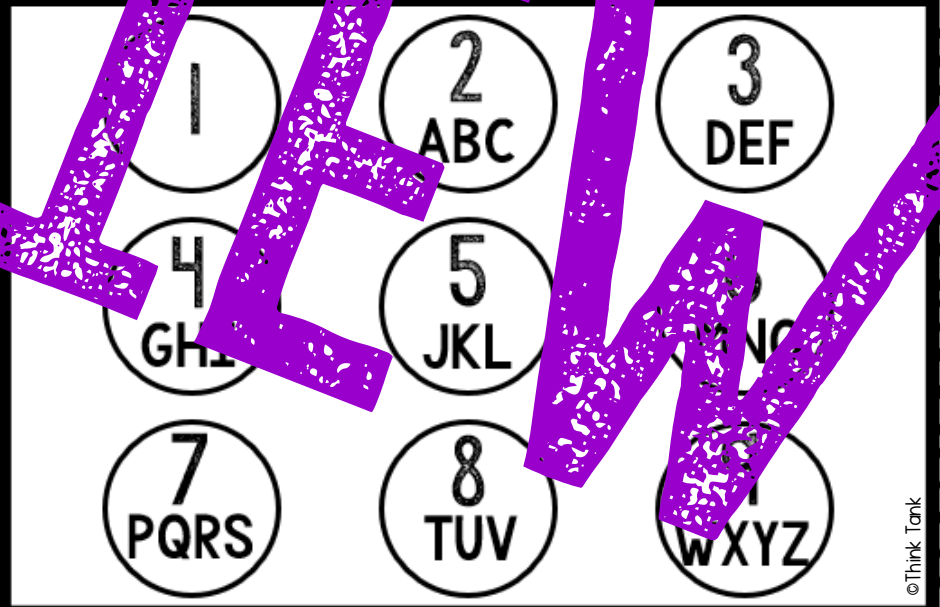
READING #2

After being at war with Britain for about a year, the Second Continental Congress (a meeting of representatives) decided to declare independence from the country of Britain. They did not want to be controlled by them or have to follow their laws and would fight Great Britain to become their own country.

On June 11, 1776, the Committee of Five was formed by the Continental Congress (the first government of the United States). The committee was created to write a document to explain why the colonies were declaring their independence. The five chosen people were Benjamin Franklin from Pennsylvania, John Adams from Massachusetts, Thomas Jefferson from Virginia, Robert Livingston from New York, and Roger Sherman from Connecticut. Thomas Jefferson was chosen to write the first draft of the document. After a few weeks and some changes made to it by the committee, the draft was presented to the Continental Congress on June 28, 1776.



