



Pennsylvania Fact Sheet



The Keystone State



Population: 12, 281, 054 (6th)
Area: 46,058 sq. mi. (33rd)
Date of Union Entry: 12/12
1787 (2nd)
Bird: Ruffed Grouse
Flower: Mountain Laurel
Tree: Eastern Hemlock
Motto: Virtue, Liberty, and
Independence



Ruffed Grouse



Mountain Laurel

Pennsylvania

Harrisburg ☆

The Keystone State

State license plate



Eastern Hemlock



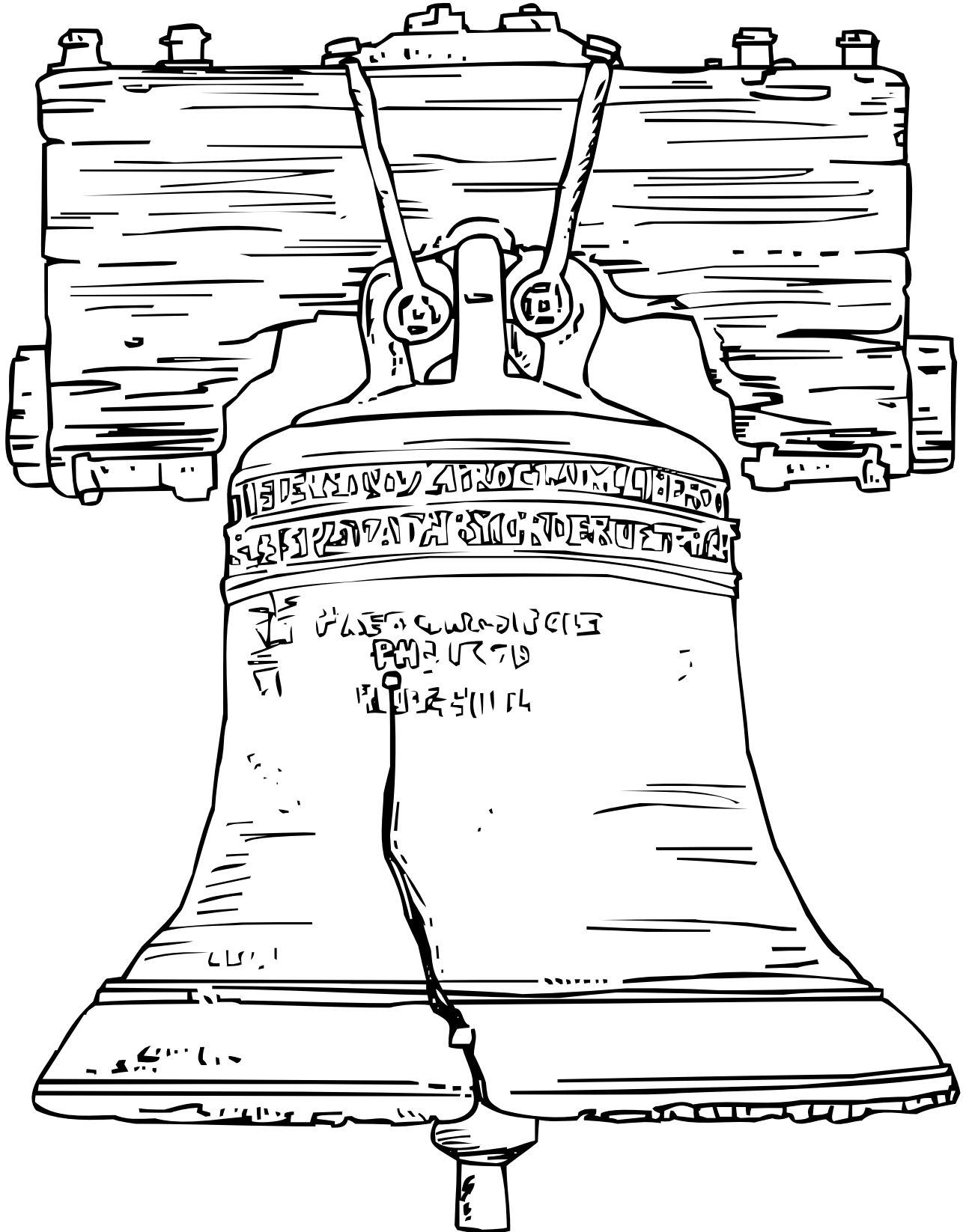


PENNSYLVANIA

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Liberty Bell

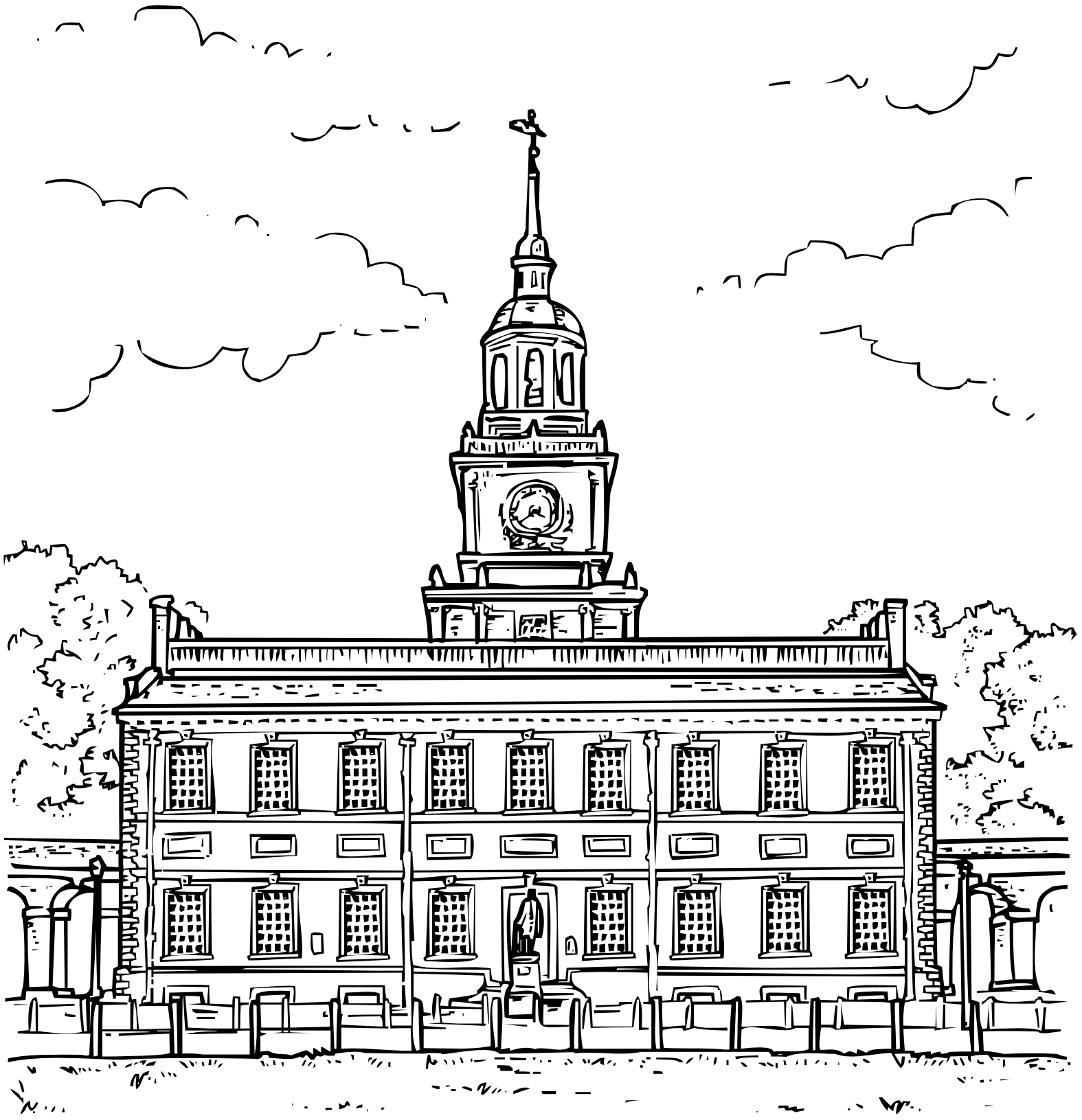
Pennsylvania State Quarter



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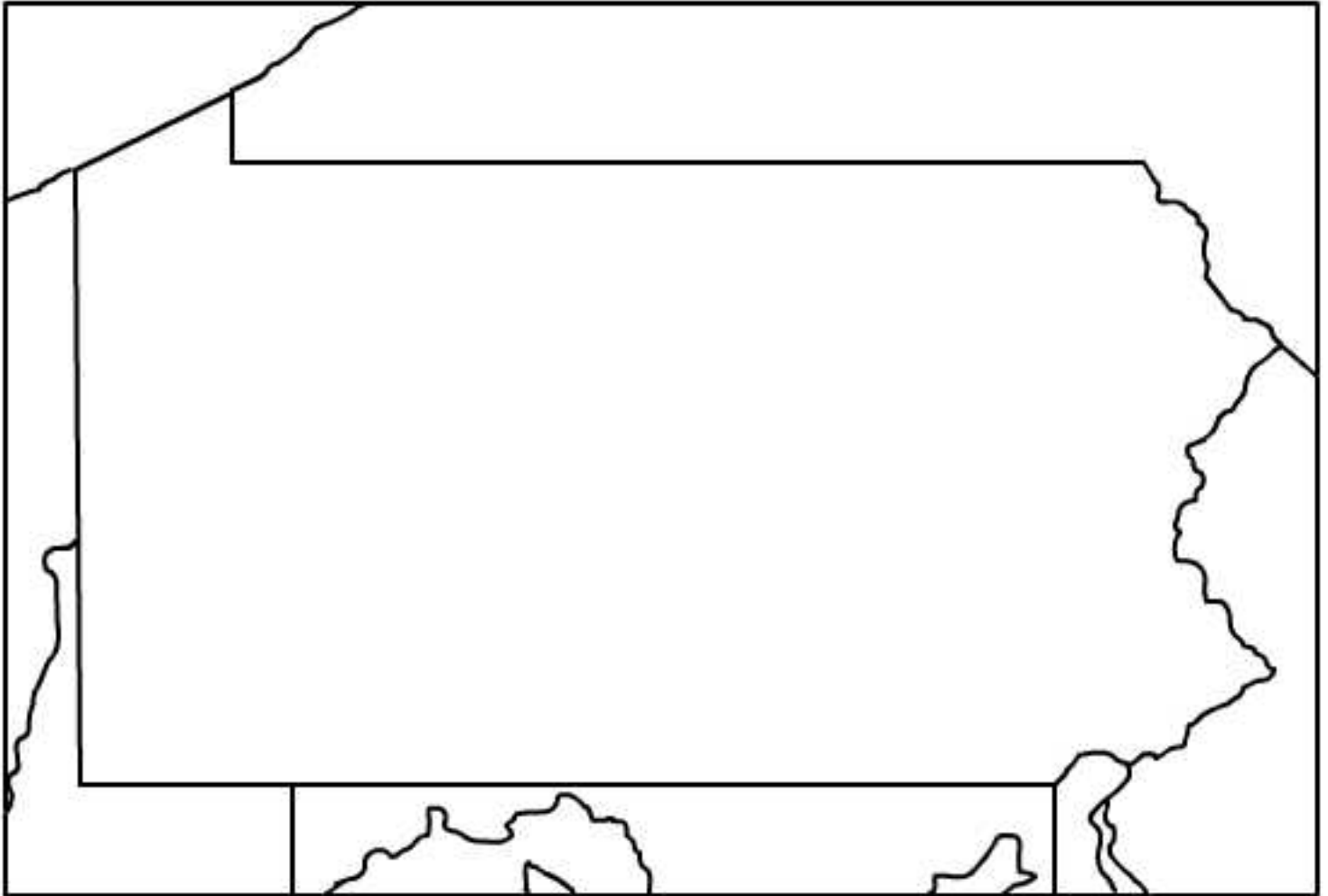
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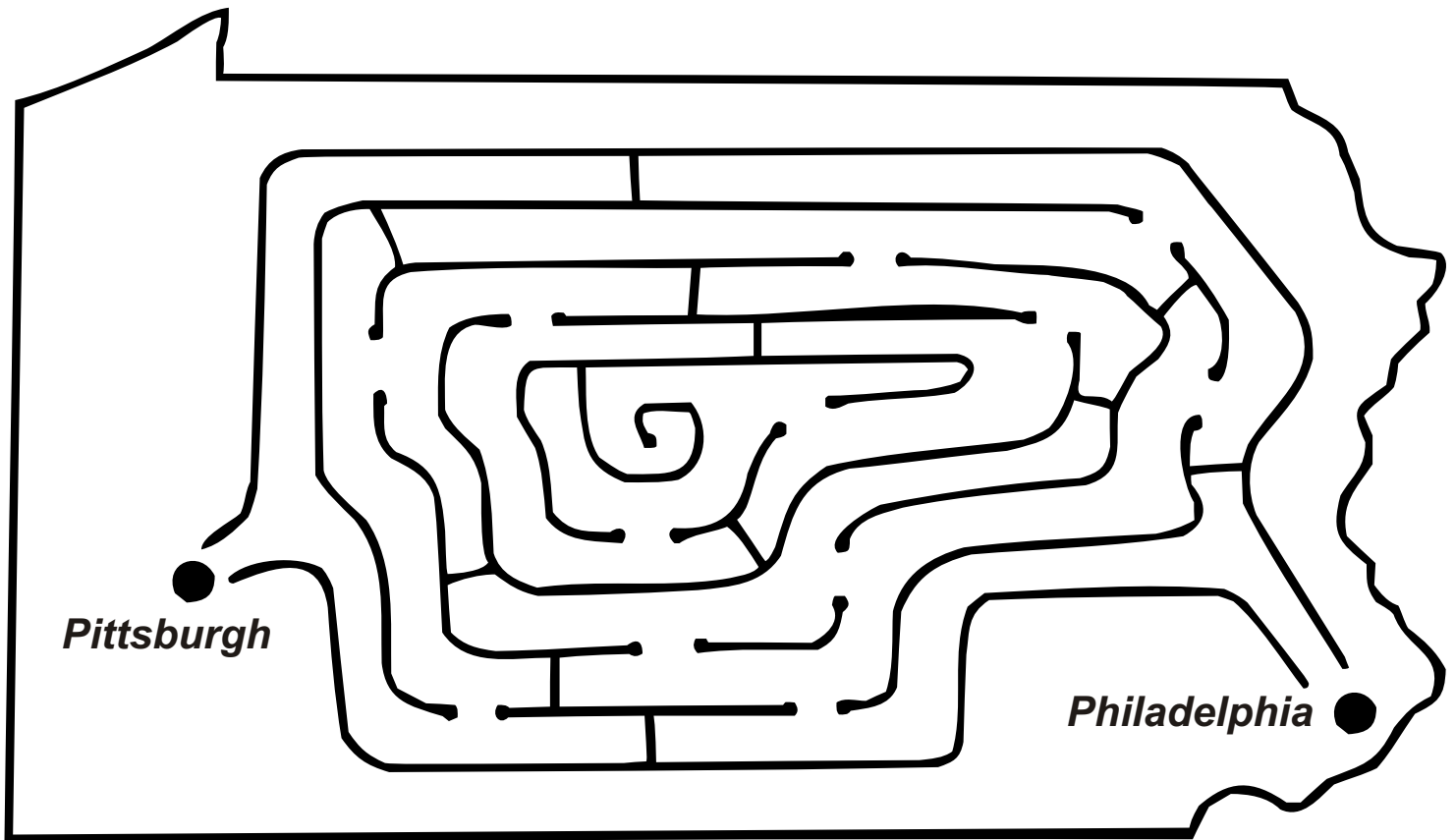


