



## Lesson Practice

Use the Reading Guide to help you understand the passage.

### Reading Guide

In paragraph 1, which words help you know what *liberty* means?

In paragraph 2, the word *colonists* is followed by its definition.

Look closely at paragraph 3. Use the first three sentences in the paragraph to help you figure out what *opposed* means.

## The Path to Independence

In America, all people have the right to liberty. One person we can thank for this right to freedom is Patrick Henry.

When Patrick Henry was a young man, the United States was made up of thirteen colonies. The king of England ruled the colonies. Many colonists, or people who had left England and settled in America, felt it was unfair for the king to make laws for them and impose harsh taxes. Many colonists felt they should be able to rule themselves. These people were called Patriots. Colonists who did not want to break away from England were known as Loyalists, because they were loyal to the king of England. They still wanted to serve him.

In the spring of 1775, many of the Patriots got together to talk about what should be done. Some felt they should beg the king for permission to be free. Others were opposed to this idea because they had already asked the king and he refused. They wanted war. Patrick Henry stood up and interrupted the others, demanding to speak. "Give me liberty, or give me death!" he said. The men cheered and voted to be free.

Shortly afterward, the American Revolution began. The Patriots eventually won the war and created their own government. While England was a kingdom, the new country was not ruled by a king. In time, the United States became a nation where all people have the right to freedom and liberty.

## Answer the following questions.

1. In the passage, the word liberty means
- A. rights.
  - B. library.
  - C. freedom.
  - D. patriot.
2. Read this sentence from the passage.
- Others were opposed to this idea because they had already asked the king and he refused.**
- The word opposed means
- A. against.
  - B. excited.
  - C. angry.
  - D. tired.
3. What does the word loyal mean?
- A. frustrated
  - B. helpful
  - C. interested
  - D. faithful
4. The word interrupt means to
- A. stand up straight and tall.
  - B. stop a conversation suddenly.
  - C. talk a lot to other people.
  - D. bring freedom to new places.

5. Read this sentence from the passage.

**While England was a kingdom, the new country was not ruled by a king.**

What does the word kingdom mean? Which words help you understand what kingdom means?

---



---



---



---