



Name _____

Date _____

THE WOMEN OF INDEPENDENCE

As the men of America were busy fighting the British over the independence of America, the women of America were busy, too. They wanted to support the American cause in any way that they could. The women did many things that proved to be very helpful.

Many women cared for the wounded soldiers during the battle. They also worked in the army camps washing and cooking. They even made gun powder and would travel to the battlefield to bring water and food to the men. They risked their lives to make the life of the soldiers better. Some women even dressed up to look like men and fought in the war. A large group of women also served as messengers and spies.

Other women helped support the war but never left their homes. They continued to do all of their normal jobs, as well as the work that their husbands and sons would normally do at home. They worked hard to keep the family farms in business. The women felt strongly about their roles during the Revolutionary War. When the story of the Revolutionary War is told, women should always be included in the discussion.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Based on the reading passage, what interests did women have in the war?
 - a. They wanted America to expand and grow.
 - b. They were offered a good deal from the army.
 - c. They were seeking equal rights for women.
 - d. They wanted America to gain independence from England.
2. Which of the following sentences is not something women did to help in the war?
 - a. They collected money to send to the troops.
 - b. They cared for wounded soldiers.
 - c. They kept their family businesses running.
 - d. They were spies and messengers.
3. What is the meaning of the word *proved* as used in the first paragraph?
 - a. organized
 - b. demonstrated
 - c. refused
 - d. reiterated
4. What is the main idea of paragraph three?
 - a. Women helped bring water and food to the soldiers.
 - b. Women didn't have to leave home to help fight the war.
 - c. The war was not a success without the women.
 - d. Women needed to be organized to make a difference.



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THE IRAN HOSTAGE CRISIS

In 1976, voters elected Jimmy Carter as president of the United States. President Carter worked hard in his presidency to help countries to work together. He was recognized for helping Israel and Egypt agree on a peace treaty.

But things did not go so well in the country of Iran. A revolution had taken place there and the new leader blamed the United States for many of their problems. This leader was very angry with the United States.

A group of rebels from Iran broke into the United States Embassy in Iran and kidnapped 52 hostages. They held these hostages and flashed pictures on the television for the whole world to see. Many demands were made by Iran for the return of the hostages. President Carter refused to make a deal. Iran kept the hostages for more than a year. The United States wasn't able to do anything to gain the release of the hostages.

The hostages were finally released on January 20, 1981. This was the last day of Jimmy Carter's presidency.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following statements is inaccurate?
 - a. Many demands were made by Iran for the return of the hostages.
 - b. President Carter refused to make a deal until the hostages were treated fairly.
 - c. The new leader of Iran was very angry with the United States.
 - d. Iran kept the hostages for more than a year.
2. Another good title for this reading passage would be . . .
 - a. "Crisis Overseas."
 - b. "Problems of Foreign Policy."
 - c. "Carter vs. Iran."
 - d. "Middle East Dilemmas."
3. What is the main idea of the passage?
 - a. President Carter was not very effective.
 - b. The Iranian leader blamed the U.S. for its problems.
 - c. The leader of the Iran was intent on kidnapping more Americans.
 - d. Iranian rebels kidnapped 52 hostages during President Carter's term.
4. The hostages were released because . . .
 - a. the leader of Iran was definitely afraid of the new president.
 - b. the demands were finally met.
 - c. the hostages were able to be released through talks.
 - d. This question cannot be answered based on the passage.



Name _____

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THE SLAVE TRADE

In the late 1600s, the cost of buying a slave went down. The colonies in America began buying more and more slaves. These slaves came from the continent of Africa. People in Africa were captured and sold as slaves throughout the world.

Slave traders hunted for young slaves and captured them in nets and traps. They were taken from their families and villages. They would never return home again. Thousands and thousands of these people were captured and sold as slaves. The new slave owners branded them like cattle so people would know to whom the slaves belonged. The slaves were treated terribly.