Independence Hall

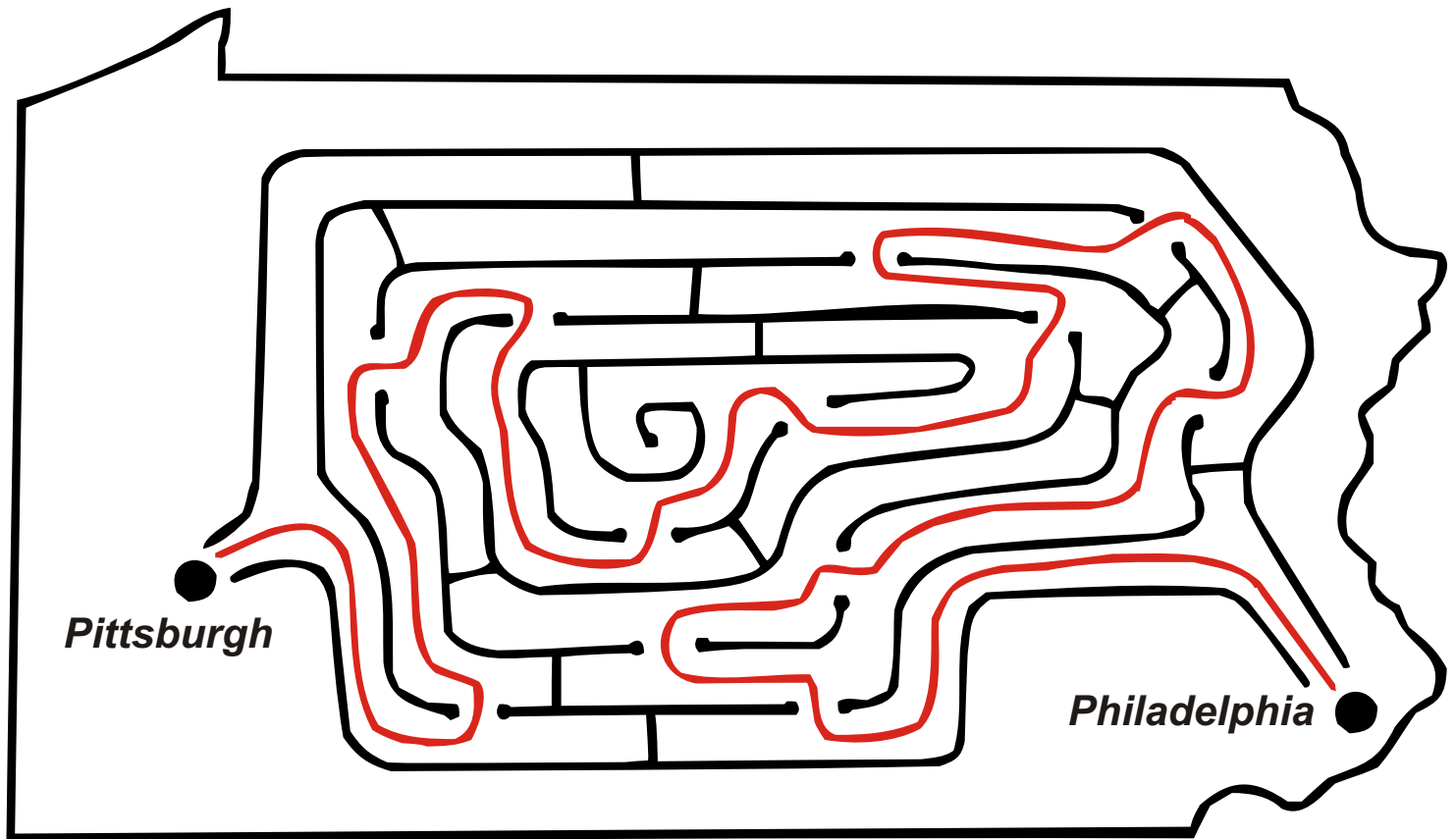


Pennsylvania Printable Outline Map





Pennsylvania - The Keystone State

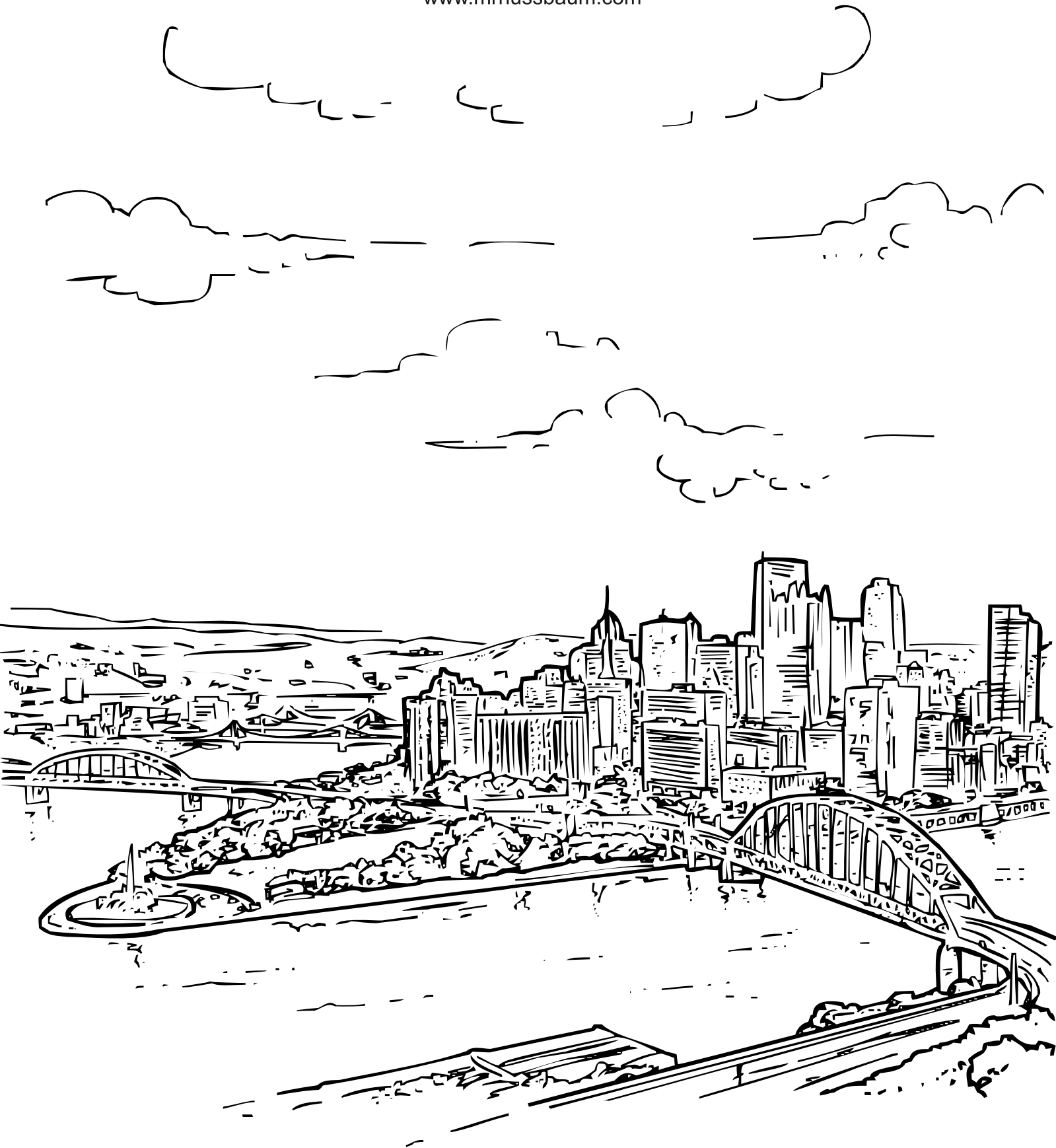


Pennsylvania - The Keystone State

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Pittsburgh, PA Skyline at the Golden Triangle



Name _____

Loyalists/Patriots: Dialogue between father and son.

When William Franklin was 21 years old, he accompanied his father, Benjamin, on what would become one of the most famous experiments of all time – Franklin’s discovery that lightning was electricity. By 1763, William had secured his position as Royal Governor of New Jersey – likely because his father lobbied the king. During the Revolutionary War, however, Benjamin pleaded with his son to take up the Patriot cause, but William refused and the relationship between father and son was ruined forever. In 1782, William left for England and never returned to America. He saw his father briefly one last time when Benjamin stopped in England on his way back from France.

What do you think their last conversation was like? Use your knowledge of the reasoning behind the Patriot and Loyalist causes to compose a politically charged “last dialogue” between the two Franklin’s. Visit <http://www.mrnussbaum.com/amrevolution/loyalists.htm> to learn more.

(In England)

Benjamin (somerly): It has been a long time, son. Has our time apart given you new insight into the Patriot cause?

William:

Benjamin:

William:

Benjamin:

William:

Benjamin:

William:



Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most important Americans in history. In the early part of his life, Franklin was a business person and inventor. He ran the Pennsylvania Gazette (newspaper) and also published Poor Richard's Almanac. Poor Richard's Almanac was very popular because it made predictions about the future and had wise sayings. Ben Franklin also invented the Franklin stove, lightning rod, bifocals (eyeglasses), and started America's first library. He is probably best known for his kite experiment which proved electricity could be harnessed from lightning.

In the later part of his life, Franklin became interested in politics. He spent many years in England before coming back to America. In 1776, Franklin helped Thomas Jefferson write the Declaration of Independence. Two years later, he went to France and convinced the French to help America in the war against England. After the war, Franklin joined the Continental Congress and signed the Constitution. He died in 1790. Today, Ben Franklin is honored on the \$100 dollar bill. His name is honored on highways, schools, and businesses across America.

1.) Which of the following is something invented by Ben Franklin?

- A. Headphones
- B. Electricity
- C. Bifocals
- D. Kites

2.) Which is something that may have been found in Poor Richard's Almanac?

- A. Directions for operating a soda machine.
- B. The score of a football game.
- C. "A penny saved is a penny earned".
- D. People's phone numbers.

3.) Ben Franklin started America's first _____.

