Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Colonial Leaders of the American Revolution

Directions: Read the text and then answer the questions by putting the letter of the correct answer in the text box.

The leaders of the American Revolution include people of spirit who were willing to defy the British government, people of conviction who defined principles of democracy for the new nation, and people of courage who led troops into battle. This brief lesson can only mention a few of the early American heroes.



Thomas Paine was the author of a pamphlet titled *Common Sense* in 1776. This pamphlet convinced many ordinary citizens that the colonies should become independent from Great Britain. It sold 100,000 copies and Thomas Paine has the title of Father of the American Revolution. Richard Henry Lee of Virginia was the first to present a petition to the Second Continental Congress in June 1776 advocating that the colonies declare their independence from Great Britain.





The Second Continental Congress appointed a **Committee of Five** to draft a formal declaration of independence. Respected leaders who were part of the committee were Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson.



Benjamin Franklin spent most of Revolutionary War period in Europe gaining support for the independence of the colonies among European powers.



John Adams later became the 2nd president of the United States.



Thomas Jefferson was the author of the Declaration of Independence and became the third president.



The Second Continental Congress established the Revolutionary Army in 1776 and appointed **George Washington** to be the commander of the army. Washington was responsible for the tactics of the Revolutionary War and how the military campaigns were conducted. Washington was selected to be the first president when the Constitution formed the United States as a country. He is known as the Father of our Country.

1. Who was the author of the pro-independence pamphlet *Common Sense*?

2. Who was in Europe gaining support for independence?

3. Who was the author of the Declaration of Independence?

4. Which of the following leaders became the 2nd president?

5. Who is known as the Father of Our Country?

Thomas Jefferson



Benjamin Franklin



Thomas Paine



George Washington



John Adams

