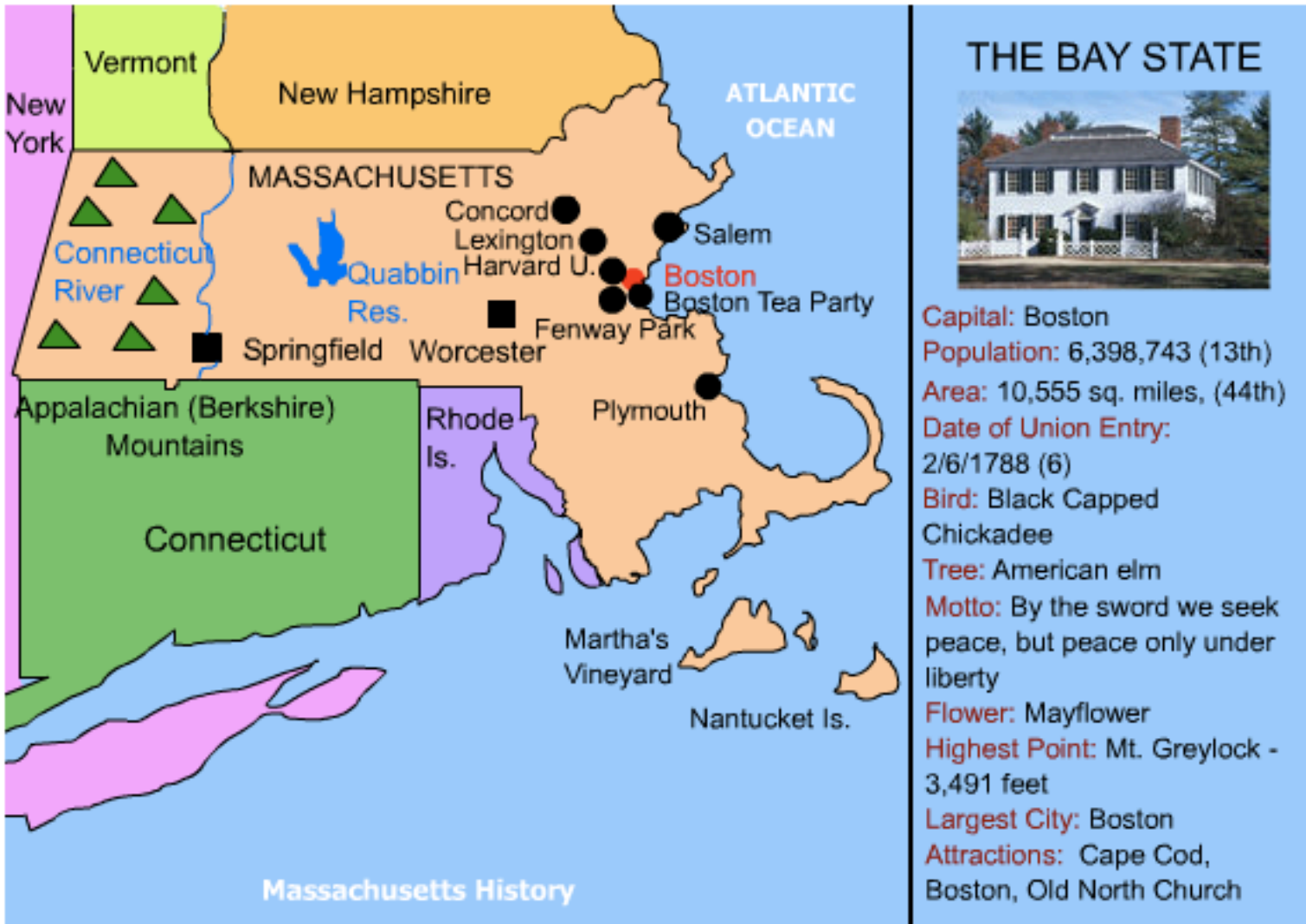
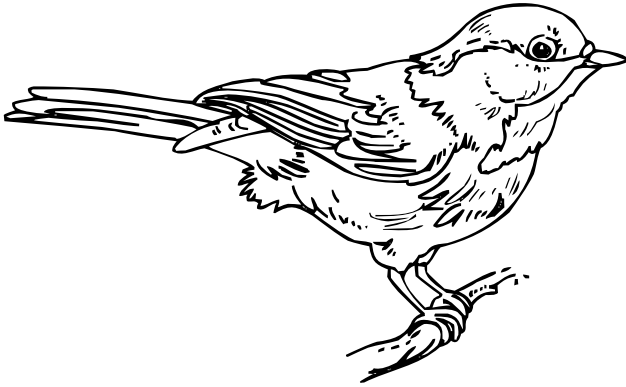




