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# Give Me Liberty by L.M. Elliott

## Essential questions:

- What was colonial life like for ordinary citizens in the months leading up to the American Revolution?
- What were some of the arguments for and against declaring independence from Great Britain?

**Directions:** The book has been divided into 7 sections, each one consisting of one or two parts. There are vocabulary words and essay questions for each section; **they are due every Friday**.

**<u>Vocabulary:</u>** On binder paper, (1) write the word, (2) write the sentence in which the word appears, and (3) write the definition from a dictionary. Each word is worth one (1) point. There will be a vocabulary test every Friday.

**Questions:** Choose 2 of the 3 questions to answer for each section. Answer in writing on binder paper. Use the question to frame your answer so I know which questions you have chosen. Each question must be answered with <u>at least</u> one paragraph citing evidence from the book. Be sure to answer all the parts of each question. Each question is worth 5 points.

<b>Part One (May, 1774):</b>	Chapters 1 – 5	Due

recoil (v) p7	putrid (adj) p14	vengeance (n) p20	plaintively (adj) p33
plummet (v) p7	humiliating (adj) p17	obstinate (adj) p27	berate (v) p38
deplete (v) p13	flinch (v) p19	furtively (adv) p28	meander (v) p38

- 1. The author tells us on page 18 that Nathaniel usually tried "to remain unremarkable." Explain what this tells you about Nathaniel. What does *unremarkable* mean in this context? What does unremarkable behavior look like?
- 2. Look up the term, *macaroni*, on the Colonial Williamsburg web site (<a href="http://www.history.org/">http://www.history.org/</a>) and explain what it means. On page 19 Owen Maguire says, "Docking's the macaroni in Williamsburg. No horse has a long tail." (Docking a horse's tail means to cut it short). What does Owen mean?
- 3. Nathaniel brought Vixen (River Fox) to Owen knowing that he would likely get hurt by the animal. What do you think about Nathaniel's behavior toward Owen? Was Nathaniel justified in doing what he did or was he wrong? Why? What could he have done differently?

Part Two (June, 1774): Chapters 6 – 8	Due	
Part Three (November, 1774): Chapters 9 - 12		

#### Vocabulary:

chide (v) p49	defiance (n) p57	avert (v) p75	quip (v) p89
sedition (n) p53	atrocious (adj) p64	askew (adj) p78	eloquent (adj) p92
disdainful (adj) p54	formidable (adj) p73	mediocre (adj) p83	pompous (adj) p102

- 1. Describe the relationship between Elizabeth Maguire and her husband, Edan Maguire. Compare their personalities, their views of the political events taking place in 1774, and the way they treat each other and other people.
- 2. On November 3, 1774, the Virginia Gazette printed excerpts from the meeting of the first Continental Congress led by Peyton Randolph. The Congress resolved to implement a non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation agreement regarding Great Britain. In Chapter 9, Edan Maguire expressed his anger about these "Association Resolves." What were these Resolves and why was Edan angry about them? What was he worried about? Do you think his worries were justified?
- 3. In Chapter 11, Edan finally decided to sign on to the Association Resolves. He was still not happy about it, but what made him change his mind? What impact do you think this would have on his carriage-making business?

Part Four (January, 1775): Chapters 13 – 16	Due
Part Five (February, 1775): Chapters 17 - 19	

perplex (v) p109	dissonance (n) p121	insolence (n) p125	contempt (n) p143
wily (adj) p110	incantation (n) p121	ruse (n) p131	withering (adj) p143
braggart (n) p110	audacious (adj) p124	besmirch (v) p136	contemplate (v) p159

- 1. Compare and contrast people of the landed gentry class like Lord Dunmore and Peyton Randolph with people of the middling class like the Maguires. How were they alike and how were they different?
- 2. At the end of Chapter 14 Edan Maguire slipped into the room where Basil, Nathaniel, and Mistress Maguire had been playing music together. He seemed to enjoy listening to his wife play the harpsichord. After they left the room, Nathaniel made this comment to Basil: "Perhaps the king and Mr. Randolph should play duets together." The author says that the comment was Nathaniel's attempt to be politically funny. What do you think Nathaniel meant by his comment?
- 3. Do you think it was right for the gentleman who ordered the specially-made phaeton to refuse to pay Edan Maguire for it after it was finished? Why or why not? What was the impact on Edan's business? How might the story be different if the gentleman had paid for it?

Part Six	(April,	1775):	Chapters	20 -	-23
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#### Vocabulary:

ruthless (adj) p170	engulf (v) p175	insolent (adj) p186	fester (v) p189
impetuous (adj) p171	illuminate (v) p175	careen (v) p187	blatantly (adv) p189

- 1. Using your Social Studies book, do some reading and describe this incident referred to on page 172 of *Give Me Liberty*: "At that very moment, riders were galloping south from Massachusetts, spreading the news of a deadly skirmish between American minutemen and British troops at Lexington and Concord."
- 2. Explain this quote in the context of this part of *Give Me Liberty*: "These men have risked the hangman for years with their words. And it is their words that have inspired all of us to believe enough in our rights as human beings to speak up and demand justice."
- 3. Do you think Nathaniel was right to take money from Basil to help Moses and Robin escape? Why or why not? What do you think you might have done in the same situation?

Tart Seven (bune, 1775). Chapters 24 50 Duc	Part Seven (June, 1775): Chapt	ers 24 – 30	Due
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p211

gallivanting (v) p205	simultaneously (adv) ^	retribution (n) p223	integrity (n) p249
frivolous (adj) p208	dejected (adj) p220	akin (adj) p233	diabolical (adj) p252

- 1. Explain how Nathaniel saved Governor Lord Dunmore's life. What were the circumstances of his action? What do you think might have happened if Nathaniel had not stepped in?
- 2. Compare and contrast the gentlemen, Peyton Randolph, and his brother, John Randolph. Compare their jobs, their political views, and their social status.
- 3. In responding to Ben's question, "Why do the Maguires have to be so stubborn" on page 245, Nathaniel says, "I guess they feel America is their home, too." What do Ben and Nathaniel mean by their comments?

Part Eight (September, 1775): Chapters 31 – 32	<b>Due</b>	
Part Nine (November, 1775): Chapters 33 – 36		

confiscate (v) p264	rapt (adj) p275	stalemate (n) p287	protruded (v) p295
jocund (adj) p266	entrenched (adj) p280	salvage (v) p287	scurrilous (adj) p308
ample (adj) p271	dislodge (v) p281	traction (n) p295	leniency (n) p311

- 1. Using what you learned from *Give Me Liberty* and your Social Studies book, describe the role of women in the soldiers' encampments during the American Revolution.
- 2. Explain what Lieutenant John Marshall meant when he told Jeremiah that "lies beget lies" on page 285. What did he mean and why did he say this?
- 3. Compare the arguments made by Lieutenant Marshall and Colonel Woodford regarding Nathaniel's punishment for not whipping Jeremiah as he was ordered to do. What was the result? Who won this argument?