SOCRATIC CIRCLES
GRADED WRITING

Be prepared to discuss the “Declaration and Resolves of the First Continental Congress” by writing complete thoughts and sentences on a separate piece of notebook paper for the following - (You MUST have written answers for #1 - 9 below):

1. READ the ENTIRE document and Identify and define any words that you don't know the definitions to. Use the DEFINITIONS to help you to understand the meaning of the sentence they are in. Be ready for the teacher to challenge you.

2. READ the ENTIRE document and IDENTIFY any areas of confusion for you. Highlight them in the reading THEN write them out and SHARE them during the group discussion. Propose answers.

3. Write down and bring to the discussion 3 specific questions that you can pose to the group. In addition PROPOSE ANSWERS to each question. WRITE COMPLETE SENTENCES.

4. According to the reading (Ditto #11 – Declaration and Resolves) what had the British Parliament been doing since the close of the last war? Why had they been doing these things? Include 3 or 4 things the British Parliament had been doing and why.

5. According to the 1st Continental Congress in the reading look to identify, by listing, three (3) different rights of Englishmen that the colonists felt the Parliament and King had been harming.

6. According to the reading what did the colonists feel they were entitled to? Highlight then include them in a written answer. Include supporting details/evidence from the reading.

7. According to the reading what were the three parts of the Continental Congress' three part plan?
   o EXPLAIN one of the three parts you identified from #7.

8. What goals did the Continental Congress say their three part plan hoped to achieve?
   o This answer is NOT the same as your answer in #5 above. This is more description.

9. Choose any ONE of the following SECTIONS from the “Declaration and Resolves of the First Continental Congress” and EXPLAIN what that section is about AND how it relates to the project CHARTING THE COURSE TO REVOLUTION.

   CHOOSE – Section A, or Section B, or Section C, or Section D

10. During the inner circle discussion - ask the quiet students to share one of their questions or thoughts they had on something they read.
Guidelines for the Inner Circle Discussion:

1. Refer to the text of “Declaration and Resolves of the First Continental Congress” when needed during discussion. Your goal is to understand the ideas, and issues included in the text of the packet.

2. Ask for clarification when you are confused.

3. Stick to the point currently under discussion; make note about ideas you want to come back to.

4. There is no need to raise your hand; take turns speaking.

5. Listen carefully and build on the ideas of others.

6. Talk to each other – not to the teacher – unless a teacher is part of the circle.

7. Support ideas with references to the text – THE DECLARATION AND RESOLVES

8. Within your circle discussion, work together toward shared understanding. Expect that other people’s ideas will help improve your thinking rather than threaten it.

9. Respect all others and their comments. It is important not to alienate or offend.

10. Encourage thinking and participation among all the members of your circle.
SECTION A
Whereas, since the close of the last war, the British parliament, claiming a power, of right, to bind the people of America by statutes in all cases whatsoever, hath, in some acts, expressly imposed taxes on them, and in others, under various presences, but in fact for the purpose of raising a revenue, hath imposed rates and duties payable in these colonies, established a board of commissioners, with unconstitutional powers, and extended the jurisdiction of courts of admiralty, not only for collecting the said duties, but for the trial of causes merely arising within the body of a county: …

And whereas, assemblies have been frequently dissolved, contrary to the rights of the people, when they attempted to deliberate on grievances; and their dutiful, humble, loyal, and reasonable petitions to the crown for redress, have been repeatedly treated with contemp, by his Majesty's ministers of state:

The good people of the several colonies … have severally elected, constituted, and appointed deputies to meet, and sit in general Congress, in the city of Philadelphia, in order to obtain such establishment, as that their religion, laws, and liberties, may not be subverted:

That the inhabitants of the English colonies in North-America, by the immutable laws of nature, the principles of the English constitution, and the several charters or compacts, have the following RIGHTS:

Resolved, N.C.D. 1. That they are entitled to life, liberty and property: and they have never ceded to any foreign power whatever, a right to dispose of either without their consent.

Resolved, N.C.D. 2. That our ancestors, who first settled these colonies, were at the time of their emigration from the mother country, entitled to all the rights, liberties, and immunities of free and natural-born subjects, within the realm of England.

Resolved, N.C.D. 3. That by such emigration they by no means forfeited, surrendered, or lost any of those rights, but that they were, and their descendants now are, entitled to the exercise and enjoyment of all such of them, as their local and other circumstances enable them to exercise and enjoy.

SECTION C
Resolved, 4. That the foundation of English liberty, and of all free government, is a right in the people to participate in their legislative council: and as the English colonists are not represented, and from their local and other circumstances, cannot properly be represented in the British parliament, they are entitled to a free and exclusive power of legislation in their several provincial legislatures, where their right of representation can alone be preserved, …

Resolved, N.C.D. 5. That the respective colonies are entitled to the common law of England, and more especially to the great and inestimable privilege of being tried by their peers of the vicinage, according to the course of that law.

Resolved, N.C.D. 6. …

Resolved, N.C.D. 7. …

Resolved, N.C.D. 8. That they have a right peaceably to assemble, consider of their grievances, and petition the king; and that all prosecutions, prohibitory proclamations, and commitments for the same, are illegal.

SECTION D
Resolved, N.C.D. 9. That the keeping a standing army in these colonies, in times of peace, without the consent of the legislature of that colony, in which such army is kept, is against law.

Resolved, N.C.D. 10. It is indispensably necessary to good government, and rendered essential by the English constitution, that the constituent branches of the legislature be independent of each other; that, therefore, the exercise of legislative power in several colonies, by a council appointed, during pleasure, by the crown, is unconstitutional, dangerous and destructive to the freedom of American legislation.

To these grievous acts and measures, Americans cannot submit, but in hopes their fellow subjects in Great Britain will, on a revision of them, restore us to that state, in which both countries found happiness and prosperity, we have for the present, only resolved to pursue the following peaceable measures: 1. To enter into a non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation agreement or association. 2. To prepare an address to the people of Great-Britain, and a memorial to the inhabitants of British America: and 3. To prepare a loyal address to his majesty, agreeable to resolutions already entered into.