DECODER

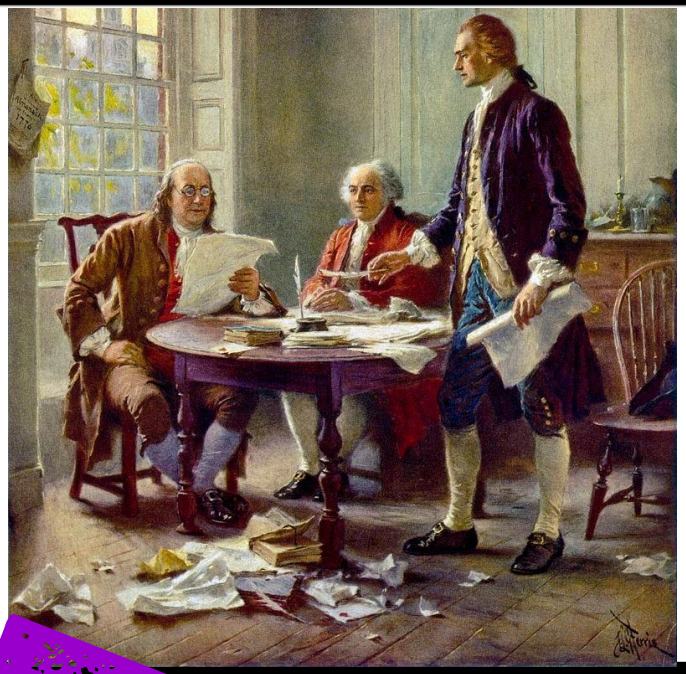


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PREVIEW

READING #3

The Declaration consisted of four main parts. The first part, called the Preamble, explains why the colonists must form a new nation. The second paragraph, called the Declaration of Rights, includes rights for the people with the famous words of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." The next part of the document was influenced by philosopher John Locke. The third part is the grievances or complaints. This section states why the colonies wanted their freedom by writing out all the bad things the British government did to the colonies. It was high taxes and no respect. It includes 27 grievances about the actions of King George III. One grievance included the fact that King George III took away their right to have a trial by a jury. The colonists also were not permitted to trade freely. The final part of the document is called the Resolution. This section wraps up their thoughts and declares independence.



DECODER



Example: 3-7 = M

Example: 14 = R

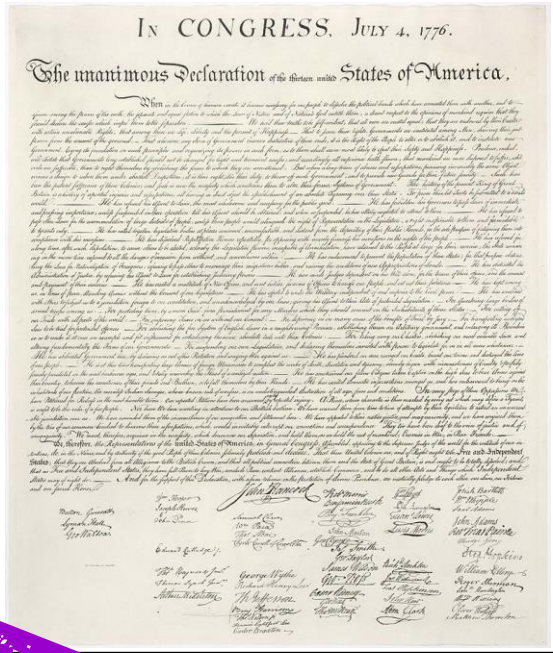
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PREVIEW

READING #4

When it came time to vote, the Congress would usually allow the document to pass if the vote was unanimous (everyone voted yes). However, South Carolina and Pennsylvania voted no and New York and Delaware did not vote. They continued to discuss the situation and voted again the next day, July 2nd. This time South Carolina and Pennsylvania voted yes, and Delaware decided to vote yes as well. New York still chose not to vote. Between July 2nd and July 4th, Congress made numerous changes to the document.

On July 4, 1776, the final draft of the Declaration was accepted and adopted by the representatives from each of the 12 colonies. Although New York had not voted, they accepted it 11 days later. The actual signing of the official document was not until August 2, 1776. 56 members of the Congress signed the document. Two of those signers later went on to become the U.S. presidents.


IN CONGRESS. JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

DECODER



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PREVIEW

RECORDING SHEET

Read each passage and answer the questions below. Next, use the decoder to solve the puzzle phrase.

READING 1

1. What was the British government called?

A. Continental Congress
B. Grand Senate
C. House of Burgesses
D. Parliament

2. When was the Boston Tea Party?

A. 1770
B. 1773
C. 1775
D. 1783

The Revolutionary War officially began with the...



READING 2

3. What colony did Thomas Jefferson represent?

A. Virginia
B. Pennsylvania
C. Maryland
D. New York

4. The Committee of ___ was created by the Continental Congress.

A. Four
B. Five
C. Six
D. Seven

The bill for independence was proposed by...

77-444-22-4-3-777-3

44-13-66-77-999-55-33-33

READING 3

5. What is the final part of the document called?

A. Declaration of Rights
B. Preamble
C. Resolution
D. Grievances

6. How many grievances did the Declaration have?

A. 10
B. 12
C. 21
D. 27

The number of edits made to Jefferson's original draft...

