

Glencoe Curriculum Portfolio Activities—Unit 3



Social Studies

Write about Thomas Paine and *Common Sense*.

Before the Declaration of Independence was written, Thomas Paine published the pamphlet *Common Sense*. Why is this short pamphlet considered to be so important in the struggle for American independence?

Read about Thomas Paine and two of his most famous writings, the pamphlets titled *Common Sense* and *The American Crisis*. You can find information about Thomas Paine and his writings in *Glencoe: The American Journey* or on the Internet. Write at least one paragraph explaining why these two short pamphlets appealed to the Patriots and helped inspire those who believed in independence for the colonies. In your paragraphs be sure to include the dates *Common Sense* and *The American Crisis* were published. Explain the significance of the timing of these writings. In addition, explain in your own words several of the most significant quotes in *Common Sense*.

Key the paragraphs into a word processor. Spell-check and proofread your paragraphs. Cite your sources at the end of the paragraph.

Resources:

The Internet

Glencoe: The American Journey, pp. 149-150, 166, 962

Topics: Thomas Paine; *Common Sense*; *The American Crisis*