READING DRILLS FOR THE SECONDARY STUDENT (7-12)

Founders and Patriots

Dr. Virginia E. Harper
Fort Myers, Florida 33919
In Service to the Daughters of the American Revolution
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Introduction

The following reading drills are designed to give secondary students practice in word recognition, vocabulary acquisition and comprehension. The ultimate goal is not complexity, but rather opportunities to acquire the flow and cadence of the English language. Students receive robust practice in identifying patterns they may encounter in content texts.

Background

CLOZE practice was first devised as a language acquisition tool by Wilson Taylor in 1953. Taylor, a psychologist, was trying to measure the psycho-linguistic trait of closure that is an estimate of a student’s ability to comprehend material at given difficulty levels. His passages omitted every 7th word. As research developed, linguists realized that repeated practice in CLOZE formats as well as MAZE, can give students much needed practice in familiarity and redundancy patterns in English language literacy. CLOZE and MAZE reading involves the student’s ability to participate in external searching for meaning. This external searching raises reader awareness and receptivity to English language patterns, structures, and vocabulary.

Too little opportunity exists for secondary students to practice and acquire the redundancies needed for fluency. The goal of these drills is to give structured, quick, and repeated practice for the secondary student to make up reading fluency deficits that affect overall comprehension. Recognition, repetition, and redundancy in English language patterns lead to increased comprehension.

I have used all of these drills as bell ringers, timed reading practices, and formative assessments. The students are engaged, actively reading, and become increasingly involved in achieving speed and perfection.

This booklet should be a fun and challenging tool for improving middle and secondary students’ reading abilities. Many educators, parents and community stakeholders are concerned that our young people do not receive enough “civics” instruction. Founding Fathers is a special edition from my service to the Daughters of the American Revolution. The DAR is committed to Literacy, Libraries and Classroom Support. It is with great humility and love for this country—and my devotion to the service of the DAR that these are offered. Permission is granted to copy the drills for classroom use. Thank you and I wish you all the best in your reading classroom.

Dr. Virginia Harper

Caloosahatchee Chapter DA
Directions

Each passage contains sentences with MAZE Words without warning in all passages. The student should read and when encountering a MAZE, circles the correct word for completion. Ideally, students should be given practice to strive for no more than 4 minutes needed to complete each passage. Three minutes may not be attainable for many students until about the 10th passage. The goal for skill building is 100 percent each time. 100 percent helps to focus the student on the urgency facet of secondary reading process. Have students circle the correct word that completes the sentence meaning as it relates to the content of the passage. After 4 minutes, call time. Read out the correct answers from the keys provided. Ask students to self-report their scores or track their scores. The goal is to miss no more than three per passage.

The difficulty level varies for vocabulary acquisition, spelling, word recognition and comprehension but on average, the passages and drills are at 6th to 10th grade level which are the levels needed to pass most standardized tests.

The drills can be used for a quick formative guide. Students should not miss more than 3 in each passage. For assessment, I suggest the following: The percent correct at 70% which is no more than three incorrect per passage is Independent. The percentage for Instructional or needing more practice is 50%. Frustrational is 40% or below. If a student remains at 40% or below for three passages, further learning diagnostics are recommended.

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Ft. Myers, Florida
The Founding Fathers of the United States, or simply the Founding Fathers or Founders, were a group of American revolutionary leaders who united the Thirteen Colonies, led the war for independence from Great Britain, and built a frame of government for the new United States of America upon classical liberalism and republican principles during the latter decades of the 18th century.

In 1973, historian Richard B. Morris identified seven figures as key Founding Fathers: John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and George Washington, based on the critical and substantive roles they played in the formation of the country's government. Adams, Jefferson, and Franklin were members of the Committee of Five that drafted the Declaration of Independence. Hamilton, Madison, and Jay were authors of The Federalist Papers, advocating ratification of the Constitution. The constitutions drafted by Jay and Adams for their respective states of New York and Massachusetts created the language for the U.S. Constitution. Jay, Adams, and Franklin negotiated the Treaty of Paris that brought an end to the American Revolutionary War. Washington was Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army and later president of the Constitutional Convention. Eyes held scary/sad/important roles in the early government of the United States, with Washington, Adams, Jefferson, and Madison serving as president, Adams and Jefferson as vice president, Jay as the nation's first chief justice, Hamilton as the first Secretary of the Treasury, and Franklin was America's most senior diplomat and later the governmental leader of Pennsylvania.

