

Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*

TDQs

Directions: Read the excerpt of Thomas Paine's *Common Sense* and answer the following questions. Use examples from the reading and use complete sentences to answer the questions.

1. What does Thomas Paine say he is "offering" the reader in this excerpt?
2. What does Paine hope the reader will do while reading *Common Sense*?
3. What does Paine claim the people must do in order to resolve the debate between the colonies and England?
4. Cite two reasons Paine says that separation is the only course the colonies can take.
5. What analogy does Paine use to describe the current relationship between the colonies and England? Why does he say this is a problem?
6. How does Paine challenge those individuals in the colonies that still feel that reconciliation is possible?
7. Cite two examples that Paine outlines as disadvantage of remaining a colony to England.
8. Why does Paine believe that God is on the side of those who favor separating from England? Cite two examples.
9. How does Paine describe the individuals who claim to support reconciliation?
10. According to Paine, why does the distance between the colonies and England justify separation?
11. What evidence does Paine offer that the relationship with England "reverses the common order of nature"?

Summary: Which of Thomas Paine's arguments were most accepted by the colonists? Which do you think was least supported. Explain your answers.