4.) Ben Franklin proved electricity could be harnessed from _____.

5.) In the later part of his life, Franklin became interested in _____.

6.) Which of the following did Ben Franklin not do?

- A. Become President
- B. Sign the Constitution
- C. Help with the Declaration of Independence
- D. Travel to England

7.) What happened first?

- A. Franklin goes to France.
- B. 1776.
- C. Franklin signs the Constitution.
- D. Franklin goes to England.

8.) Today, Ben Franklin is honored on the _____ dollar bill



Benjamin Franklin Cloze Reading

Instructions: Use your contextual vocabulary skills to fill in the blanks with the words from the word bank.

Word Bank:

established figures filled forever harnessed Numerous
predictions probably proving successful

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most fascinating and accomplished _____ in American history. Ben Franklin was not just a famous ambassador, he was an extremely _____ business person, philanthropist, and inventor. Although Franklin is _____ best known for _____ electricity could be _____ from lightning (the kite and key experiment), he also _____ America's first library, invented bifocal glasses, the lightning rod and the Franklin Stove. He founded Poor Richard's Almanac, a book _____ with _____ and wise sayings. The saying, "A penny saved is a penny earned" first came from Franklin's pen. Franklin also established the American Philosophical Society and the Pennsylvania Hospital. Ben Franklin is memorialized _____ on the front of the one hundred dollar bill. _____ museums, highways, schools, and businesses and buildings bear his name as well.



ANSWERS


Benjamin Franklin was one of the most fascinating and accomplished **figures** in American history. Ben Franklin was not just a famous ambassador, he was an extremely **successful** business person, philanthropist, and inventor. Although Franklin is **probably** best known for **proving** electricity could be **harnessed** from lightning (the kite and key experiment), he also **established** America's first library, invented bifocal glasses, the lightning rod and the Franklin Stove. He founded Poor Richard's Almanac, a book **filled** with **predictions** and wise sayings. The saying, "A penny saved is a penny earned" first came from Franklin's pen. Franklin also established the American Philosophical Society and the Pennsylvania Hospital. Ben Franklin is memorialized **forever** on the front of the one hundred dollar bill. **Numerous** museums, highways, schools, and businesses and buildings bear his name as well.

Symbols of the American Revolution and Today: Join, or Die and Corporate Logos



The above symbol remains one of the iconic mages of the Revolutionary War. Originally made as a woodcut by Benjamin Franklin, it was intended to symbolize the need for unity among Britain's North American colonies toward the efforts in the French and Indian War. According to superstition at the time, a snake cut into pieces would become whole again if assembled before sunset.