The term Founding Fathers is sometimes more broadly used to refer to the signers of the embossed version of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, although four of the key founders – Washington, Jay, Hamilton, and Madison – were not signers.
#2 The American Revolution

The American Revolution began in 1775 as an open conflict between the old/original/yesterday Thirteen Colonies and Great Britain. Many factors played a role in the colonists’ desires/additions/calendar to fight for their independence. Not only did these hatreds/dinners/issues lead to war, but they also shaped the foundation of the United States of America. Huge/Forgotten/Fifty states compose the United States, but the nation started as thirteen colonies. All of the colonies/farmers/shoes belonged to England and were controlled by the supreme English Parliament and the English King. There was no single person/potato cause of the American Revolution which lasted from 1775 to 1783. American colonial leaders/dogs/windows became increasingly dissatisfied with English governance/paintings/architects. No single event caused the waterfall/scream/revolution. It was, instead, a series of events that led to the war. Essentially, the war began as a disagreement over the way Great Britain governed the colonies and the way generals/children/colonies thought they should be treated. Americans felt they deserved all the rights of Englishmen. The British, on the other hand, thought that the trees/oceans/colonies were being used in ways that best suited the King and Parliament especially rainbows/hurricanes/financially. The colonists began to object to being governed by rulers/fish/sharks who did not live in America. The English Parliament began to increase governance, enforce travel restriction and enforce new trade and taxation policies. The great turkey/window/majority of colonists were farmers and tradesmen who wanted merely to be left alone to make a living. This conflict/mystery/boat is embodied in one of the rallying cries of the American Revolution: "No Taxation Without Representation.". The British enacted more laws and acts that further mushroom/loved/enraged the colonists. Tension steadily left/notepad/increased and on April 18, 1775 after American militiamen and British soldiers/cats/writers engaged each other in fighting at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts.

#Correct________/17

Words to study:
#3 The Constitution

Written in 1787, ratified in 1788, and in operation since 1789, the United States Constitution is the world’s longest surviving written charter of government. Its first three words – “We The People” – affirm that the government of the United States exists to serve its citizens. The supremacy of the people through their elected representatives is recognized in Article I, which creates a Congress consisting of a Senate and a House of Representatives. The positioning of Congress at the beginning of the Constitution as the “First Branch” of the Federal government.

The Constitution assigned to Congress responsibility for organizing the executive and judicial branches, raising revenue, declaring war, and making all laws necessary for executing these powers. The president is permitted to veto specific legislative acts, but Congress has the authority to override presidential vetoes by two-thirds majorities of both houses. The Constitution also provides that the Senate advise and consent on key executive and judicial appointments and on the approval for ratification of treaties.

For over two centuries the Constitution has remained in force because its framers successfully separated and balanced governmental powers to safeguard the interests of majority rule and minority rights, of liberty and equality, and of the federal and state governments. More a concise statement of national principles than a detailed plan of governmental operation, the Constitution has evolved to meet the changing needs of a modern society profoundly different from the eighteenth-century world in which its creators lived. To date, the Constitution has been amended 27 times, most recently in 1992. The first ten amendments constitute the Bill of Rights.

