Sacrifice

In 1776, a young schoolteacher named Nathan Hale volunteered for a dangerous mission — to spy on British troop movements in New York for General George Washington. Hale knew the risks: if captured, he would be executed. Disguised as a schoolmaster, he gathered information for the Continental Army but was soon caught behind enemy lines. The British sentenced him to hang without trial. On the morning of his death, just 21 years old, Hale reportedly said, *"I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."* His sacrifice became a symbol of courage and devotion, reminding Americans that freedom often requires personal loss.

Writing Prompt:
Nathan Hale gave his life for a cause he believed in. What does it mean to sacrifice for something greater than yourself? Write about whether you think his decision was brave, foolish, or both — and explain why. Then, connect this theme to your own experiences or a story you know:

- When has someone given up something important to help others or to stand for what they believe in?

- Why do you think people are willing to make sacrifices for a cause?

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