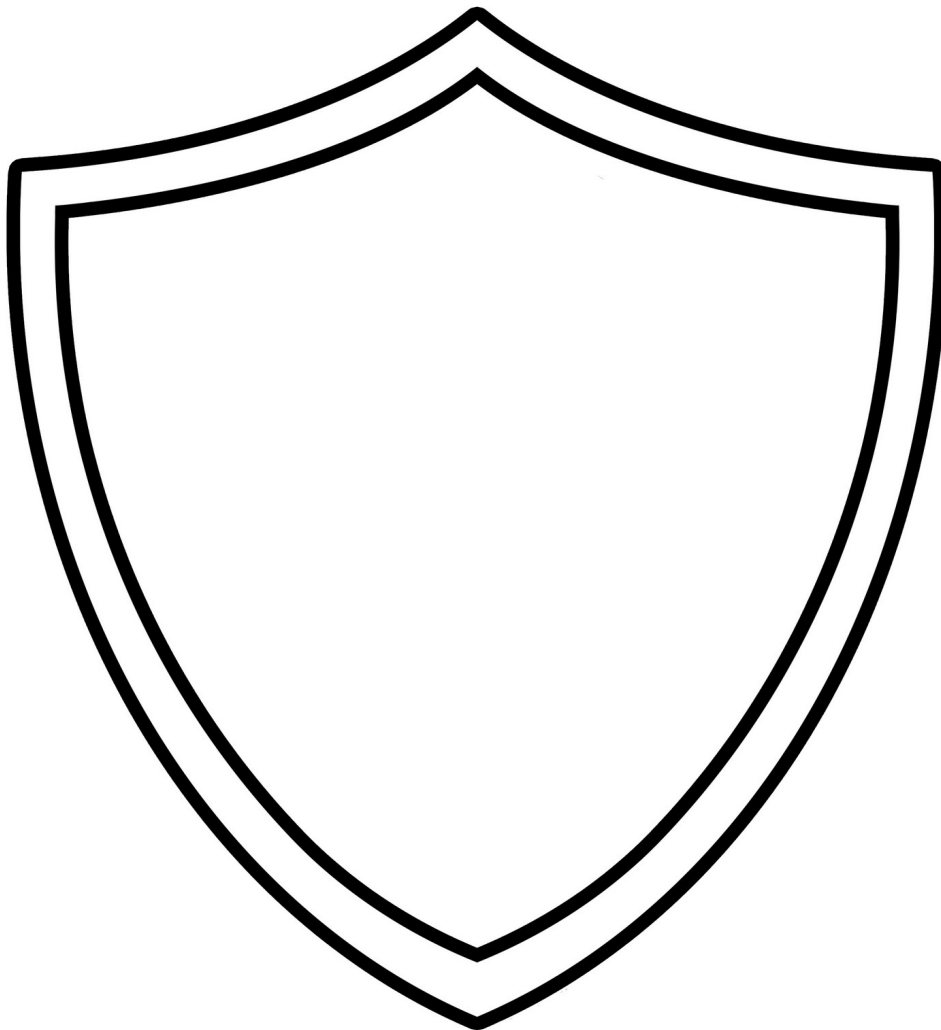
Similarly, today's companies and corporations use symbols in their logos. Use the chart below to label and color three corporate logos that you are aware of and describe what you think each symbolizes.

	The original "Golden Arches" logo was supposed to symbolize the architectural design of early McDonald's restaurants. Contrary to popular belief, it has nothing to do with French Fries or food.

The Many Hats of Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin was unquestionably one of the most remarkable figures in American history. For starters, he discovered that lightning was electricity through his famous key experiment. He was also a prolific inventor, creating the Franklin Stove, bifocals, and the lightning rod among other things. He penned Poor Richard's Almanac, a famous publication which included predictions, jokes, and sayings such as "a penny saved is a penny earned." He helped the city of Philadelphia create its first library, fire insurance company, and hospital. He also founded the University of Pennsylvania in 1740. Finally, he was a founding father who spent many years in Europe championing the American cause, before coming back to America to help write the Declaration of Independence.

If you could create a shield or coat of arms that illustrated Benjamin Franklin's life and all of his accomplishments. What would it look like? Use lots of color.

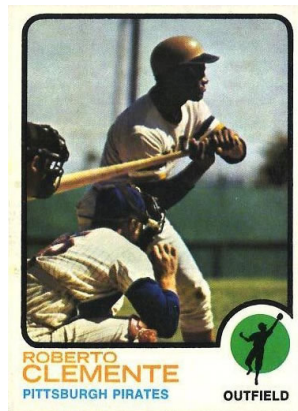


If Benjamin Franklin Got His Way....

To Benjamin Franklin, the selection of the bald eagle was an insult to the new nation. According to Franklin, the eagle “is a bird of bad moral character; he does not get his living honestly. You may have seen him perched in some dead tree where, too lazy to fish for himself, he watches the labor of the fishing hawk and, when that diligent bird has at length taken a fish and is bearing it to his nest for his young ones, the bald eagle pursues him and takes the fish. With all this injustice, he is never in good case.”

Franklin was much more enthusiastic about the wild turkey as America’s national symbol. He called it a “bird of courage” that “would not hesitate to attack a grenadier of the British guards who should presume to invade his farm yard with a red coat on.” Despite Franklin’s protests, Congress made the bald eagle America’s national symbol. Today, the bald eagle is one of the most ubiquitous symbols of America and appears on the back of the American quarter (among many other places). Pretend Benjamin Franklin got his way and the turkey became America’s symbol. Design the “new” reverse side of the quarter considering the turkey as the national symbol.

Current Reverse Side of Quarter	New Reverse Side with Turkey
	



Roberto Clemente Walker was born on August 18, 1934, in Barrio San Antón, Carolina, Puerto Rico. He was the youngest of seven children. His father was a foreman who oversaw sugarcane cutters and helped deliver sand and gravel for a construction company. His mother did laundry, ran a grocery store, and did other jobs on the sugarcane plantation. Roberto did odd jobs so he could help the family and buy himself a bicycle. Growing up, Roberto played baseball and participated in track and field. He won medals for the javelin throw and short distance races. Throwing the javelin strengthened his arm for throwing a baseball.

At age 18, Roberto joined a Puerto Rican professional baseball team, the Cangrejeros de Santurce, where he played with Willie Mays in 1954. That year, Santurce won the Caribbean World Series. Roberto was signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1954. He played on a minor league team for a season before being chosen in the draft by the Pittsburgh Pirates. Roberto quickly made a major impact in both the Pirates and Major League Baseball. He played outfield with the Pirates from 1955 to 1972. He was selected for the National League All-Star team 15 times, won 12 Gold Glove Awards, and won four National League batting titles. He was the National League Most Valuable Player in 1966 and the World Series Most Valuable Player in 1971. His career batting average was .317 with 3,000 hits, 240 home runs, and 1,305 RBIs.

Roberto was known for his humanitarian efforts. He helped people in need across the United States and Central America and held free baseball clinics for children in Puerto Rico. In 1972, an earthquake struck Managua, the capital of Nicaragua. Roberto had managed a Puerto Rican all-star team in Managua, and he had friends there. He became the honorary chairman of an earthquake relief committee that raised \$150,000 and gathered nearly 26 tons of relief supplies. Tragically, on New Year's Eve, he died when the plane he was on to deliver the supplies crashed into the Atlantic Ocean.

Normally, a player cannot be inducted into the Baseball Hall-of-Fame until at least five years after he stopped playing. An exception was made for Roberto, and he was inducted in 1973. He was the first Hispanic player to be inducted to the Hall-of-Fame. After his death, Major League Baseball established the Roberto Clemente Award recognizing the player who combines outstanding skills on the field with devoted work in the community. Broadcaster Tim McCarver called Roberto, "the greatest right fielder of all time," because of his precise and powerful throwing arm. Roberto once said, "If you have a chance to accomplish something that will make things better for people coming behind you, and you don't do that, you are wasting your time on this earth." Roberto also said, "I want to be remembered as a ballplayer who gave all he had to give."

