

Imagining Independence Answer Key

Sample Response

On a blazing summer day in 1776, the colonies lifted their voices like thunder, declaring freedom that rolled across the ocean. A young nation was born, its heart beating with the rhythm of hope and equality. Now, every Fourth of July, fireworks bloom like fiery flowers in the sky as families gather under a blanket of stars to celebrate the spirit that refused to be silenced.

Teacher's Guide

- **Purpose:** Builds understanding of figurative language while connecting historical facts to creative expression.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - For developing writers, provide examples of common devices (e.g., "Freedom is a bird spreading its wings").
 - For advanced students, encourage the use of extended metaphors or personification throughout their rewrites.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Read both versions aloud and discuss how the imagery changes the tone and emotion of the text.
 - Display rewritten paragraphs on red, white, and blue paper for a "Freedom Through Words" classroom gallery.
- **Extension Activities:**
 - Challenge students to write a second paragraph personifying "Freedom" or "Independence" as a character.
 - Incorporate art by having students illustrate one of their metaphors or similes from their rewritten passage.
 - Encourage performance-students can present their figurative rewrites dramatically, pairing language with gestures or rhythm.