10th Grade- Speech to the Second Virginia Convention

1. What evidence leaves Patrick Henry to believe that the British are preparing for war in North America? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What have the colonist done to avert war? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Define *rhetorical questions*. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What attitude does Henry take at the beginning of the speech toward those in the Convention who oppose his opinion?
   1. Angry
   2. Amused
   3. Respectful
   4. Disappointed
2. Henry believes that putting off an armed struggle with Britain will
   1. trick Britain into being too confident.
   2. allow the colonies to become stronger
   3. have little or no effect on the end result
   4. make such a struggle more difficult to win
3. At the time that the speech was written, Henry believed that Britain was
   1. preparing for war.
   2. secretly negotiating for peace.
   3. considering whether to prepare for war.
   4. not paying attention to its colonies at all.
4. Henry believed that the issue facing the Convention calls for all of the following except
   1. action.
   2. patience.
   3. Individual sacrifice.
   4. the open and honest airing of views.
5. Which of the following is the main idea of this speech?
   1. Britain treats its colonies harshly.
   2. God is always on the side of those whose cause is just.
   3. The colonists must fight for their freedom from Britain.
   4. The people of Virginia need leadership now more than ever.
6. **Arduous** activities tend to make people feel
   1. Excited b. Exhausted c. Sad
7. An **insidious** threat is one that is
   1. Nearby b. Not obvious c. Extremely dangerous
8. You would be most likely to **spurn** a salary offer if you thought it was
   1. Fair b. Much too low c. More than enough
9. If you **remonstrate** with someone, you are most likely to voice your
   1. Jealousy b. Gratitude c. Disapproval
10. People in a state of **subjugation** are
    1. Under the control of a ruler
    2. Happy to obey a leader
    3. Ready to become citizens
11. In this speech, what human weakness does Henry associate with the colonists who oppose his position?
    1. Disloyalty
    2. Self-deception or false hope
    3. Selfishness
    4. Cowardice
12. Henry’s use of rhetorical questions in this speech is mainly intended to make the decision seem
    1. Clear-cut
    2. Impossible to make
    3. Trivial
    4. Complex
13. Which of the following best describes Henry’s tone in the speech?
    1. Quietly confident
    2. Smug
    3. Fiery
    4. Doubtful
14. Henry believes that the time for negotiation
    1. May still come
    2. Has passed
    3. Is at hand
    4. Has never and will never exist
15. What famous quotation can be found in the “Speech to the Second Virginia Convention”?

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1. Rhetoric is the art of persuasion. What is Patrick Henry trying to persuade the convention to do?

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1. What metaphor is used throughout this speech to describe what Henry fears will happen to the country if the British are not stopped? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_