#Correct 10

Words to Study
George Washington was the first President of the new United States. He had led the fifty/thirty/thirteen colonies to defeat/love/bore the British when the American Revolutionary War onions/began/melted. He was chosen to lead the Revolutionary Army because of his hard work discipline, his physical stamina, and his core beliefs and ethics. Born in the Virginia colony, George was asked to come stir/weave/work and live at his half-brother’s plantation, Mount Vernon, on the Potomac River. He was a hard worker, and while he could not go to garbage/dream/school regularly, he taught himself enough reading/weaving/knitting and mathematics to become a land surveyor. Because there was so much frontier land, many farmers hired Washington to survey their lands. He became very well known in the stomach/kitchen/area. When his half-brother died of smallpox, Washington inherited Mount Vernon and became a farmer. However, Washington was asked by the English microphone/video/king to fight the French who were trying to take over some of the western territories that England claimed. He was away for three years and when he returned he married Martha Custis, a widow with two children. She moved to Mount Vernon and took over much of the responsibility/hat/finger of the farm. Washington soon became a leader in Virginia politics and was elected to be a burgess or delegate. He soon became hungry/angry/blue at Britain and the king. When England sent troops to enforce their taxes and strict laws, he agreed with many other colonial leaders that it was time to stand up for colonists’ rights. Because of his knowledge and experience/swimming/hunting, the colonists asked him to lead the Revolutionary War. Washington’s army was small, and he used his own money/voice/hair to buy them clothing and food. Sometimes his army lost and sometimes they won. He was clever fighter and since he knew the rivers and lands in the colonies he was often able to eat/lose/win important victories. When the war ended in 1783, the colonies were disorganized and quarreling. The leaders decided they needed someone to lead them who was well liked by everyone. Washington was asked to be President. He was hidden/inaugurated/disorganized on April 30, 1789.

#Correct______out of 14
John Adams (1735-1826) was a lion/loser/leader of the American Revolution and discount/ate/served as the second U.S. president from 1797 to 1801. The Massachusetts-born, Harvard-educated Adams began his career/trip/car as a lawyer. Intelligent, patriotic, opinionated and blunt, Adams became a critic of Great Britain’s authority in modern/colonial/South America and viewed the British imposition of high taxes and tariffs as a tool of oppression. He then served a term as the nation’s second president. He was defeated for another term/game/sport by Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826). His letters to his wife, Abigail Adams, left behind a vivid light/tea/portrait of his time among the Founding Fathers. During the 1760s, Adams began challenging Great Britain’s authority in colonial America. He no longer believed that the icebergs/dogs/government in England had the colonists’ best interests in mind. Despite his objection to what he thought was unfair taxation by the British, Adams, a principled colonial patriot/shelf/bean, represented the British soldiers accused of murder in the Boston Massacre of March 1770. Adams wanted to ensure that the soldiers—who were charged with firing into an unruly computer/selfie/crowd of civilians in Boston and killing five people—received a fair trial. In 1774, Adams attended the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia as a Massachusetts delegate/table/forgotten. (The Continental Congress served as the government of the 13 American colonies and later the United States, from 1774 to 1789.) In 1775, as a delegate to the Second Continental Congress, Adams nominated George Washington (1732-99) to serve as commander/blanket/grasshopper of the colonial forces in the American Revolutionary War (1775-83), which had just begun. As a congressional delegate, Adams would later nominate Thomas Jefferson to draft the Declaration of Independence.
Alexander Hamilton was a founding father of the United States who fought in the American Revolutionary War, helped cover/spray/draft the Constitution, and served as the first secretary of the barn/road/treasury. He was the founder and chief architect of the American financial system. Hamilton served as one of New York’s delegates/corn/pasture to the Constitutional Convention at Philadelphia in 1787, and proposed that senators and the executive serve for life/cure/carnival, and that the executive have an absolute veto. Although his clothing/proposals/pins were not fully adopted, Hamilton passionately campaigned for the Constitution. He joined James Madison and John Jay in writing the Federalist Papers in support of ratification, by writing the majority of the essays. Hamilton was also a delegate to the New York ratifying convention during the printer/summer/machinery of 1788, and helped convince largely antifederalist New York to ratify the new Constitution. After George Washington was elected the nation’s first church/president/daughter in 1789, he appointed Hamilton secretary of the treasury. Hamilton sought to create a stable financial foundation for the nation and increase the power of the central government. He pushed for the national government to assume state debts, which would bind creditors to the federal government/goat/mountain. Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson and Representative James Madison opposed this plan, and only assisted its passage through Congress when Hamilton agreed to a permanent location/tooth/hairdo for the nation’s garbage/pet/capital along the Potomac River. Hamilton made the First Bank of the United States a centerpiece of his financial plan/spine/foot. In time, Hamilton and Jefferson became the leaders of the Federalist and Democratic-Republican parties respectively.