1-2, 2-1, 2-2 1-3, 1-8, 2-5, 1-5, 1-6

2-2, 1-8, 3-2

PREVIEW

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SECURITY CLEARANCE: LEVEL 5

LEAD DETECTIVE



AGENT NAME:

CODENAME:

BADGE #:

PRECINCT 5005

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AGENT NAME:

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AGENT NAME:

CODENAME:

BADGE #:

PRECINCT 5005

SECURITY CLEARANCE: LEVEL 5

LEAD DETECTIVE

AGENT NAME:

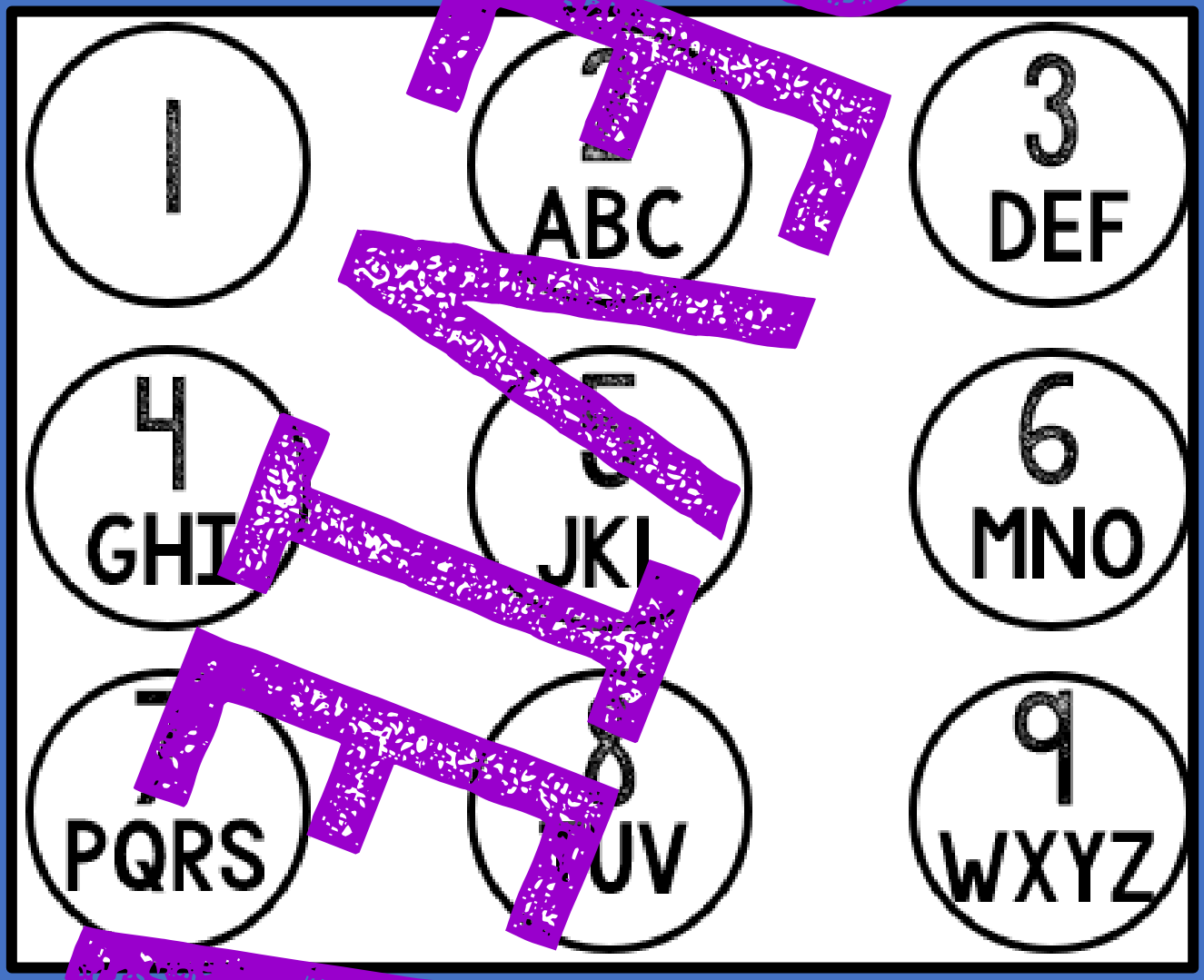
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SAMPLE

