

# Quotations & images from the drafting of the *Declaration of Independence*

Directions: The accompanying handout contains quotes from the Declaration of Independence, from Thomas Jefferson's initial draft of the document, and a famous painting celebrating the document's signing. Answer the questions on this sheet that match up with the #'s on the handout.

1. What popular colonial protest phrase comes to mind with this quote?
2. John Adams believed what incident was caused by the conditions stated in this quote?
3. Name at least two acts of Parliament this quote is referring to?
4. Which specific one of the Coercive Acts is being referred to here? (Explain it if you cannot remember its name)
5. What did Thomas Jefferson accuse King George III & the British of with this quote?
6.
  - a. In this passage Jefferson is complaining that King George III allows what to exist in America?
  - b. What vocabulary term (from several months ago) is Jefferson referring to in the 3<sup>rd</sup> line with "or to incur miserable death in their transportation thither (there)"?
  - c. What is Jefferson accusing the King & the British of in the 7<sup>th</sup> line with "he is now exciting those very people to rise in arms among us"?
  - d. The delegates from which states are not going to want to include this passage in the *Declaration*?
7. Explain how this painting presents a different image of the Second Continental Congress than what you have witnessed thus far in the *John Adams* film.

① for imposing taxes on us without our consent;

② he has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies [and ships of war,] without the consent of our legislatures.

③ for cutting off our trade with all parts of the world; )

④ for suspending our own legislatures, & declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

⑤ he has^endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, & conditions [of

6. [he has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating it's most sacred rights of life & liberty in the persons of a distant people, who never offended him, captivating and carrying them into slavery in another hemisphere, or to incur miserable death in their transportation thither: this piratical warfare, the opprobrium of infidel powers, is the warfare of the Christian king of Great Britain. determined to keep open a market where MEN should be bought & sold, he has prostituted his negative for suppressing every legislative attempt to prohibit or to restrain this execrable commerce: and that this assemblage of horrors might want no fact of distinguished die, he is now exciting those very people to rise in arms among us, and to purchase that liberty of which he has deprived them, by murdering the people upon whom he also obtruded them: thus paying off former crimes committed against the liberties of one people, with crimes which he urges them to commit against the lives of another.]

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THE COMMITTEE OF FIVE

John Adams,  
(Massachusetts)

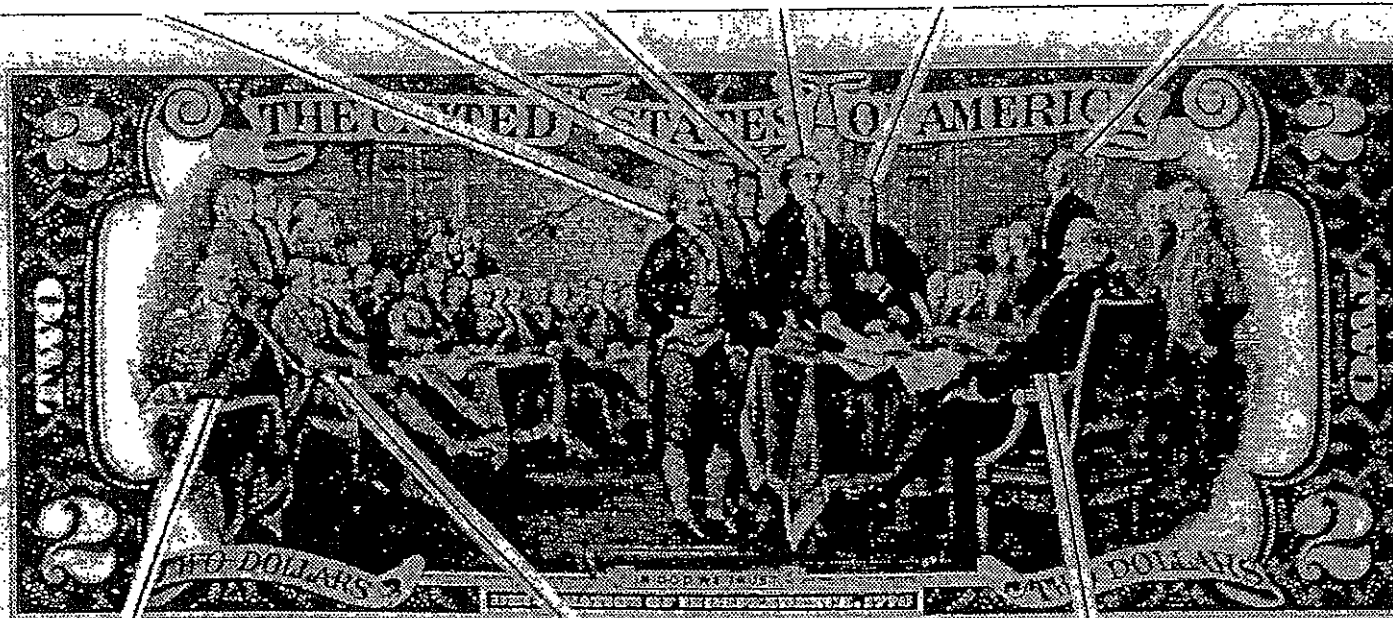
Roger Sherman,  
(Connecticut)

R. R. Livingston,  
(New York)

Th. Jefferson,  
(Virginia)

Benj. Franklin,  
(Pennsylvania)

Charles Thomson,  
Secretary of Congress



Benj. Harrison, who presided over the committee of the whole during the debate on the text of the *Declaration*.

Richard Henry Lee of Virginia, who offered the *Resolution for Independence* on June 7, 1776; passed by Congress July 2, 1776.

John Hancock, president of the Congress, whose authorizing signature is attested by the Dunlap Broadside.