

Questions Relating to *Common Sense*

1. Why was *Common Sense* written?
2. According to the excerpts you read, why should colonists declare independence from Great Britain? Use both a quote (using quotation marks), and put it into your own words.
3. How do you think colonists felt when they read or heard *Common Sense*?
4. How do you think King George III or Parliament reacted to the publication of *Common Sense*?
5. Why did Paine title it, “common sense”?
6. Put the following quotes into your own words (what does Paine mean?):
 - “We have boasted the protection of Great Britain without considering that her motive was self-interest, not attachment; and that she did not protect us from our enemies on our account, but from her enemies on her own account....”
 - “I challenge the warmest advocate for reconciliation [peace with Great Britain], to show a single advantage that this continent can reap, by being connected with Great Britain.”
 - “Small islands, not capable of protecting themselves, are the proper objects for kingdoms to take under their care; but there is something absurd in supposing an entire continent to be perpetually governed by an island. In no instance in nature is the satellite larger than its primary planet!”