

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Welch

## *Class Debate: You Say You Want a Revolution?*

### **Purpose**

- To understand the arguments that were made for and against the American Revolution
- To appreciate the difficulties and uncertainties that the Continental Congress faced when they made the decision to separate from England.

### **Assignments**

- CW grade (2 points): List of 3-5 arguments for your assigned position, with 2-3 historical examples supporting each argument.
- HW grade (2 points): Political cartoon for your assigned position.
- Quiz grade (20 points): Presence in the debate.

### **Debate Grading Criteria**

- Participation: Raises hand at least twice. Participates at least once.
- Persuasiveness: Presents clear and forceful arguments. Uses historical evidence to support claims.
- Attentiveness: Listens to classmates and follows debate rules.
- Reflection: Answers all required questions with meaningful reflections.

### **Debate Rules**

- The moderator (Mr. Welch) will begin the debate with a focus question and may step in on occasion to help guide the debate, but will otherwise remain an outside observer.
- Only one person will speak at a time. Interruptions will result in points off and possibly removal from the debate.
- When you speak, you must stand and remain standing until you have chosen the next person to speak.
- When the current speaker finishes, he/she will choose the next person to speak from the opposition. You may only call on people who are seated quietly with their hands raised and you must call on people who have not spoken before allowing anyone to speak a second time.

### **Make-Up for Absence or Lack of Participation**

Write 2 one-page persuasive essays: one from the loyalist point of view and one from the patriot point of view. You must provide a clear, organized, and well-supported answer to the following prompt: "Imagine that you are a member of the 2nd Continental Congress. Do you believe that the colonies should separate from England to form an independent country?" Your essays must follow the standard essay format - typed, double-spaced, 11-point font.

**Debate Reflection**

1. What was your overall impression of the debate? (did it go well, was it useful, did everything make sense...)

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2. Which argument(s) were most convincing? Why?

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3. Which speaker(s) were most convincing? Why?

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4. How do you think you did during the debate? Explain.

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5. What would you do different if we were to have another debate?

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