- 1. What is the main focus of the first paragraph?**
 - A. Roberto's childhood
 - B. Roberto's parents
 - C. Roberto's skill in throwing a javelin
 - D. How Roberto earned money
- 2. Which can be inferred from the second paragraph?**
 - A. Roberto Clemente was the greatest baseball player in history
 - B. The Pirates won the World Series in 1971
 - C. Roberto had the highest career batting average of any Pittsburgh Pirate
 - D. Roberto Clemente should have played for the Brooklyn Dodgers
- 3. The third paragraph states that Roberto was known for his humanitarian efforts. Which of the following would qualify as such an effort?**
 - A. Signing autographs for fans
 - B. Helping to deliver food to victims of a hurricane
 - C. Donating your old bike to charity
 - D. Painting a picture for a friend
- 4. Which of the following is the best explanation for why Roberto Clemente was inducted into the Professional Baseball Hall-of-Fame in 1973?**
 - A. He was a great player who won a World Series with the Pittsburgh Pirates and who won the National League's Most Valuable Player award
 - B. He won the all-star 15 times
 - C. He would have been a Hall-of-Fame player when he was eligible, but his career and life were cut short tragically
 - D. He was a humanitarian who spent a lot of time helping people less fortunate
- 5. Which is NOT true about Roberto Clemente**
 - A. He was born in Puerto Rico
 - B. He died while trying to deliver supplies to people in Puerto Rico
 - C. His career ended with exactly 3,000 hits.
 - D. He died on New Year's eve

- 6. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the following quote?**

"If you have a chance to accomplish something that will make things better for people coming behind you, and you don't do that, you are wasting your time on this earth."

- A. Use your time wisely
- B. Make a positive impact on the world
- C. Help to save the earth
- D. Only play baseball if you help people

7. If the entire passage was limited to the second paragraph, which of the following could be its title?

- A. The history of the Pittsburgh Pirates
- B. The Tragic Story of Roberto Clemente
- C. The Amazing Baseball Career of Roberto Clemente
- D. Roberto Clemente at the 1971 World Series



Declaration of Independence Reading Comprehension

The main purpose of America's Declaration of Independence was to explain to foreign nations why the colonies had chosen to separate themselves from Great Britain. The Revolutionary War had already begun, and several major battles had already taken place. The American colonies had already cut most major ties to England and had established their own congress, currency, army, and post office. On June 7, 1776, at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Richard Henry Lee voiced a resolution that the United States should be completely free of England's influence, and that all political ties between the two countries should be dissolved. Congress agreed and began plans to publish a formal declaration of independence and appointed a committee of five members to draft the declaration.

Thomas Jefferson was chosen to draft the letter, which he did in a single day. Four other members—Roger Sherman, Robert Livingston, Benjamin Franklin, and John Adams—were part of the committee to help Jefferson. In the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson explained that a body of people has a right to change governments if that government becomes oppressive (unfair and controlling). He further explained that governments fail when they no longer have the consent of the governed. Since Parliament clearly lacked the consent of the American colonists to govern them, it was no longer legitimate.

The Declaration was presented to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on July 2, 1776. It was approved with a few minor changes. Of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, John Hancock, of Massachusetts, was the first.

1.) Why was the Declaration of Independence written?

- a.) For the colonists
- b.) For the British
- c.) For the kings
- d.) For other nations

2.) Which of the following HAD NOT taken place before the Declaration of Independence was written?

- a.) Battles
- b.) America had named a president.
- c.) The Revolutionary War
- d.) American had cut most ties with England.

3.) In the following sentence, what does the word "influence" mean:

Richard Henry Lee voiced a resolution that the United States ought to be completely free of England's influence.

- a.) battle
- b.) royal family
- c.) under the effect of
- d.) money

4.) Which of the following is an accurate description of what Thomas Jefferson described in the Declaration?

- a.) That the King of England owes the colonists money.
- b.) That America will win the war against England.
- c.) People have the right to fair government.
- d.) The colonists have no rights.

5.) According to Jefferson, when do governments fail?

- a.) When they no longer have the consent of the people.
- b.) When they fight wars.
- c.) When they issue taxes.
- d.) When they owe money.

6.) Which of the following is NOT a reason the Declaration of Independence was written?

- a.) Parliament lacked consent of the American people.
- b.) Parliament was unfair.
- c.) Parliament taxed the Americans.
- d.) Parliament had failed the American people.

7.) The Continental Congress...

- a.) agreed to the Declaration with a few changes.
- b.) totally and completely agreed with the Declaration.
- c.) disagreed with the Declaration.
- d.) agreed with the Declaration but made major changes.

8.) Which of the following describes an illegitimate government according to the Declaration?

- a.) A government that taxes its people.
- b.) A government that oppresses its people.
- c.) A government that has the consent of its people.
- d.) A government run by the people.

9.) The British were...

- a.) likely to agree to the Declaration.
- b.) likely to disagree to the Declaration.
- c.) likely to agree to the Declaration with a few minor changes.
- d.) likely to agree to the Declaration with a few major changes.

10.) Which of the following is FALSE?

- a.) Congress established a taxing system before the Declaration of Independence.
- b.) Congress established a post office before the Declaration of Independence.
- c.) Congress established an army before the Declaration of Independence.
- d.) Richard Henry Lee voiced the resolution that American should dissolve its ties to England.



PENNSYLVANIA COLONY Reading Comprehension

The land that is now Pennsylvania was first claimed by the Swedes under Peter Minuit in 1638. Minuit had agreed to help them establish a colony after having a falling-out with Dutch officials. Although the Swedes did colonize the region on the west banks of the Delaware River, known at the time as Nya Sverige, or New Sweden, they were attacked and displaced by the Dutch in 1655. In turn, the British would dispatch the Dutch from the region in 1664.

Pennsylvania was founded in 1681 by William Penn. Penn was issued a land grant by King Charles II largely because of a significant debt owed to his father, Admiral Penn. At the time, the grant was one of the largest in terms of area ever known. It was named Pennsylvania, which means Penn's Woods, after Admiral Penn.

Penn quickly established a government based on religious freedom for the Quakers. Quakers did not believe in the strict rules imposed by the Puritan Church. They believed that people could have a direct relation with God, rather than one mediated by a minister. The colony's religious tolerance soon attracted German and Scottish immigrants and promoted more peaceful relations with local Indians. Furthermore, it helped Philadelphia grow into the most important city in the thirteen colonies, and it helped establish the Pennsylvania Dutch Country, where German "Deutsch" political and religious refugees formed farming communities.

1.) The land that became Pennsylvania was first claimed by the ___ in 1638.

- a.) English
- b.) Germans
- c.) Dutch
- d.) Swedes

2.) The ____ attacked the Swedes and took over their colony.

- a.) Germans
- b.) Dutch
- c.) French
- d.) English

3.) The _____ were the last to control the region when they gained control in 1664.

- a.) Dutch
- b.) Germans
- c.) Swedes
- d.) English

4.) What does the word “dispatch” mean in the following sentence:

In turn, the British would dispatch the Dutch from the region in 1664.

- a.) send away
- b.) allow
- c.) care for
- d.) control

5.) Pennsylvania was founded by:

- a.) Puritans
- b.) William Penn
- c.) King Charles
- d.) Admiral Penn

6.) King Charles agreed to the land grant that would become Pennsylvania...

- a.) to repay a debt.
- b.) to make history.
- c.) because he thought it would bring him glory.
- d.) to spread religion.

7.) Which of the following best describes William Penn’s ideas about religion?

- a.) He did not believe in religious freedom.
- b.) He believed strongly in religious freedom.
- c.) He did not believe in religion.
- d.) He believed only one religion should exist.

8.) Which of the following is NOT true about the Quakers?