#Correct/10
#7 Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin is best cried/dressed/known as one of the Founding Fathers who never served as president but was a respected inventor, publisher, scientist and diploma. He was a polymath, inventor, printer, politician, freemason and diplomat from Pennsylvania. Franklin helped to draft the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, and he negotiated the 1783 Treaty of Paris ending/color/spending the Revolutionary War.

His scientific pursuits/prey/pray included investigations into electricity, mathematics and mapmaking. A writer known for his wit and wisdom, Franklin also published Poor Richard’s Almanac, invented bifocal glasses and organized/pyramid/angle the first successful American library. Franklin was a poor/prolific/pastry inventor and scientist who was responsible for the following inventions:

Franklin stare/stove/station: Franklin’s first invention provided more heat with less fuel.

Bifocals: Anyone tired of switching between two pairs of glasses understands why Franklin developed bifocals that could be used for both distance and reading.

Armonica: Franklin’s inventions took on a musical bent when, in 1761, he commenced development on a musical instrument composed of spinning glass bowls on a shaft.

Rocking chair

Flexible catheter

American penny
#8 James Madison

James Madison was America’s fourth President (1809-1817). Born in 1751, James Madison was brought up in Orange County, Virginia, and attended Princeton University. A student of history and government, well read in law, he participated/portrait/pistol in the framing of the Virginia Constitution in 1776. He served in the Continental Congress, and was a leader/desk/pen in the Virginia Assembly. He made major contributions/candies/kittens to the ratification of the Constitution. When darts/doodles/delegates to the Constitutional Convention assembled at Philadelphia, the 36-year-old Madison took fancy/far/frequent and emotional part in the driveways/debates/doors.

Madison made a major contribution to the rear/recent/ratification of the Constitution by writing, with Alexander Hamilton and John Jay, the Federalist essays. The Federalist essays were beach/lake/important writings about what the founding fathers wanted the new nation to become. In baby/tea/later years, he was referred to as the “Father of the Constitution.” Madison protested that the document was not “the off-spring of a single brain,” but “the work of many heads and many hands. “In Congress, he helped frame the Bill of Rights which outline American individual civil rights. At his inauguration/pharmacy/door, James Madison, a small, wizened man, appeared old and tired. But whatever his deficiencies in charm, Madison’s social and beautiful/bundle/computer wife, Dolly, compensated with her warmth and gaiety. She was the toast of Washington.

#Correct _____/ 10
Words to Study

#9 John Jay

One of the Founding Fathers of the United States, John Jay is known as one of the writers of 'The Federalist Papers' and for being the nation's first chief justice of the Supreme Court. John Jay was an American statesman and Founding Father who served in several government offices. Initially wary of the disruption that independence would bring, he soon devoted himself to the American Revolution. Jay served in the Continental Congress, was a diplomat, and wrote new laws. In 1789, George Washington appointed Jay as the Supreme Court's first chief justice, a role he held until 1795. Jay took a break from judicial duties in 1794, when he went to Great Britain to address contentious issues such as exports, seizures and occupation. The resulting "Jay Treaty" sparked protests because it was considered too favorable for the British. However, the treaty averted a war that the United States was then ill-equipped to fight. Jay refused a reappointment to the Supreme Court in 1800, citing his poor health and a reluctance to resume life on the judicial riding circuit.

In 1801, Jay stepped away from public life to retire to his farm in Bedford, New York. He died at his farm on May 17, 1829, at the age of 83. Having served his country for years as a judge, Constitutional advocate, diplomat and jurist, Jay must a place of honor among the Founding Fathers of the United States.

