

Name _____

The Signers of the Declaration of Independence and Their Consequences

Short Answer Key

1. Prominent figures who signed the Declaration of Independence included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and John Hancock. They were willing to take such a risk because they believed in the principles of liberty and self-determination and were committed to the cause of American independence.
2. The majority of signers affixed their signatures to the Declaration of Independence on August 2, 1776. The timing was significant because it represented a unified declaration of independence by the American colonies and marked a pivotal moment in the American Revolutionary War.
3. The potential consequences faced by the signers of the Declaration of Independence included loss of property, imprisonment, and execution. These risks reflected their unwavering commitment to the cause of American independence and their willingness to sacrifice for it.
4. The signers of the Declaration of Independence left a lasting legacy by contributing to the foundation of American democracy and principles of liberty. Their commitment to these ideals inspired future generations and played a crucial role in shaping the United States.
5. John Hancock was the first person to sign the Declaration of Independence, serving as the President of the Continental Congress. His prominent signature symbolized his leadership and unwavering commitment to the American revolutionary cause.