- a.) Their religious tolerance helped attract settlers from other countries.
- b.) They believed people needed ministers to talk to God.
- c.) They weren’t as strict as the Puritans.
- d.) They had peaceful relations with the local Indians.

9.) What happened last?

- a.) The Dutch took control of the land that would be Pennsylvania.
- b.) Admiral Penn received the land grant.
- c.) The English took control of the land that would be Pennsylvania.
- d.) 1680

10.) Which of the following WAS NOT a result of Pennsylvania’s religious tolerance?

- a.) Philadelphia became an important city.
- b.) Immigrants came to the region.
- c.) German political refugees formed farming communities.
- d.) The land grant was received by William Penn.

Philadelphia

Philadelphia was founded and planned in 1682 by William Penn, although the area was previously settled by Swedes, who called the area Wiccacoa, in the early 1600's

The name "Philadelphia" means "brotherly love" in Greek. Penn hoped the colony could serve as a refuge for those seeking religious freedom and tolerance. Philadelphia quickly grew as an economic, cultural, and intellectual hub, and became the most important city in the thirteen colonies, and the second most important English speaking city in the world behind London. One of Philadelphia's leading citizens, Benjamin Franklin, founded the Pennsylvania Gazette, The University of Pennsylvania, and the nation's first public library and fire company in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia played prominently in the American Revolution. The Continental Congress first met in Philadelphia in 1775 and Thomas Jefferson drafted the Declaration of Independence at Independence Hall in Philadelphia in 1776. In addition, the city served as the capital of the colonies from 1777 to 1788.

1. William Penn hoped Philadelphia...

- A. would become home to Benjamin Franklin.
- B. would become a place people could practice religion freely.
- C. would become the site of Independence Hall.
- D. would eventually become the site of the drafting of the Declaration of Independence.

2. What could be a synonym of the word "refuge" as used in the second paragraph?

- A. Safe Place
- B. Business
- C. Church
- D. House

3. What was NOT true about Philadelphia?

- A. It was the site of America's first public library
- B. It served as the capital of the colonies
- C. It was the site of the first meeting of the Continental Congress
- D. It was the largest English-speaking city in the world

4. What question is answered in the second paragraph?

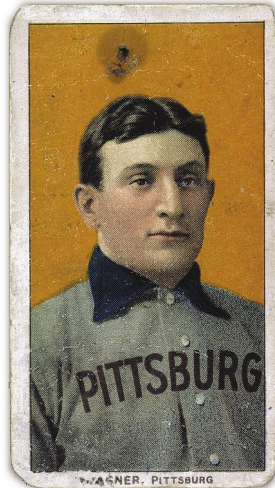
- A. When was the University of Pennsylvania established?
- B. When was Philadelphia named capital of the colonies?
- C. What does the name "Philadelphia" mean?
- D. How many people lived in Philadelphia?

5. Which of the following was a reason Philadelphia grew so quickly?

- A. People came to see the first library
- B. Its name means "city of brotherly love"
- C. It was originally settled by the Swedes
- D. It attracted immigrants because of its religious tolerance

Honus Wagner and the T206

Name _____



The T206 Honus Wagner is the world's most valuable sports card. It was issued as part of a series of cards that were inserted in packs of cigarettes produced by the American Tobacco Company (ATC) in 1909.

Who was Honus Wagner?

Wagner was one of the best baseball players of his time. He played shortstop for the Pittsburgh Pirates between 1897 and 1917. Wagner, who was nicknamed "the Flying Dutchman" for both his running speed and his heritage, won eight batting titles during his career. Along with Babe Ruth, Wagner was one of the first five players elected to the Professional Baseball Hall-of-Fame.

Why is the T206 card so valuable?

The T206 card is so valuable because Honus Wagner forced the American Tobacco Company to cease production of this card. Although his reasoning remains unclear, experts believe one of two theories: Wagner did not want kids to buy packs of cigarettes to obtain the card, or, that he wanted more compensation from the American Tobacco Company. Whatever the reason, only between 50 and 200 of the T206 cards were ultimately printed, packaged, and distributed.

The Value of T206

Even in 1933, the T206 was regarded as the world's most valuable baseball card; although it was valued at a paltry \$50.00 by the *American Card Catalog*. As sports cards became more popular as collectors' items in the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, prices of rare cards rose dramatically as they became more in demand. In 1991, Wayne Gretzky, widely considered the greatest hockey player of all time, purchased a professionally graded T206 card for \$451,000. It was later revealed the card was trimmed to improve its condition. In 2016, a different T206 card in poor, but unaltered condition, sold for over \$3,000,000! Several T206 cards have emerged over the past few decades, a few of which are thought to be authentic and several others that are thought to be counterfeit.

1. Which is NOT true about Honus Wagner?

- A. He played shortstop
- B. His nickname was "The Flying Dutchman"
- C. He was recently elected to the Hall-of-Fame
- D. He won eight batting titles

2. Which of the following best describes the T206 card?

- A. Very rare
- B. Fairly common
- C. Fake
- D. Non-existent

3. Which of the following would be good advice to someone who was considering purchasing a T206 card?

- A. You should probably wait a few years as they will become less expensive
- B. You should probably ask Wayne Gretzky if he thinks purchasing a T206 is a good idea
- C. You should probably make sure the card you are considering purchasing is authentic rather than fake
- D. You should probably buy a lot of packs of baseball cards and maybe you'll get one

4. Why is the T206 card so rare?

- A. Because the card is so old
- B. Because Honus Wagner refused to buy cigarettes
- C. Because most people threw them out
- D. Because very few of the cards were produced

5. Which of the following best describes why Honus Wagner refused to allow his cards to be packaged with American Tobacco Company cigarettes?

- A. Because he wanted more money
- B. Because he didn't like the idea that kids had to buy packs of cigarettes to get his card
- C. No one is sure, but the answer is likely A or B
- D. No one is sure, but the answer is likely A and B

6. What does the word “distributed” mean as used in the following sentence?

Whatever the reason, only between 50 and 200 of the T206 cards were ultimately printed, packaged, and distributed.

- A. borrowed
- B. destroyed
- C. sent out
- D. returned

7. Over time...

- A. prices for rare baseball cards rose.
- B. people lost interest in expensive baseball cards.
- C. Wayne Gretzky bought more T206 cards.
- D. it was discovered that the T206 card wasn't actually very rare.

Winter at Valley Forge Reading Comprehension

During the 1700s and 1800s, major fighting during wars generally ceased for the winters, and armies took up winter encampments. As winter descended upon Pennsylvania in 1777, General George Washington chose Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, some eighteen miles west of Philadelphia as site of the winter encampment of the Continental Army. The area was far enough away from the British in Philadelphia to discourage surprise attacks, and its location between high hills and the Schuylkill River made it easily defensible.

The Continental Army, however, was in bad shape. Of the 12,000 soldiers, many lacked the supplies or clothing to survive the winter, and many others were starving at this point. At Valley Forge, defense lines were built along with over 1,000 huts to provide some relief from the brutal elements. Moisture from rain and melting snow made it impossible for many soldiers to stay dry and allowed for the spread of disease. The only reliable food that the soldiers received was a mixture of flour and water known as “firecake.” Occasionally, soldiers received meat and bread. Furthermore, many soldiers had inadequate supplies of clothing and were forced to endure the winter in tatters and without blankets. Many lacked shoes. Wounded soldiers often died from exposure to the elements. Unsanitary and crowded conditions led to the proliferation of diseases and sicknesses such as typhoid and pneumonia. Over 2,000 people died from such sicknesses.