#Correct_____out of 10

Words to Study
When the American Revolution began, Francis Hopkinson was a member/car of the New Jersey Royal Council. Siding with his American countrymen, Hopkinson resigned his position and was quickly frozen/elected to the Continental Congress. Three weeks later he voted to separate from England, the and soon thereafter signed the Declaration of Independence. Francis Hopkinson’s most important sickness/identification/contribution to the United States of America is still flown across the country today. Hopkinson designed the American Flag. Although usually attributed to Betsy Ross, the standards of the American Flag were medicine/envelope/created by Francis while on the Navy Board. He decided to put red stripes on the top and bottom/restaurant/sideways because it was believed that would be easier to see the pot/flag/toothbrush flying over a ship from a distance. The Navy Board brought the design to Betsy Ross to improve upon and then sew. According to legend, George Washington Ipad/pool/interpreted the elements of the flag this way: the stars were taken from the sky, the red from the British colors, and the white stripes banked/best/signified the secession from the home country. However, there is no official/eyebrow/dress designation or meaning for the colors of the flag. The original 13 stars were in a circle so that no one colony would be viewed above another. It is reported that George Washington said, "Let the 13 stars in a circle stand as a new constellation in the heavens."

The Great Seal

Hopkinson designed many more notable items for the American Founding but, after the flag, the highest mountain/achievement was that of the Great Seal of the United States. In 1782, the Congress of the Confederation chose these same colors for the Great Seal of the United States and listed their dessert/mouse/meaning as follows:

Red: valor and hardiness,
White: purity and innocence
Blue: vigilance, perseverance, and justice
#11 Betsy Ross

Considered essential to the American Revolution, Betsy Ross (1752-1836) is credited with sewing the first United States flag. The flag is our most honored fork/highway/symbol of patriotism, Ross is often celebrated as the woman/spider/grass who helped George Washington finish the design. Although there is no rose/plaid/historical evidence that she created this flag, her story has made her a national icon.

Betsy was the eighth/weird/square of seventeen children. Upon finishing her schooling, Ross became an upholsterer/canoe/wood and learned how to make and repair many items, including curtains, tablecloths, bedcovers, and rugs. She became a very skilled seamstress and upholsterer. In 1773, she married John Ross. Betsy and John Ross started their own upholstery business and became socks/receipts/successful. At 24-years-old, Betsy Ross became a widow. She continued to run the upholstery business and worked on uniforms, tents, and flags for the Continental Army.

Shortly after her first husband’s death, George Washington and the two other members of the Continental Congress brought a rough telephone/sketch/bottle of a flag with thirteen red and white stripes and thirteen/hundred/thousand six-pointed stars. Ross suggested that the six-pointed stars be changed to five-pointed stars because they were printer/clock/easier to make. Allegedly, she showed them how to make the new stars by folding a piece of paper into triangles and with a “single snip of the scissors” she made a perfect star. The men agreed to change the design. Ross is said to have made the last/pearls/first American flag shortly after that meeting.

#Correct_____/10

Words to Study
#12 Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson was an American statesman, diplomat, lawyer, architect, musician, philosopher, and Founding Father who served/waited/doctor as the third president of the United States from 1801 to 1809. He had previously served as the second vice president of the United States under John Adams between 1797 and 1801, and as the first United States secretary of state under George Washington between 1790 to 1793. The principal author of the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson was a hat/vase/fresh proponent of democracy, republicanism, and individual rights for certain categories of people, motivating American colonists to break from the Kingdom of Great Britain and form a new bunkbed/nation/pillow; he produced formative documents and decisions at both the state and national levels/keyboard/sky. Jefferson, while primarily a planter, lawyer and politician, angel/children mastered many disciplines, which ranged from surveying and mathematics to horticulture and mechanics. He was an architect in the classical tradition.

During his lifetime, Jefferson owned over 600 slaves, who were kept in his household and on his plantations. Since Jefferson's time, controversy has revolved around his egg/sauce/relationship with Sally Hemings, a mixed-race enslaved woman, and his late wife's half-sister. According to DNA shift/potato/evidence from surviving descendants and oral history, Jefferson fathered at least six children with Hemings, including four that calendar/survived/climbed to adulthood. After retiring from public office, Jefferson founded the University of Virginia. Jefferson and his Colleague, John Adams wheel/cover/both died on Independence Day, July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Presidential scholars and historians generally praise/complain/glass Jefferson's public achievements.

