

## **The Following Descriptor is for the 1st Position Paper concerning a Critical Question about the American Revolution**

Each student will write a 4-5 page position paper that argues a Yes or No answer to a critical element of the Revolutionary War. Questions range from the reality of freeing African Slaves after the war to religious influence and from the role of women to general war strategy.

Questions are provided in a shared google document. The following requirements must be met:

- The paper is to be 4-5 pages in length in Standard MLA format
- Correct conventions are expected including spelling, grammar and sentence structure.
- The paper should include internal parenthetical citations (3 per page minimum) or footnotes
- Students must use the two provided articles as sources for a maximum of 90%. For a higher grade, students must provide at least one more outside source.
- A shared google spread sheet will monitor research.

The paper should have the following structure.

- A 1 page introduction:
  - Attention getter
  - identify key question in the debate
  - A “granted” statement playing the devil’s advocate
  - A thesis statement that is easily definable as the focus of the paper
- 1-2 pages should provide a history of the issue:
  - Give a written history of three significant events in the issue’s history surrounding the American Revolution
- The last 1-2 to pages should provide your belief concerning the question and why you have this belief
  - Explain the validity of your argument using experts, evidence, data and any relevant support from history

- Conclude with a knock-out punch that not only reviews your position but makes an impacting last impression and disproves the opposition.