On February 23, 1778, former German General Baron von Steuben arrived at Valley Forge to train the Patriots how to march in formation, fire guns quickly, use bayonets, and become soldiers. Though von Steuben spoke little English, he developed a training manual in French that would be translated on the grounds into English. Unlike many American generals, von Steuben worked directly with the soldiers, endearing him to the thousands suffering at Valley Forge. Von Steuben’s presence did much to improve the morale of the army during the bitter winter and also helped them develop into a more tactical, effective military machine, capable of fighting the British.

On June 19, 1778, the Continental Army left Valley Forge in pursuit of the British who were moving north to New York.

1.) Why did General Washington choose Valley Forge as the site of his army's winter encampment?

- a.) Its location made it easy to defend.
- b.) It was the only place where he wouldn't be attacked.
- c.) It was warmer than any other encampments.
- d.) It was close to a source of water.

2.) Which of the following words would best describe the state of the Continental Army during the winter of 1777–1778?

- a.) Powerful
- b.) Courteous
- c.) Weak
- d.) Determined

3.) Which of the following was the LEAST LIKELY threat to soldiers encamped at Valley Forge?

- a.) Disease
- b.) A British attack
- c.) Starvation
- d.) The cold weather

4.) How did soldiers get pneumonia?

- a.) From eating old firecake
- b.) From not getting enough meat
- c.) From the crowded and unsanitary conditions
- d.) From not having shoes

5.) What does the word “proliferation” mean in the following sentence:

Unsanitary and crowded conditions led to the **proliferation** of diseases and sicknesses such as typhoid and pneumonia.

- a.) Growth and spread
- b.) Amount
- c.) Effects
- d.) Storage

6.) Which of the following words best describes pneumonia and typhoid at Valley Forge?

- a.) Bothersome
- b.) Deadly
- c.) Tragic
- d.) Shameful

7.) Baron Von Steuben taught the colonists...

- a.) how to make better use of guns.
- b.) how to hide from the enemy better.
- c.) how to understand German.
- d.) All of the above

8.) How was Baron von Steuben different from American generals?

- a.) He never worked directly with soldiers.
- b.) He would go into battle with soldiers.
- c.) He worked directly with soldiers.
- d.) He liked the British.

9.) What was probably the most important contribution made by Baron von Steuben?

- a.) He taught the soldiers that their generals did not have to speak good English.
- b.) He taught the soldiers how to use bayonets.
- c.) He provided the soldiers with things to laugh about.
- d.) He helped transform the Continental Army into an army that could actually fight the British.

10.) What happened last?

- a.) Baron von Steuben arrived.
- b.) April 1778
- c.) The Continental Army began their pursuit of the British.
- d.) The Continental Army learned to fire guns faster and to use bayonets.

PHILLIS WHEATLEY Reading Comprehension

Phillis Wheatley was born in Gambia (in Africa) on May 8, 1753, and died in Boston on December 5, 1784.

When she was 7 or 8, she was sold as a slave to John and Susanna Wheatley of Boston. She was named after the ship that brought her to America, *The Phillis*.

The Poetry Foundation describes her sale:

In August 1761, "in want of a domestic," Susanna Wheatley, ...purchased "a slender, frail female child ... for a trifle" ... The captain of the slave ship believed that the waif was terminally ill, and he wanted ... at least a small profit before she died. ... The family surmised the girl—who was "of slender frame and evidently suffering from a change of climate," nearly naked, with "no other covering than a quantity of dirty carpet about her"—to be "about seven years old ... from the circumstances of shedding her front teeth."

(<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/bio/phillis-wheatley>)

Phillis was very intelligent. The Wheatley family taught her to read and write, and encouraged her to write poetry. Her first poem "On Messrs. Hussey and Coffin" was published when she was only twelve. In 1770, "An Elegiac Poem, on the Death of that Celebrated Divine, and Eminent Servant of Jesus Christ, the Reverend and Learned George Whitefield" made her famous. It was published in Boston, Newport, and Philadelphia.

When she was eighteen, Phillis and Mrs. Wheatley tried to sell a collection containing twenty-eight of her poems. Colonists did not want to buy poetry written by an African. Mrs. Wheatley wrote to England to ask Selina Hastings, Countess of Huntingdon, for help. The countess was a wealthy supporter of evangelical and abolitionist (anti-slavery) causes. She had poems on various subjects, religious and moral, published in England in 1773. This book made Phillis famous in England and the thirteen colonies. She wrote a poem for George Washington in 1775, and he praised her work. They met in 1776. Phillis supported independence for the colonies during the Revolutionary War.

After her master died, Phillis was emancipated. She married John Peters, a free black man, in 1778. She and her husband lost two children as infants. John would be imprisoned for debt in 1784. Phillis and her remaining child died in December of 1784 and were buried in an unmarked grave. Nevertheless, the legacy of Phillis Wheatley lives on. She became the first African-American and the first slave in the United States to publish a book. She proved that slaves or former slaves had a valuable voice in the Revolutionary era.

1.) Who was George Whitefield?

- a.) Phillis's husband
- b.) A military general
- c.) Somebody who Phillis admired greatly
- d.) A slave owner

2.) Phillis finally became free...

- a.) after her master died.
- b.) when she became wealthy.
- c.) when she published her poems in England.
- d.) after meeting the Countess of Huntingdon.

3.) Phillis's first attempt at selling her poetry in America (the colonies) was...

- a.) unsuccessful
- b.) imaginary
- c.) illegal
- d.) successful

4.) The Wheatley family estimated the age of the slave girl they named "Phillis" by...

- a.) the condition of her teeth.
- b.) her size.
- c.) her weight.
- d.) her color.

5.) Which of the following is TRUE about Phillis Wheatley?

- a.) She was the first African-American and slave to publish a book in the United States.
- b.) She was the first African-American and slave to be able to read and write
- c.) She was the first African-American slave to visit England.
- d.) She was the first African-American and slave to meet George Washington.

6.) The slave owner who sold Phillis to the Wheatley family believed...

- a.) she would soon recover from her illness.
- b.) she was very intelligent.
- c.) she was worth a lot of money.
- d.) she would soon die.

7.) Where is Phillis Wheatley buried?

- a.) Virginia
- b.) Africa
- c.) Boston
- d.) No one knows

8.) What question is answered in last paragraph?

- a.) Who did Phillis marry?
- b.) Why was Phillis a slave?
- c.) What did Phillis prove?
- d.) Where were Phillis's works published?

9.) By the age of twelve, Phillis was...

- a.) Married.
- b.) still not able to read or write.
- c.) no longer a slave.
- d.) a published poet.

10.) It can be inferred from the passage that the Countess of Huntingdon...

- a.) was surprised that Phillis could read and write.
- b.) didn't care about Phillis's poetry.
- c.) helped Phillis get her writings published.
- d.) believed in slavery.

Pennsylvania Reading Comprehension Answers

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Roberto Clemente	A	B	B	C	B	B	C			
Honus Wagner T-206 Baseball Card	C	A	C	D	C	D	A			
Winter at Valley Forge	A	C	B	C	A	B	A	C	D	C
Pennsylvania Colony	B	A	C	D	B					
Benjamin Franklin	C	C	Library	Lightning	Politics	A	D	100		
Phillis Wheatley	C	A	A	A	A	D	D	C	D	C
Philadelphia	B	A	D	C	D					