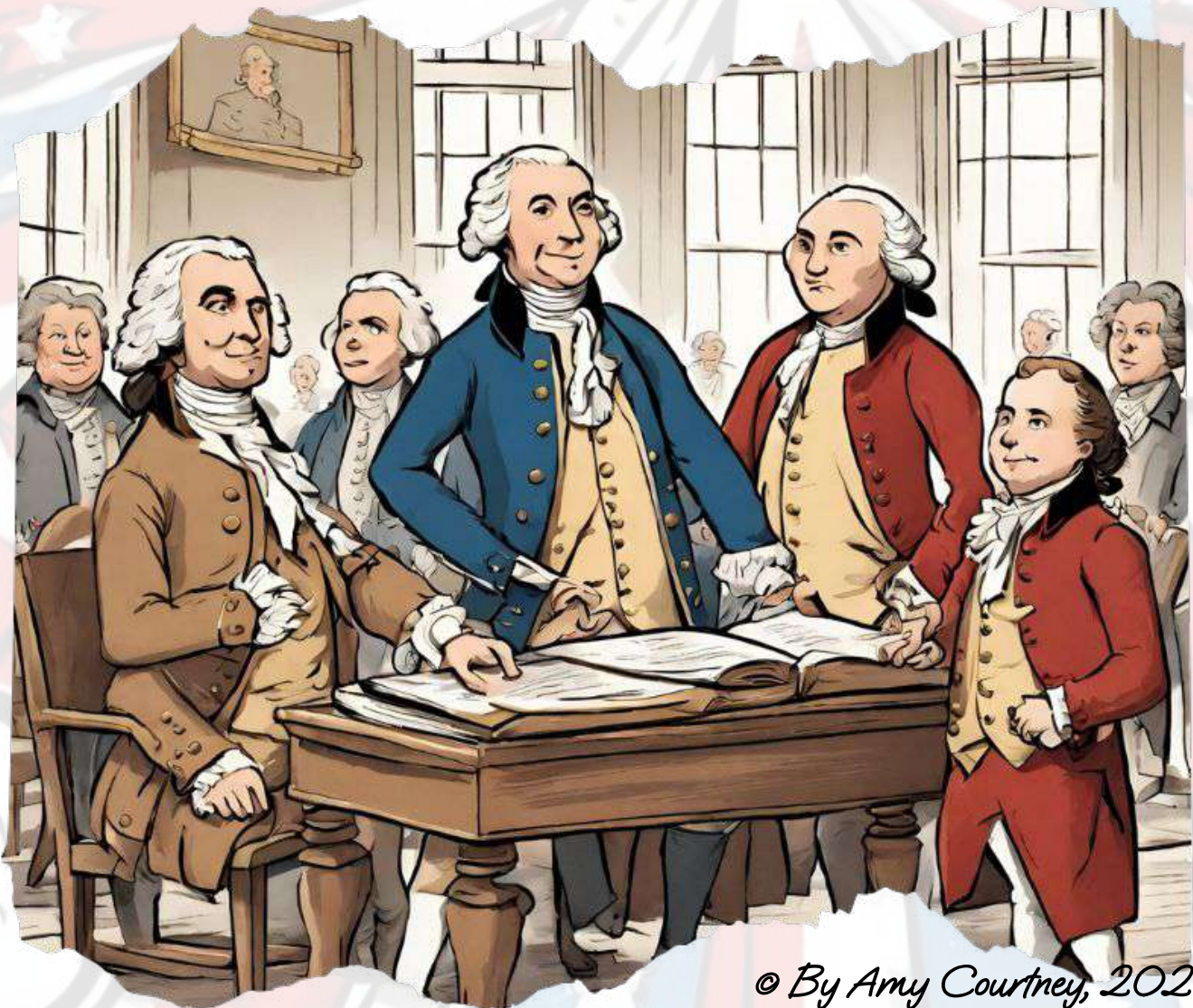


# *A Revolution in Rhyme - Poems for Celebrating America's Birth*

## **Sample Poem Packet from the Collection**

Poem: "Voices of Defiance: Tales from Colonial Times"  
features repetition, figurative language  
reviews Stamp Act and Sons of Liberty



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# How to Use This Resource:

Teachers can utilize the provided text-dependent questions, depth of knowledge example questions, and literary analysis example questions as effective scaffolding tools to gauge and scaffold students' understanding of the poem. Here's a suggested approach:

## **Text Dependent Question Worksheet** (for students):

Use these questions to assess students' basic understanding of the events, characters, and key details in the poem. They serve as a foundation for further exploration. There is an answer key provided for this page. These can be used during the reading or after as a comprehension check.

## **Depth of Knowledge Example Questions** (for teachers):

The Depth of Knowledge (DOK) Question Examples Handout provides teachers with a guide to crafting questions that prompt students to engage in higher-order thinking and application of knowledge. Use these during both group discussions as well as for individual formative assessment (quick checks). There is not an answer key provided for these questions.

## **Literary Analysis Question Example Questions** (for teachers):

Guided discussion questions that focus on identifying literary devices, such as metaphors, similes, and personification are also included. This allows students to recognize and analyze figurative language in the poem. Questions also help deepen their understanding of the lessons conveyed by the verses. The variety of questions allows teachers to select questions based on their students prior knowledge since many different topics are given. There is not an answer key provided for these question.

Please note that the words in maroon are important concepts or vocabulary that can assist students that need some assistance locating key ideas or central idea.



# Voices of Defiance: Tales from Colonial Times

In a land called America, in days of old,  
A tale of rebellion and stories yet untold.  
It all started with a law, **the Stamp Act**,  
A burden on the colonists, an unjust fact.

The British crown, in its heavy might,  
Decreed that stamps must be affixed just right.  
A **tax on paper**, every document and deed,  
From newspapers to playing cards, indeed.

The colonists cried out, "**Taxation without representation!**"  
For they had no voice in the British nation.  
They rallied and **protested**, their anger ablaze,  
Seeking freedom and rights, in many different ways.

They wrote and they spoke, spreading their views,  
Their words echoed loud, refusing to lose.  
**The Sons of Liberty**, a brave band of men,  
Resisted the stamp tax again and again.

Through **boycotts** and defiance, they took a stand,  
Refusing to purchase stamps from British hands.  
They organized meetings, united and strong,  
To fight for their freedom, to right the wrong.

So let us cherish our freedom, with gratitude and pride,  
For **the sacrifices** made, as they stood side by side.  
**The Stamp Act**, a chapter in our nation's tale,  
A reminder of the power of the people who prevail.

The stamps were burned, in a **symbolic gesture**,  
A message to Britain, a warning to measure.  
The flames of discontent flickered high,  
As the **colonists** dared to defy.

The Stamp Act Congress, gathered as one,  
To join their voices, a battle to be won.  
They sent a petition, asking for a **repeal**,  
But their pleas fell on deaf ears, an iron heel.

The protests continued, the tension grew,  
The flames of revolution, they slowly grew.  
The Stamp Act was **repealed**, but damage was done,  
The seeds of rebellion had already been sown.

This tale of the Stamp Act, a lesson we learn,  
Of the power of unity, of freedom we yearn.  
Let us remember the courage of those who fought,  
To shape a nation, with battles they wrought.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Text Dependent Questions

1. What was the main grievance of the colonists regarding the Stamp Act?
  - a. Unfair trade regulations
  - b. Taxation with representation
  - c. Lack of access to British goods
  - d. Restrictions on religious freedom
  
2. What did the Sons of Liberty do to resist the Stamp Act?
  - a. They organized meetings and protests.
  - b. They supported the British government in enforcing the Stamp Act.
  - c. They burned all their documents to avoid using British stamps.
  - d. They encouraged colonists to purchase British stamps.
  
3. What symbolic gesture did the colonists make to express their discontent with the Stamp Act?
  - a. Throwing tea into the harbor
  - b. Burning the stamped documents
  - c. Hanging effigies of British officials
  - d. Creating patriotic songs

4. How did the colonists feel about the Stamp Act? \_\_\_\_\_

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# Depth of Knowledge Questions For Teachers

## DOK Level 1 - Recall

- What was the Stamp Act?
- Who imposed the Stamp Act?
- How did the colonists feel about the Stamp Act?
- What items were taxed under the Stamp Act?
- How did the colonists protest against the Stamp Act?

## DOK Level 2 - Skill/Concept

- Compare the Stamp Act to modern-day taxes.
- Summarize the main arguments made by the colonists against the Stamp Act.
- Classify the different forms of protest used by the colonists during the Stamp Act crisis.
- Estimate the impact of the Stamp Act on the daily lives of the colonists.
- Graph the timeline of events leading up to the repeal of the Stamp Act.

## DOK Level 3 - Strategic Thinking

- Investigate the role of the Sons of Liberty in the resistance against the Stamp Act.
- Formulate an argument supporting or opposing the Stamp Act from the perspective of a British official.
- Assess the long-term effects of the Stamp Act on the relationship between America and Britain.
- Draw conclusions about the impact of the Stamp Act on the formation of American identity.
- Construct a timeline of events showing the sequence of events leading to the repeal of the Stamp Act.

## DOK Level 4 - Extended Thinking

- Analyze the role of the Stamp Act in fueling the American Revolution.
- Critique the effectiveness of the colonists' methods of protest against the Stamp Act.
- Create a persuasive speech arguing for or against the Stamp Act.
- Design a new tax policy that would have been more acceptable to the colonists.
- Apply the concept of "taxation without representation" to a modern-day scenario and explain its significance.

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# Literary Analysis Questions for Teachers

- How does the use of **rhyme** and **rhythm** contribute to the overall **tone** and **mood** of the poem?
- Analyze the significance of the **repetition of the phrase "Taxation without representation!"** in the poem. How does it serve as a rhetorical device?
- Examine the role of symbolism in the poem, particularly focusing on the **burning of the stamps and its symbolic gesture**. What message does it convey?
- How does the poet **use personification in describing the "flames of discontent"**? What **effect** does it have on the reader's understanding of the colonists' emotions?
- Explore the use of **metaphor in the line "The seeds of rebellion had already been sown."** What does this metaphor imply about the consequences of the Stamp Act?
- Discuss the impact of the **repeated phrase "in days of old"** on the overall historical tone of the poem. How does it help to establish a sense of time and context?
- Analyze the structure of the poem in terms of stanzas and line breaks. How does the **organization contribute to the flow** of the narrative?
- Examine the portrayal of the Sons of Liberty in the poem. How does the poet use **characterization to depict them as a "brave band of men"**?
- Explore the significance of the poet's choice to **personify the Stamp Act Congress by describing them as "gathered as one."** How does this enhance the sense of **unity**?

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Additional resources are being added  
weekly. Please check back often!



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