

Name _____

Voices from the Past

INTRODUCTION: "Voices from the Past"

While exploring the basement of your local history museum, you stumble upon a dusty metal box labeled: **"Revolutionary Time Capsule – 1775"** Inside are two aged diary entries—one from a Loyalist and one from a Patriot—written on the eve of the American Revolution. Your task is to **read both diary entries, compare their perspectives, and take a stand** by writing a persuasive paragraph.



DIARY ENTRY #1 – Elizabeth Turner, Loyalist, April 1775

"I fear for the future of these colonies. So many around me cry for war, but they forget how Britain has protected us, guided us, even invested in us. What is to become of our trade, our cities, our families, if we cut ourselves off from the Crown? I believe in loyalty—not just because it is safe, but because it is right. We are British subjects. I worry this rebellion is not liberty—it is chaos."

DIARY ENTRY #2 – Samuel Reed, Patriot, April 1775

"Today, I heard the words of Mr. Henry ring in my ears again—'Give me liberty, or give me death!' I cannot sit idle while Britain taxes us, controls us, and treats us like children. This land is our home—we build it, farm it, live it. Why should we not rule it? If it takes blood to earn our freedom, so be it. I will not bow to a king across the sea."

Compare & Contrast (Short Answer)

1. **What is Elizabeth worried about if the colonies break away from Britain?**

Your answer:

2. **What does Samuel believe the colonies deserve?**

Your answer:

3. **Which diary entry seems more emotional? Why?**

Your answer:

4. **List one reason each character gives for their belief:**

- Elizabeth (Loyalist):

Your answer:

- Samuel (Patriot):

Your answer: