



Making Sense of the Fourth of July

On your own read the article *Making Sense of the Fourth of July* by Pauline Maier provided. Then, once again **on your own**, answer the questions on this page. Each answer will be found in the article so read the article and questions carefully. Some answers are right there in the text and easy to find while others you must read, think and interpret the text. Your answers must be in complete sentences! Handwrite legibly or type your answers on a separate sheet of paper and then staple this assignment to your work. **Due:** _____.

1. On what day did John Adams think Americans would commemorate their Independence?
2. John Adams called the Declaration of Independence “dress and ornament rather than Body, Soul, or Substance.” Explain what you think he meant by these words?
3. Who called the Declaration of Independence “the charter of our liberties.”
4. Who proposed the resolution on independence?
5. Which delegates wanted to delay the discussion and writing of the Declaration of Independence?
6. What had the delegates from Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and New York not been empowered to do? How was this a good example of representative democracy at its best?
7. What delegates were appointed to the Committee of Five to draft a declaration of independence?
8. Why did they create a committee to draft the Declaration of Independence even though it had not been voted on and passed?
9. Who was asked to prepare a draft of the Declaration of Independence?
10. On what day did Congress approve the revised Declaration?
11. From the text, why may have European powers such as France not taken the United States that serious when they heard of their independence?
12. Why do we celebrate our Independence Day on July 4th?
13. Why might have the celebration of the 4th of July declined after the Revolutionary War?
14. What group of people began to celebrate the 4th of July as we know it today?
15. What views did the Federalists hold of the Declaration of Independence?
16. What views did Republicans hold of the Declaration of Independence?
17. What things were done to commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence from 1817 through the 1820's?
18. What passage, according to John Sergeant was the “text of the revolution?”
19. What document did Jefferson, as inspiration in writing the Declaration of Independence use?
20. What did the statement, “all men are created equal” mean to the drafters of the Declaration of Independence?
21. What do the words “all men are created equal” mean to you