Let Their Voices Be Heard
An Analysis of Quotes during the American Revolution

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Lesson Objective:
By analyzing the words of an individual who lived during the American Revolution and researching more about them, students will bring that person alive for themselves and the rest of the class. Students will understand that these are real people who struggled with the events of their time just as we struggle with the events of our time.

Materials:
* quotations from people with different perspectives of the time period before and during the American Revolution (attached)
* pictures of as many of those people that you can find
  I have some good ones from Founding Fathers A Book of Postcards Smithsonian Institution ISBN 0-7649-3697-2
* but most are of northern individuals
* maps and books available for students to use
* bulletin board space if you choose to use this as an interactive bulletin board
Lesson Description:
After students have a good grasp of the events of the American Revolution, they are paired up with a classmate to analyze a quote of this time period. They will use the guiding questions, as well as maps and other resources to really get to know their person. If their person was involved in a battle, students will also be able to discuss the battle. (Students who have people who were involved in a particular battle, such as King’s Mountain, will have time to get together to see how the roles of each person was important to that battle.) After analyzing the quote and doing research, each pair of students will give a 5 minute oral presentation to the class about their individual’s quote and position during the American Revolution. They may dress up, share a powerpoint, do a skit, or have other visuals that help to bring their person alive. See rubric for presentation.

Guiding Questions:
1. In your quote, who is doing the speaking?
2. What was his or her occupation, location, and situation during this period? Be very specific. (job, family, north/south/British military/British Parliament, wealthy/middle class/poor/slave, etc.) Really describe this person so we feel like we know them.
3. What is the position your person holds on independence?
4. What influences your person to have this position?
5. How did they feel (or would they have felt) at the end of the American Revolution?
Optional Interactive Bulletin Board
After students give their presentation, they put up a picture of their individual on one side of the bulletin board and a quote bubble on the other side (in random order.) After all presentations are done, students can work together in pairs or small groups at the bulletin board to put the word bubble by the person who said it. Groups should be mixed differently than the original pairs so expertise can be shared.

Assessment:
Students will have a paper with the names in a word bank that is numbered. Quotes will be numbered and be put in a hat (a colonial hat, of course!) Students in the class will pick out of the hat, tell what number the quote is and read the quote (with expression!) All students will write down the name of that person after the appropriate number. Students are not expected to know 100% of the names. A rubric can be set up to meet your expectations, such as the one below.

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<thead>
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<th>Grade</th>
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<td>8-10</td>
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Name ____________________

## Rubric for Presentation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Mostly complete, some general or missing</th>
<th>Incomplete or too general</th>
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<td>8-10 pts.</td>
<td>5-7 pts.</td>
<td>0-4 pts.</td>
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**Historically Accurate**

**Guiding Questions Addressed**

**Presentation Skills**
QUOTES from the Parliament and Britain

1. “Sir, they are a race of convicts, and ought to be thankful for anything we allow them short of hanging.”
   Samuel Johnson, British author, scholar, and critic of his time, and a political conservative talking about the colonists in America

2. “If I were an American, as I am an Englishman, while a foreign troop was landed in my country, I never would lay down my arms—never—never—never—never!”
   William Pitt the Elder, Lord Chatham in an address to the House of Lords on November 18, 1777

QUOTES from the Southern Campaign

3. “We fight, get beat, rise, and fight again.”
   Nathanael Greene, April 1781 in a letter to French ambassador to America Chevalier del la Luzeme after The Battle of Hobkirk’s Hill, South Carolina

4. “If I had a vein that did not beat with the love of my Country, I myself would open it. If I had a drop of blood that could flow dishonorlable, I myself would let it out.”
   Charles Cotesworth Pinckney in 1780 after the capture of Charleston. He was taken as a prisoner of war and said this when the British tried to get him to give up the Patriot cause.

5. This person was described by Howard Burnham as having “The face of an angel. The heart of a wolverine.” Who was it?
   Banastre Tarleton, Lieutenant Colonel, British Legion
6. “Until Virginia is in a manner subdued, our hold of the Carolinas must be difficult, if not precarious.”

   British General Cornwallis on his decision to move on to Yorktown after Guildford Courthouse

7. “I arrived today at King Mountain and have taken a post where I do not think I can be forced by a stronger enemy...God Almighty and all the Rebels cannot drive me from it.”

   British Major Patrick Ferguson at the Battle of King’s Mountain, October 1780

8. “…it was not pleasant to fire at the back of an unoffending individual, who was acquitting himself very coolly of his duty—so I let him alone.” And later, “I am not sorry that I did not know at the time who it was.”

