

SIGNERS BIO VIDEOS

Question Guide

Teacher Instructions

This guide is designed to spark curiosity and keep students actively involved while they watch short biographical videos about the signers of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. The four different question sets give each viewing a fresh angle, helping students notice new details, think critically, and make personal connections, while also preventing the “same answers every time” effect.

How to Use:

1. **Assign a Question Set** – Choose one of the four sets for each student or group. You can assign the same set to the whole class, mix sets randomly, or rotate sets across multiple videos.
2. **Select the Signer** – Briefly tell students which signer they will learn about and remind them to focus on their assigned questions.
3. **Watch & Respond** – Students complete their assigned questions while watching or immediately after the video. Encourage complete sentences and specific examples from the video.
4. **Optional Follow-Up** – Have students compare answers across different sets, create a “signers gallery,” or research answers to lingering questions.

Question Set 1

1. What are the key facts from this video?
2. What is something that surprised you about this signer?
3. After watching the video what questions do you have?
4. What connections—personal, social, or historical—can you make from this video?
5. What is something learned, or were reminded of, that you will remember five years from now?

Question Set 2

1. What question would you like to ask the signer?
2. What word or phrase best describes this signer? Defend your choice.

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3. Do you agree or disagree with the signer? Give 2-3 reasons.
4. Which document(s) did they sign?
5. How do the signers actions or beliefs affect us today?

Question Set 3

1. What makes your signer unique?
2. What motivated them to sign?
3. How might their career or geographic location impact their desire to sign?
4. How old was your signer when they signed? Compare that to today's government.
5. What was one thing that surprised you about your signer?

Question Set 4

1. What event or events from the signer's life stuck with you most?
2. What three adjectives would you use to describe the signer? Why did you pick those words?
3. How did events or experiences from the signer's childhood or early life influence the decisions he made as an adult?
4. What role did the signer play in the convention?
5. Write one question you still have after watching the video.