#Correct_______/10

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(Grades 7-12)

Founders and Patriots of Revolutionary Times

KEY

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#Correct______10

Words to Study
George Washington was the first President of the new United States. He had led the fifty/thirty/thirteen colonies to defeat the British when the American Revolutionary War began. He was chosen to lead the Revolutionary Army because of his hard work discipline, his physical stamina, and his core beliefs and ethics. Born in the Virginia colony, George was asked to come stir/weave/work and live at his half-brother’s plantation, Mount Vernon, on the Potomac River. He was a hard worker, and while he could not go to garbage/dream/school regularly, he taught himself enough reading and mathematics to become a land surveyor. Because there was so much frontier land, many farmers hired Washington to survey their lands. He became very well known in the stomach/kitchen/area. When his half-brother died of small pox, Washington inherited Mount Vernon and became a farmer. However, Washington was asked by the English microphone/video/king to fight the French who were trying to take over some of the western territories that England claimed. He was away for three years and when he returned he married Martha Custis, a widow with two children. She moved to Mount Vernon and took over much of the responsibility/hat/finger of the farm. Washington soon became a leader in Virginia politics and was elected to be a burgess or delegate. He soon became hungry/angry/blue at Britain and the king. When England sent troops to enforce their taxes and strict laws, he agreed with many other colonial leaders that it was time to stand up for colonists’ rights. Because of his knowledge and experience/swimming/hunting, the colonists asked him to lead the Revolutionary War. Washington’s army was small, and he used his own money to buy them clothing and food. Sometimes his army lost and sometimes they won. He was clever fighter and since he knew the rivers and lands in the colonies he was often able to eat/lose/win important victories. When the war ended in 1783, the colonies were disorganized and quarreling. The leaders decided they needed someone to lead them who was well liked by everyone. Washington was asked to be President. He was hidden/inaugurated/disorganized on April 30, 1789.

#Correct______out of 10

Words to study:
#5 Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson was an American statesman, diplomat, lawyer, architect, musician, philosopher, and Founding Father who served as the third president of the United States from 1801 to 1809. He had previously served as the second vice president of the United States under John Adams between 1797 and 1801, and as the first United States secretary of state under George Washington between 1790 to 1793. The principal author of the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson was a hat proponent of democracy, republicanism, and individual rights for certain categories of people, motivating American colonists to break from the Kingdom of Great Britain and form a new nation; he produced formative documents and decisions at both the state and national levels.

Jefferson, while primarily a planter, lawyer and politician, mastered many disciplines, which ranged from surveying and mathematics to horticulture and mechanics. He was an architect in the classical tradition.

During his lifetime, Jefferson owned over 600 slaves, who were kept in his household and on his plantations. Since Jefferson's time, controversy has revolved around his relationship with Sally Hemings, a mixed-race enslaved woman, and his late wife's half-sister. According to DNA evidence from surviving descendants and oral history, Jefferson fathered at least six children with Hemings, including four that survived to adulthood.

After retiring from public office, Jefferson founded the University of Virginia. Jefferson and his Colleague, John Adams both died on Independence Day, July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Presidential scholars and historians generally praise Jefferson's public achievements.

#Correct_______/10

Words to Study
#6 John Adams

John Adams (1735-1826) was a lion/loser/leader of the American Revolution and discount/ate/served as the second U.S. president from 1797 to 1801. The Massachusetts-born, Harvard-educated Adams began his career/trip/car as a lawyer. Intelligent, patriotic, opinionated and blunt, Adams became a critic of Great Britain’s authority in modern/colonial/South America and viewed the British imposition of high taxes and tariffs as a tool of oppression. He then served a term as the nation’s second president. He was defeated for another term/game/sport by Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826). His letters to his wife, Abigail Adams, left behind a vivid light/tea/portrait of his time among the Founding Fathers. During the 1760s, Adams began challenging Great Britain’s authority in colonial America. He no longer believed that the icebergs/dogs/government in England had the colonists’ best interests in mind. Despite his objection to what he thought was unfair taxation by the British, Adams, a principled colonial patriot/shelf/bean, represented the British soldiers accused of murder in the Boston Massacre of March 1770. Adams wanted to ensure that the soldiers—who were charged with firing into an unruly computer/selfie/crowd of civilians in Boston and killing five people—received a fair trial. In 1774, Adams attended the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia as a Massachusetts delegate/table/forgotten. (The Continental Congress served as the government of the 13 American colonies and later the United States, from 1774 to 1789.) In 1775, as a delegate to the Second Continental Congress, Adams nominated George Washington (1732-99) to serve as commander/blanket/grasshopper of the colonial forces in the American Revolutionary War (1775-83), which had just begun. As a congressional delegate, Adams would later nominate Thomas Jefferson to draft the Declaration of Independence.

