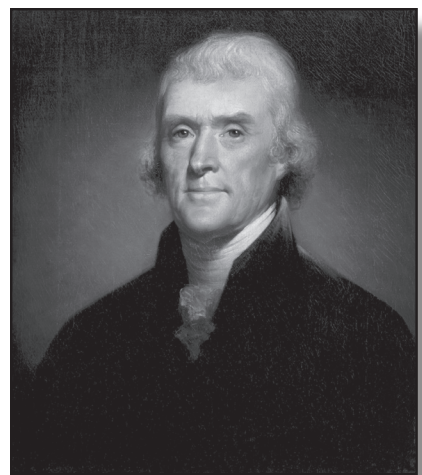
Washington was made the **commander** of the **Virginia Militia** in 1755. He served as an officer in the French and Indian War. He was said to be witty and charming and was a great leader of men. He was also well respected. Because of his experience, he was made the **commander-in-chief** of the **Continental Army** in 1775 when the war started. He led the army in the northern colonies. Washington retreated out of New York and lost the town. However, he re-crossed the **Delaware River** in the winter and surprised the British at **Trenton** and **Princeton**. He helped the army survive a tough winter at **Valley Forge**. He moved the army south in 1781 to meet the southern army. They trapped **Cornwallis** and the British at **Yorktown**. There, Cornwallis **surrendered** his army to Washington.



What battles did George Washington fight in?

After the war ended in 1783, Washington returned to his plantation to farm. He came back into politics in 1787 to help write the **U.S. Constitution**. Washington became the first **president** of the United States in 1789 and served until 1797. He is often called the "**Father of our country**" because of all he did during the **Revolution** and the forming of the United States.

Thomas Jefferson was born on April 13, 1743 in Virginia. He was well educated and became a lawyer. He also had many other talents. He was an architect and an inventor. He loved the law and politics as well as music and education. Before the Revolution, Jefferson wrote many **pamphlets** for the **Patriot** side. He was one of the main writers of the **Declaration of Independence**. He was very concerned with the rights of the colonists. He felt that all people had the right to "**life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness**".



NAME: _____



Key Events of the Civil War

3. Use the words in the box below to fill in the blanks. Go back to the reading passage to check your answers.

equality
controversial
determined

resolve
sympathizers
materialized

overthrow
independent
divided

- _____ a) Booth and Powell were called these
- _____ b) Lincoln said everyone would have this
- _____ c) The Emancipation Proclamation was called this
- _____ d) The north and south were not together
- _____ e) The south wanted to be out on their own
- _____ f) Plans to take over the government did not happen
- _____ g) Name given to south; they did not give up
- _____ h) A promise or decision
- _____ i) Booth and Powell wanted to do this

Research & Application

4. The **Gettysburg Address** has been called one of the most popular and important speeches in American history. Despite that, the exact wording of the speech has been disputed. There are five different manuscripts, or copies, of the Gettysburg Address. Do some research to find **at least three** of them. Read the speech (it is less than 300 words) and then find out what the differences are. Include the source information from where you read the speech. **Create a chart** similar to the one below to show what you have discovered.

Differences in the Gettysburg Address

Speech #1	Speech #2	Speech #3
Source:	Source:	Source: