

Chase

Thomas Paine Common Sense pamphlet swayed many Americans opinion about Independence from Britain. He had said that Britain had taken advantage of America and that we would be able to do better without European power. Britain had used America and Americans to make money for them, they only wanted America to benefit Britain and Thomas Paine believes that we would be able to succeed without Britain. In Common Sense pamphlet Thomas Paine stated, “The blood of the slain” meaning the Americans that Britain had killed; he believed that it was time to separate from Great Britain. Britain had killed their citizens, Thomas believed that this was a sign for them to separate from Britain and he even said that Mother Nature says it is time to separate. In another quote Thomas Paine states, “Small islands not capable of protecting themselves and it very absurd in supposing a Continent to be governed by an island.” The quote means that it’s unnatural for a tiny island across the Atlantic to be controlling this huge chunk of land he says that the British rule must come to an end. The Common Sense pamphlet persuaded many Americans to declare Independence from Great Britain.

Comments: Great topic sentence... “swayed.” Should site the text especially with your first piece of evidence...taking advantage is good, but site what he wrote. Overall a good response.

Adam

Thomas Paine attempted to convince the colonists to seek independence by writing a pamphlet known as Common Sense. In this influential pamphlet, Paine provided many arguments that convinced colonists to join the fight for independence. One argument was "...we may as well assert that because a child hath thrived upon milk, that it is never to have meat..." In this quote, Paine argues that just because America has grown by being connected to Britain this does not mean that America should stay connected with Britain. Paine connects this line of thought with the assertion that because a child has thrived on milk, that it should never have solid food. In another argument, Paine says "...but there is something very absurd, in supposing a Continent to be perpetually governed by an island..." In this quote, Paine argues that it makes no sense for England (an island) to control America (an entire continent). That it's against God's plan for the universe. Paine clearly believes that no continent can remain under the control of an island, especially one outside the continent. Finally, in another argument, Paine says "Even the distance at which the Almighty hath placed England and America, is a strong and natural proof..." In this quote, Paine argues that it was never of God's design, for Britain to have authority over America. And that America was created by the Heavens to be free from Britain. He states that the great distance between Britain and America is solid proof that it was never God's plan to keep America under England's control. In conclusion, Thomas Paine included many arguments in his pamphlet Common Sense to convince the Americans that they should be independent from Great Britain. These arguments contributed greatly to the increase in the number of Americans who wanted freedom from Great Britain. Ultimately, this pamphlet changed many Americans' perspectives on separating from England.

Comments: What a fantastic piece of writing. Good use of language/vocabulary.

Corinne: Thomas Paine tried to convince the Americans that they should detach from England using many reasons. Here I show three of the different arguments. One was that America was welcoming freedom that would make it a good place to live. Britain was not welcoming freedom, really. Another was that the Americans could do business on their own and could protect themselves. The last reason was that Britain is not the mother country, it is really all of Europe and that even if Britain is the real mother country, she is treating the colonies wrongly. "This new World hath been the asylum for the persecuted lovers of civil and religious liberty from every part of Europe." (Thomas Paine, Common Sense) This quote shows that Thomas Paine really believes that America is a new land for freedom and that it is a safe place. The quote also shows that none of Europe is really giving liberty, including England. This could imply that Britain might try to crush the liberty in America. Another point that Paine made was that Americans could do their own business and protect themselves. "Our plan is commerce... it is the interest of all Europe to have America a free port." "Small islands not capable of protecting themselves are the proper objects for government to take under their care; but there is something absurd in supposing a Continent to be perpetually governed by an island..." Those two quotes show that all that the colonists wanted was to trade with Europe and that there would still be a market for American goods, even if they were sold in other parts of Europe. The second quote shows that America would be able to take care of itself, because it is larger and more powerful than any island that it would make sense to govern. It just makes no sense that a continent should be governed by an island. A third way that Thomas Paine tried to convince colonists to separate from Britain was to say that Britain was not the mother country and if she was, then the colonies were being treated like they were a bad child. "... Britain is the parent country say some. Then the more shame upon her conduct. Even Brutes do not devour their young, nor savages make war upon their families... the phrase, parent or mother country... Europe and not England is the parent country of America. "Back in the pre-revolutionary time, this would've been language plain enough for Alyssa, Avery, Shayne, and Liz to understand. Thomas Paine would've been committing treason in the British eyes, insulting Britain like that. And the way that he went and said that Europe was really the parent would've infuriated the British. This was one of the best points of the whole pamphlet, one of the ones that made the most sense. The immigrants from all over Europe heavily influence the culture that the Americans had built. This really put a dent in the British argument of parent-ship. All in all, Thomas Paine made some really good points on why the colonies should split away from the British.

Comment: Yet again, you make very salient points in your claims. Good job with topic sentence. Great job infusing the quotes from the documents and then explaining them. Thanks for the humor, 😊 it is always welcome. DON'T USE THE 1ST PERSON!

Matt

In the beginning of the revolution, many colonists were not patriots, so Thomas Paine wrote a pamphlet called Common Sense, with many arguments to try to convince regular colonists to rebel. One of his arguments is that America is bigger than Britain, and makes no sense for the colonies to be ruled by them. As it said in the pamphlet, "...But there is something very absurd, in supposing a Continent to be perpetually governed by an Island." What Paine is saying makes a lot of sense, America has many raw materials, land, and so much more, and tiny little Britain is still controlling them. Also, Paine argued that governing themselves is the wiser and safer thing to do. "...It is infinitely wiser and safer, to form a constitution of our own, in a cool deliberate manner, while we still have it in our power, than to trust such an interesting event to time and chance..." This means that America is meant to govern themselves, there is no point in Britain having power, and it would be safer because of all the fighting and arguing because of it. Lastly, Paine explained that every natural reason is pointed towards separating. "The blood of the slain, the weeping voice of nature cries...the distance at which the Almighty hath placed England and America..." This quote speaks for itself, Britain has killed so many colonists, destroyed so much nature in America, plus England is so far away from America, it makes no sense to be ruled by them. Thomas Paine was the reason for so many patriots, all of his arguments changed the way average people think, and is a main source for the revolution.

Comments: Another excellent paragraph. Be a bit careful about tense. Try to stay in the past. Good job with the text, just watch out for using too long of a quote.

Helen

Thomas Paine scared the Dickens* out of many Loyalists with his pamphlet *Common Sense* that made many claims as to why America should be independent from Great Britain. One claim Paine used was that for England to govern America made no sense. ***“...’Tis (it is) repugnant to reason, to the universal order of things; to all examples from former ages, to suppose, that this Continent can long remain subject to any external power...”*** Logically it did not add up for England, a country across the sea from the colonies, to hold governing power over America. A government that does not live the daily life its subjects do will never be able to do a proper job. ***“...Government of our own is our own natural right... it is infinitely wiser and safer, to form a constitution of our own, in a cool deliberate manner, while we have it in our power, than to trust such an interesting event to time and chance....”*** It is a god given right that America be able to govern themselves. They live the life of colonists that know what the American land is like and would be able to do a much better job than Britain does. It would be better to form a new government now than to leave this one intact, hoping that luck and chance will work in their favor. England is supposed to be ***the mother of America. Good mothers do not commit homicide and kill their own children. “The blood of the slain, the weeping voice of nature cries...”*** that it is time for America to separate from England as this plan of government will never work. The two countries live extremely differently and will not ever be able to cope to the needs of each other. Loyalists who wanted to stay under the rule of Great Britain had the Dickens scared out of them because Thomas Paine’s pamphlet explained why America should govern its self.

***Yes, I did just go there. And yes, I won this round.**

Comments: One of the best topic sentences for this assignment EVER...☺!!!! Good job using the text and explaining what it meant. But if you expect to “win” you need to ***really*** scare the Dickens out of the reader by adding some of the information from the videos. Excellent work ☺