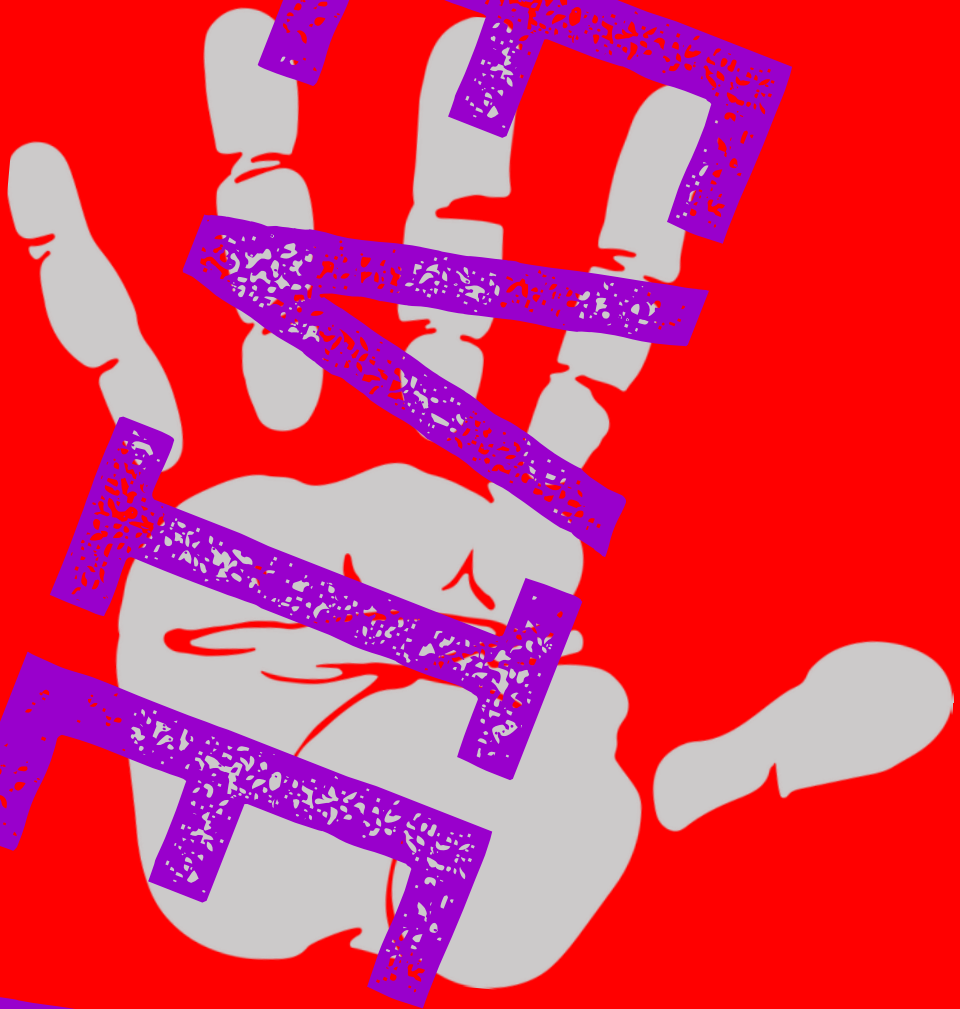
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