

Standards/Objectives

RL.11-12.2 Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of a text...; provide an objective summary of the text.

RL.11-12.9 Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth-, and early twentieth-century foundational works of American literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.

Objectives: - Describe women's perspective during the American Revolutionary War.

****This assignment is Evidence #3 for the Unit 2 Literature Test.****

Letters from Phillis Wheatley and Abigail Adams

1. What is the **mood** and **tone** of Wheatley's letter to the Rev. Samson Occom?
2. In your own words, explain the case that Wheatley makes against slavery. Consider...
 - what she says is happening in Africa
 - what relationship she sees between civil and religious liberty [freedom]
 - what she claims God has done and what she hopes He will do
3. What impression of Abigail Adams do you get from her letter? (What kind of person is she?)
****Use PEA (Point, Evidence, Analysis) to answer this question!****
4. How would you describe Adams's attitude toward her husband and his work?
****Use PEA (Point, Evidence, Analysis) to answer this question!****
5. What can you **infer** about Adams's views on public issues? Consider...
 - her description of the local colonial government
 - her aphorism about power and liberty
 - her aphorism about people and a king
 - her comments about women
6. How similar, in your opinion, are the purposes of Wheatley's letter and Adams's letter?
7. A theme of both of these letters might be "the right to be free". How does each author's comments in her letter support this theme?
****Use PEA (Point, Evidence, Analysis) to answer this question!****
8. Research either Phillis Wheatley OR Abigail Adams. Share five facts you learned about the woman you chose.