The slaves were packed onto ships and sent across the ocean. Many of the slaves were sold and sent to the West Indies. They worked on sugar farms there. Some of the slaves were also sent to America at this time. People in the Southern colonies bought many of the slaves to work on the large plantations. They worked in the tobacco, cotton, and rice fields. The life of a slave was terrible and inhumane.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is the author's opinion about how the captured slaves were treated?
 - a. tolerant
 - b. confused
 - c. disgusted
 - d. accepting
2. Which of the following sentences portrays the author's opinion about the captured slaves?
 - a. The cost of slaves had gone down.
 - b. Thousands and thousands of these people were captured and sold as slaves.
 - c. Many of the slaves were sold and sent to the West Indies.
 - d. The life of a slave was terrible and inhumane.
3. Which of the following statements is one of the reasons slaves were sold to the Southern plantations?
 - a. Plantation owners could afford slaves and needed the workers.
 - b. Plantation owners worked together to grow crops.
 - c. The weather was good so that crops could be grown year-round, which meant that they needed more workers.
 - d. The plantation owners wanted to brand their slaves.
4. What is meant by the word *hunted* as used in this passage?
 - a. sought after
 - b. organizing
 - c. refused
 - d. treated like captive animals



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A PRESIDENT RESIGNS

Richard Nixon was elected president of the United States in 1968 and took office in 1969. His first term was spent in building better relationships with China and the Soviet Union. When his first term as president ended, he had made a lot of progress.

In 1972, Nixon ran for a second term as president. He was running for the Republican Party. Four men who were working on his reelection team broke into the Democratic Party headquarters. This was illegal. The headquarters were in the Watergate Hotel. The break-in became known as the Watergate scandal. The men that broke in were looking for information they could use against Nixon's opponent in the campaign.

The men were caught. At first, President Nixon denied any connection with these men. He lied about knowing about the break-in. It took two years for the truth to come out. Nixon had lied about knowing about the break-in and his connection with the men.

Congress could vote to remove Nixon from office. Nixon decided to resign. He was the first president ever to resign. When President Nixon resigned, Gerald Ford was vice president. Ford became the new president of the United States.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Which paragraph explains when Nixon finally resigned?
 - a. first paragraph
 - b. last paragraph
 - c. third paragraph
 - d. second paragraph
2. After reading the passage, what inference can you make about why Nixon resigned?
 - a. He didn't want to be kicked out of office by Congress.
 - b. He knew there would be more investigations.
 - c. His lawyer counseled him to resign.
 - d. The American people demanded that he resign.
3. What is the author's opinion about the Nixon resignation?
 - a. The author thinks that it was a great day when Nixon resigned.
 - b. The author thinks there has not been enough research on why Nixon resigned.
 - c. The author is interested in sharing the process of how a president resigns from office.
 - d. The author is trying to inform the reader about President Nixon's resignation.



Name _____

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THE KOREAN WAR

Korea is a country in Asia. Japan began ruling Korea in the early 1900s. By the end of World War II, Japan had lost control of Korea. The Soviet Union was given control of North Korea. The United States was given control of South Korea. As time went on, the two halves of Korea became enemies of each other.

In 1950, North Korea attacked South Korea. The United Nations knew that it had to help South Korea. It sent troops and supplies to help South Korea. Most of the troops, supplies, and weapons came from the United States.

The United Nations armies were able to push back the North Korean troops. It looked like the South Koreans had been able to defeat the North Koreans. But then China got involved. They sent a large army to help the North Koreans. They used their army to drive back the U.N. army.

Finally, in 1953, the two sides of the armies agreed to stop fighting. The boundary between the two Korean sides was set up again. To this day, North and South Korea are still two different countries.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. How did the Korean War get its name?
 - a. The war took place in Asia.
 - b. The war was given its name after the country of Korea came together as one.
 - c. The war got its name after China came to rescue North Korea.
 - d. The war took place between the North and South Korean countries.
2. What is the purpose of the third paragraph?
 - a. to explain why the Soviet Union got involved
 - b. to explain the shift in the Korean War
 - c. to explain how the U.S became involved in the war
 - d. to explain how Korean was divided up
3. Which paragraph would you read to find out about who controlled Korea at the beginning of the 20th century?
 - a. first paragraph
 - b. third paragraph
 - c. second paragraph
 - d. fourth paragraph