

Samuel's Resolve Answer Key

1. Trait with musket:

Trait - **Courage/responsibility**. Evidence: "Samuel clutched the worn musket his father had passed down to him... knowing dawn would bring the fiercest fight yet." He prepares to fight despite fear.

2. Promise to mother:

Trait - **Loyalty/commitment**. Evidence: "He remembered the promise he had made to his mother: to stand firm even when fear clawed at his chest."

3. Staying silent:

Trait - **Seriousness/inner strength**. His silence shows he is focused and reflective, not distracted by nervous chatter.

4. Determination line:

Best line - "Tomorrow, I will not run. Tomorrow, I will fight for our freedom." It directly shows his resolve and determination.

5. Two traits with evidence:

- **Brave** - He faces the drums of the British and prepares for the battle despite fear.
- **Determined** - He declares he will not run and will fight for freedom.

Teacher Guide

- **Skill Development:** Students practice identifying **character traits** and backing them up with **textual evidence**. This develops higher-level comprehension by linking character actions, thoughts, and dialogue with personality traits.
- **Teaching Tip:** Encourage students to avoid vague traits like "nice" or "good." Push them to use stronger, precise words such as *resilient*, *steadfast*, *determined*, *brave*.
- **Extension Activity:** Have students write a short paragraph predicting how Samuel might act in the upcoming battle, based on the traits they identified.