

Name: _____

Period: _____

Document Based Question

Patriot or Loyalist, which side would you choose?

Directions: Use the background information and the four documents provided to you to determine if you would side with the Patriots or Loyalists.

As you read each of the documents, highlight or underline key phrases and words that address the document-based question. You may use your laptop to look up any words that you do not know.

Answer the questions that correspond to each document using **complete sentences**. Keep in mind what you already know about the time period, and keep in mind the document-based question: "Patriot or Loyalist, which side would you choose?"

Background Information

Directions: Read the information below before you begin looking at the documents. Be sure you have an understanding of the bolded terms. Use your laptop to look up any additional words you do not know.

The year is 1774. Whether you are a merchant in Massachusetts, a German-born farmer living in Pennsylvania, a tavern-owning woman of Maryland, or a slave-owner in the South, you share some things in common. For instance, you probably don't like paying taxes on such goods as tea that wind up going to support the royal **coffers** in London. At the same time you like the notion of being part of the British Empire, the most powerful in the world.

Chances are you speak English and have many British relatives or ancestors. Or, even if you're a German farmer with no ties to Britain, you are still grateful for the opportunity to farm peacefully in this British-ruled land. Yet, you hear **murmurings** — radical notions about separating from Britain are making the rounds. Those hotheads in Boston recently threw a load of tea in the harbor and the British retaliated with something called the **Intolerable Acts**. A confrontation is looming.

Who will you support? The radical Americans or the British? Fact is, it's not an easy decision. Not only will your way of life be drastically affected, but whomever you choose to side with will make you instant enemies.

"The Loyalists." Ushistory.org. Independence Hall Association, n.d. Web. 14 Sept. 2016.

DOCUMENT 1

Thomas Preston, Account of the Boston Massacre (excerpt)

"On Monday night about 8 o'clock two [British] soldiers were attacked and beat. The guard informed me the town inhabitants were assembling to attack the troops. I saw the people in great commotion, and heard them use the most cruel and horrid threats against the troops.....The mob still increased and were more outrageous, striking their clubs or bludgeons one against another, and calling out, 'come on you rascals, you bloody backs, you lobster scoundrels, fire (your guns) if you dare.'"

O'Brien, By Greg. "The Center for the Teaching of American History - Greg O'Brien." The Center for the Teaching of American History - Greg O'Brien. N.p., n.d. Web. 14 Sept. 2016.

1. According to this statement, who was most responsible for the Boston Massacre?

DOCUMENT 2



"Enlargement of Paul Revere's Engraving of the Boston Massacre." - Archiving Early America. N.p., n.d. Web. 14 Sept. 2016.

1. Who are the soldiers in the engraving? Who are they shooting?

2. Are the soldiers represented fairly? Explain your answer.

3. How could this engraving have contributed to the growing support for the patriots' cause?

DOCUMENT 3

"If our trade be taxed, why not our lands, or produce.....in short, everything we possess? They tax us without having legal representation"

- *Samuel Adams*

1. What angered Samuel Adams? Is he a patriot or a loyalist?
-
-

"They call me a brainless Tory; but tell me which is better – to be ruled by one tyrant three thousand miles away, or by three thousand tyrants not more than one mile away?"

- *Mather Byles*

1. What angered Mather Byles? Is he a patriot or a loyalist?
-
-

Dallek, Robert. American History. Evanston, IL: McDougal Littell, 2008. Print.

DOCUMENT 4

Comparison of British and American Military and Financial Power (1775-1783)

| Country | Army | Navy | Finances |
|---------------|---|--|---|
| Great Britain | <ul style="list-style-type: none">*One of the best in the world*Well trained & disciplined*Well equipped*Hired 30,000 Hessians | <ul style="list-style-type: none">*Best in the world*131 ships with at least 64 guns each*Hundreds of other ships | <ul style="list-style-type: none">*British Pound*Currency of stable value*Well established system of taxation & finance*Spent 4.5 million pound on Hessians alone |
| Colonists | <ul style="list-style-type: none">*Continental Army created in 1775*Never more than 20,000 men at one time*Did not receive adequate, formed training until winter, 1777-1778*Problems with pay and lack of supplies led to many desertions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">*Created in 1775*Never numbered more than 64 ships at any one time*Most ships were smaller than the British Navy | <ul style="list-style-type: none">*Continental dollar established 1775*Value of dollar dropped throughout the war*Dollar lost 90% of value by 1779*By 1781, only "hard money" (gold, silver) used in the markets |

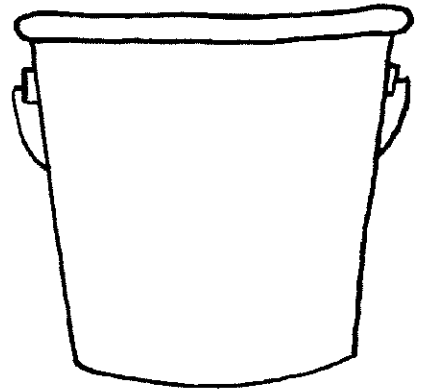
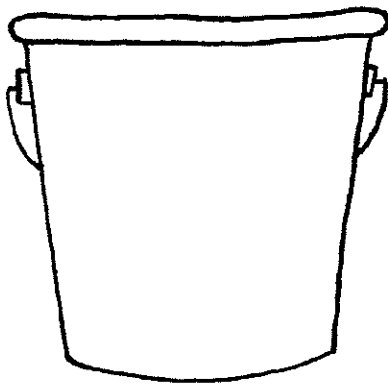
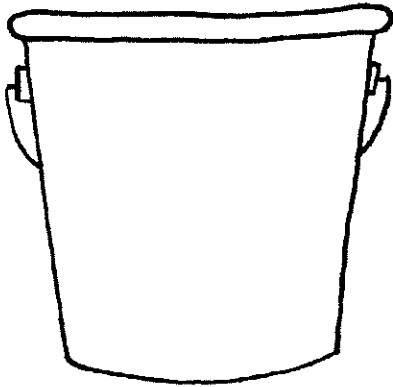
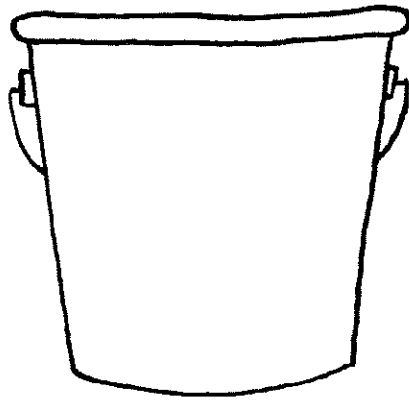
"DBQ Activity: Patriot vs. Loyalists." Mr. McDaniel. N.p., n.d. Web. 14 Sept. 2016.

1. How did the British financial power help make their military strong?

2. According to the chart, which side seemed more likely to win the Revolutionary War? Explain your answer.

DBQ: _____

Your position:



Argument:

Reason #1

Reason #2

Reason #3

Evidence:

Document #