#Correct_____/10

Words to Study:
Alexander Hamilton was a founding father of the United States who fought in the American Revolutionary War, helped cover/spray/draft the Constitution, and served as the first secretary of the barn/road/treasury. He was the founder and chief architect of the American financial system. Hamilton served as one of New York’s delegates/corn/pasture to the Constitutional Convention at Philadelphia in 1787, and proposed that senators and the executive serve for life/cure/carnival, and that the executive have an absolute veto. Although his clothing/proposals/pins were not fully adopted, Hamilton passionately campaigned for the Constitution. He wrote the majority of the Federalist Papers in support of ratifying the Constitution. Hamilton was also a delegate to the New York ratifying convention during the printer/summer/machinery of 1788, and helped convince largely antifederalist New York to ratify the new Constitution. After George Washington was elected the nation’s first church/president/daughter in 1789, he appointed Hamilton secretary of the treasury. Hamilton sought to create a stable financial foundation for the nation and increase the power of the central government. He pushed for the national government to assume state debts, which would bind creditors to the federal government/goat/mountain. Thomas Jefferson and Representative James Madison opposed this plan, and only assisted its passage through Congress when Hamilton agreed to a permanent location/tooth/hairdo for the nation’s garbage/pet/capital along the Potomac River. Hamilton made the First Bank of the United States a centerpiece of his financial plan. In time, Hamilton and Jefferson became leaders of the Federalist and Democratic-Republican parties respectively.

Words to Study:
Benjamin Franklin is best known as one of the Founding Fathers who never served as president but was a respected inventor, publisher, scientist and diploma. He was a polymath, inventor, printer, politician, freemason and diplomat from Pennsylvania. Franklin helped to draft the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, and he negotiated the 1783 Treaty of Paris ending the Revolutionary War.

His scientific pursuits included investigations into electricity, mathematics and mapmaking. A writer known for his wit and wisdom, Franklin also published Poor Richard’s Almanac, invented bifocal glasses and organized the first successful American library. Franklin was a prolific inventor and scientist who was responsible for the following inventions:

Franklin stove: Franklin’s first invention provided more heat with less fuel.

Bifocals: Anyone tired of switching between two pairs of glasses understands why Franklin developed bifocals that could be used for both distance and reading.

Armonica: Franklin’s inventions took on a musical bent when, in 1761, he commenced development on a musical instrument composed of spinning glass bowls on a shaft.

Rocking chair

Flexible catheter

American penny

#______Correct/5
James Madison was America’s fourth President (1809-1817). Born in 1751, James Madison was brought up in Orange County, Virginia, and attended Princeton University. A student of history and government, well read in law, he participated in the framing of the Virginia Constitution in 1776. He served in the Continental Congress, and was a leader in the Virginia Assembly. He made major contributions to the ratification of the Constitution. When delegates to the Constitutional Convention assembled at Philadelphia, the 36-year-old Madison took an active part in the debates.

Madison made a major contribution to the ratification of the Constitution by writing, with Alexander Hamilton and John Jay, the Federalist essays. The Federalist essays were important writings about what the founding fathers wanted the new nation to become. In later years, he was referred to as the “Father of the Constitution.” Madison protested that the document was not “the offspring of a single brain,” but “the work of many heads and many hands. “In Congress, he helped frame the Bill of Rights which outline American individual civil rights. At his inauguration, James Madison, a small, wizened man, appeared old and tired. But whatever his deficiencies in charm, Madison’s social and beautiful wife, Dolly, compensated with her warmth and gaiety. She was the toast of Washington.