   British Major Patrick Ferguson, September 1777 when he came within 100 yards of General George Washington, had the opportunity to shoot him, and didn’t.

9. “Ah! That is the doings of old King George. ...he promised to give me five hundred lashes. But he failed in his promise and gave me but four hundred ninety nine; so he has been owing me one lash ever since. While the drummer was laying them on my back, I heard him miscount one. ...I did not think it worthwhile to tell him of his mistake, and let it go so.”

   Brigadier General Daniel Morgan of the American forces “the Old Wagoner” commenting on his punishment of 500 lashes after getting into a fight with a British lieutenant.
10. (has two quotes) “Boys get up. Banny’s coming!”
   Brigadier General Daniel Morgan waking his troops before the Battle of Cowpens (referring to Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton of the British Legion)
   “Form, form my brave fellows! Old Morgan was never beaten!”
   Brigadier General Daniel Morgan at the Battle of Cowpens rallying his militia

11. My order to my men to turn slightly right to counter an attack at the Battle of Cowpens was misunderstood as a call to retreat.
   Lieutenant Colonel John Eager Howard, commander of the Continentals

12. My Patriot cavalry, the Third Continental Light Dragoons, charged Tarleton’s dragoons at the Battle of Cowpens in a surprise attack.
   Lieutenant Colonel William Washington of the Continental Army

13. “A militia, when properly formed, are in fact the people themselves…and include all men capable of bearing arms.”
   Richard Henry Lee of Virginia, signer of the Declaration of Independence

14. “Are you not sensible, Brethren that we have too long groaned in Secret under the Weight of these crushing Mischiefs? How long will ye in this servile Manner subject yourselves to Slavery? Now shew yourselves to be Freemen, and for once assert your Liberty and maintain your Rights…”
   Herman Husband, a leader of the Regulator Rebellion, late 1760’s and early 1770’s encouraging North Carolinians to protest excessive fees and corrupt government.
Quotes from the Northern Campaign

15. “The hour is fast approaching, on which the Honor and Success of this army, and the safety of our bleeding Country depend. Remember officers and Soldiers, that you are free men, fighting for the blessings of Liberty, that slavery will be your portion, and that of your posterity, if you do not acquit yourselves like me.”

General George Washington of the Continentals, 1776

16. During the siege of Boston, I managed to move 13 brass and 26 iron cannon, 8 brass and 6 iron mortars, 2 iron howitzers, 2,300 lbs. of lead, and a barrel of flints from Fort Ticonderoga to come to the aid of General Washington.

Henry Knox of the Continental Army, late 1775 to early 1776

17. “The distinctions between Virginians, Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers, and New Englanders are no more. I Am Not A Virginian but An American.”

Patrick Henry, 1774 after the Boston Tea Party

18. “I have not yet begun to fight.”

John Paul Jones when asked by the British to surrender.

“Don’t fire until you see the whites of their eyes! Then fire low.”

Israel Putnam of the Continental Army at the Battle of Bunker Hill
19. “Yonder are the Hessians. They were bought for seven pounds and ten pence a man. Are you worth more? Prove it. Tonight the American flag floats from yonder hill or Molly Stark sleeps a widow.”

   John Stark at the Battle of Bennington, 1777

20. “I am obnoxious, suspected, and unpopular.”
    John Adams talking to Thomas Jefferson about why he can’t be the one to write the Declaration of Independence.

21. “If ye love wealth greater than liberty, the tranquility of servitude greater than the animating contest for freedom, go home from us in peace. We seek not your counsel, nor your arms. Crouch down and lick the hand that feeds you; May your chains set lightly upon you, and may posterity forget that ye were our countrymen.”

   Samuel Adams in the early days of the Revolution

22. “When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for a people to advance from that subordination that they have hitherto remained…”
    Thomas Jefferson’s original wording of the beginning of the Declaration of Independence, June 1776

23. “We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately.”
    Benjamin Franklin at the signing of the Declaration of Independence, 1776
24. “I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.”
   Nathan Hale right before he was hung by the British for being a spy.

25. “There! His Majesty can now read my name without glasses. And he can double the reward on my head!”
   John Hancock after signing his name in large letters on the Declaration of Independence.

26. “I long to hear that you have declared an independency (sic) and by the way in the new Code of Laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make I desire you would Remember the Ladies…If particular care and attention is not paid to the Laidies (sic) we are determined to forment a Rebelion (sic), and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or Representation.”
   Abigail Adams in a letter dated March 31, 1776 to her husband, John, shortly after the British occupation of Boston was lifted.