

Thomas Paine  
p. 106-111

Biographical Info, p. 106

1. What were some of Paine's occupations?
2. What is *Common Sense*?
3. Describe Paine's role in the French Revolution.
4. Why was Paine banned from England?
5. When Paine returned to America in 1802, how was he received? Why?

*from* The Crisis, No. 1

1. The excerpt begins, "These are the times that try men's souls." What are the "times" he is referring to?
2. In the second sentence, Paine uses "summer" and "sunshine" metaphorically.
  - a.) What do you normally associate with these two words?
  - b.) Paine says, "The summer soldier and sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, sink from the service of his country, but he that stands it NOW, deserves he love and thanks of man and woman." Again, knowing that Paine is using the words sunshine and summer metaphorically, what do you believe Paine is saying about these men? What kind of men are they?
3. With what does Paine equate the tyranny of England? With what does he equate freedom?
4. In the third paragraph, with what does Paine equate the English government? What point is he trying to make about the colonists' war with England?

5. At the bottom of pg. 108, Paine states, “Not a man lives on the continent but fully believes that a separation must sometime or other finally take place.” What separation is he referring to? Is his statement true? Explain.

6. Is Paine’s anecdote about the Tory father, a logical or emotional appeal? What effect does Paine hope to achieve through this story, that is, what thoughts does he hope his audience will have in response to this story?

7. If America does not fight for independence, what does Paine say its future would be like?

8. On pg. 109, Paine says, “. . . for though the flame of liberty may sometimes cease to shine, the coal can never expire.” What figure of speech is Paine using here? What does the coal represent? What does the flame represent?

9. Paine says, “America did not, nor does not want force; but she wanted a proper application of the force.” Note the definition of the word “want” in the footnote. In this paragraph on p. 109, what does Paine say was America’s error at the beginning of the conflict with England?

10. In the first paragraph of pg. 110, notice the allusions and their explanations in the footnotes. What effect does he hope these allusions will have?

11. In the second column of p. 110, Paine tells a story about a thief who breaks into a house. Who is the thief? What argument is Paine making?

12. In the first full paragraph on pg. 111, Paine anticipates the argument of those Americans who would oppose his stance. What argument does he believe they will make and how does he counter it?

13. In the middle of the first column on pg. 111, Paine compares the British to an animal. What animal is it? Explain this metaphor.

14. Paine says, "Mutual fear is the principal link in the chain of mutual love." What do you think this means? How would this apply to the Americans--what is their mutual fear and what should this lead them to do? Do you agree with his statement?

15. At the top of the second column on pg. 111, Paine states, "I bring reason to your ears; and in language as plain as A, B, C, hold up truth to your eyes." What type of appeal is he making here? Is this argument effective?

16. According to Paine, what are some of the strengths of those who have fought for the colonists up until this point? Besides Howe and his troops, what setback does Paine say the troops overcame?

17. At the end of his essay, what does Paine say the result will be if the Americans refuse to fight for independence? What metaphors does he use? What type of appeal--logical or emotional--does he use in his concluding statement?