#Correct ____/ 10

Words to Study
#10 John Jay

One of the Founding Fathers of the United States, John Jay is known as one of the writers of 'The Federalist Papers' and for being the nation's first chief justice of the Supreme Court. John Jay was an American statesman and Founding Father who served in several government offices. Initially wary the disruption that independence would bring, he soon devoted himself to the American Revolution. Jay served in the Continental Congress, was a diplomat, and wrote new laws. In 1789, George Washington appointed Jay as the Supreme Court's first chief justice, a role he held until 1795. Jay took a break from judicial duties in 1794, when he went to Great Britain to address contentious issues such as exports, seizures and occupation. The resulting "Jay Treaty" sparked protests because it was considered too favorable for the British. However, the treaty averted a war that the United States was then ill-equipped to fight. Jay refused a reappointment to the Supreme Court in 1800, citing his poor health and a reluctance to resume life on the judicial riding circuit.

In 1801, Jay stepped away from public life to retire to his farm in Bedford, New York. He died at his farm on May 17, 1829, at the age of 83. Having served his country for years as a judge, Constitutional advocate, diplomat and jurist, Jay must meet a place of honor among the Founding Fathers of the United States.

#Correct out of 10

Words to Study
#11 The American Flag and the Great Seal

When the American Revolution began, Francis Hopkinson was a member of the New Jersey Royal Council. Siding with his American countrymen, Hopkinson resigned his position and was quickly elected to the Continental Congress. Three weeks later he voted to separate from England, and soon thereafter signed the Declaration of Independence. Francis Hopkinson’s most important contribution to the United States of America is still flown across the country today. Hopkinson designed the American Flag. Although usually attributed to Betsy Ross, the standards of the American Flag were created by Francis while on the Navy Board. He decided to put red stripes on the top and bottom because it was believed that would be easier to see the flag flying over a ship from a distance. The Navy Board brought the design to Betsy Ross to improve upon and then sew. According to legend, George Washington interpreted the elements of the flag this way: the stars were taken from the sky, the red from the British colors, and the white stripes signified the secession from the home country. However, there is no designation or meaning for the colors of the flag. The original 13 stars were in a circle so that no one colony would be viewed above another. It is reported that George Washington said, "Let the 13 stars in a circle stand as a new constellation in the heavens."

The Great Seal

Hopkinson designed many more notable items for the American Founding but, after the flag, the highest achievement was that of the Great Seal of the United States.

In 1782, the Congress of the Confederation chose these same colors for the Great Seal of the United States and listed their meanings as follows:

Red: valor and hardiness,

White: purity and innocence

Blue: vigilance, perseverance, and justice

#Correct______/10

Words to Study:
Considered essential to the American Revolution, Betsy Ross (1752-1836) is credited with sewing the first United States flag. The flag is our most honored symbol of patriotism, Ross is often celebrated as the woman/spider/grass who helped George Washington finish the design. Although there is no rose/plaid/historical evidence that she created this flag, her story has made her a national icon.

Betsy was the eighth/weird/square of seventeen children. After finishing school, Ross became an upholsterer/canoe/wood and learned how to make and repair many items, including curtains, tablecloths, bedcovers, and rugs. She became a very skilled seamstress and upholsterer. In 1773, she married John Ross. Betsy and John Ross started their own upholstery business and became socks/receipts/successful. At 24-years-old, Betsy Ross became a widow. She continued to run the upholstery/trees/television business and worked on uniforms, tents, and flags for the Continental Army.

Shortly after her first husband’s death, George Washington and the two other members of the Continental Congress brought a rough telephone/sketch/bottle of a flag with thirteen red and white stripes and thirteen/hundred/thousand six-pointed stars. Ross suggested that the six-pointed stars be changed to five-pointed stars because they were printer/clock/easier to make. Allegedly, she showed them how to make the new stars by folding a piece of paper into triangles and with a “single snip of the scissors” she made a perfect star. The men agreed to change the design. Ross is said to have made the last/pearls/first American flag shortly after that meeting.

#Correct______/10

Words to Study