Massachusetts State Fact Sheet





Black-capped Chickadee

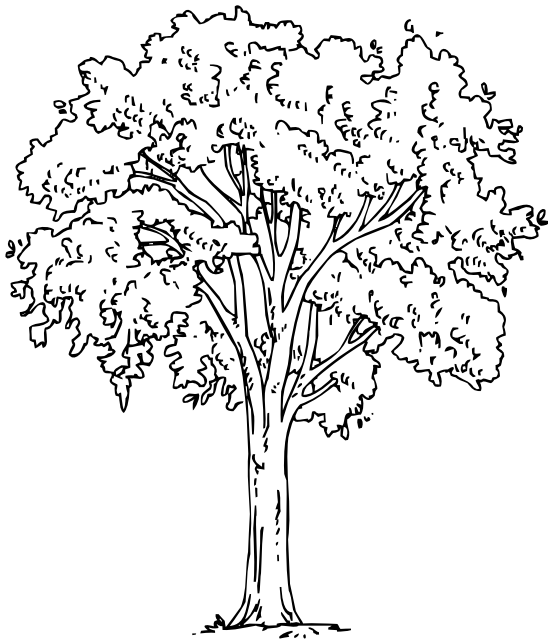


Mayflower

Massachusetts

Boston

The Bay State

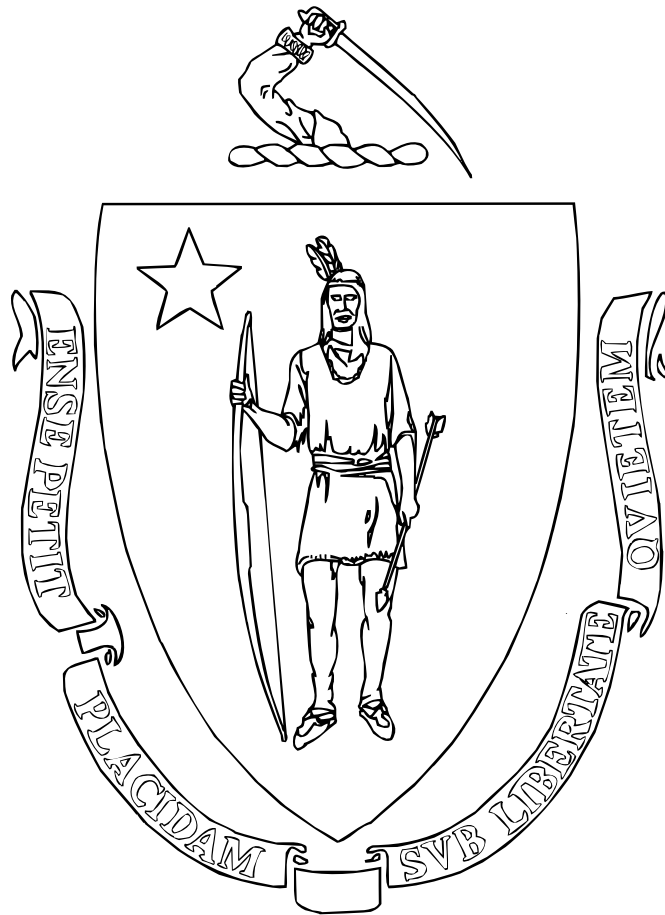


American Elm



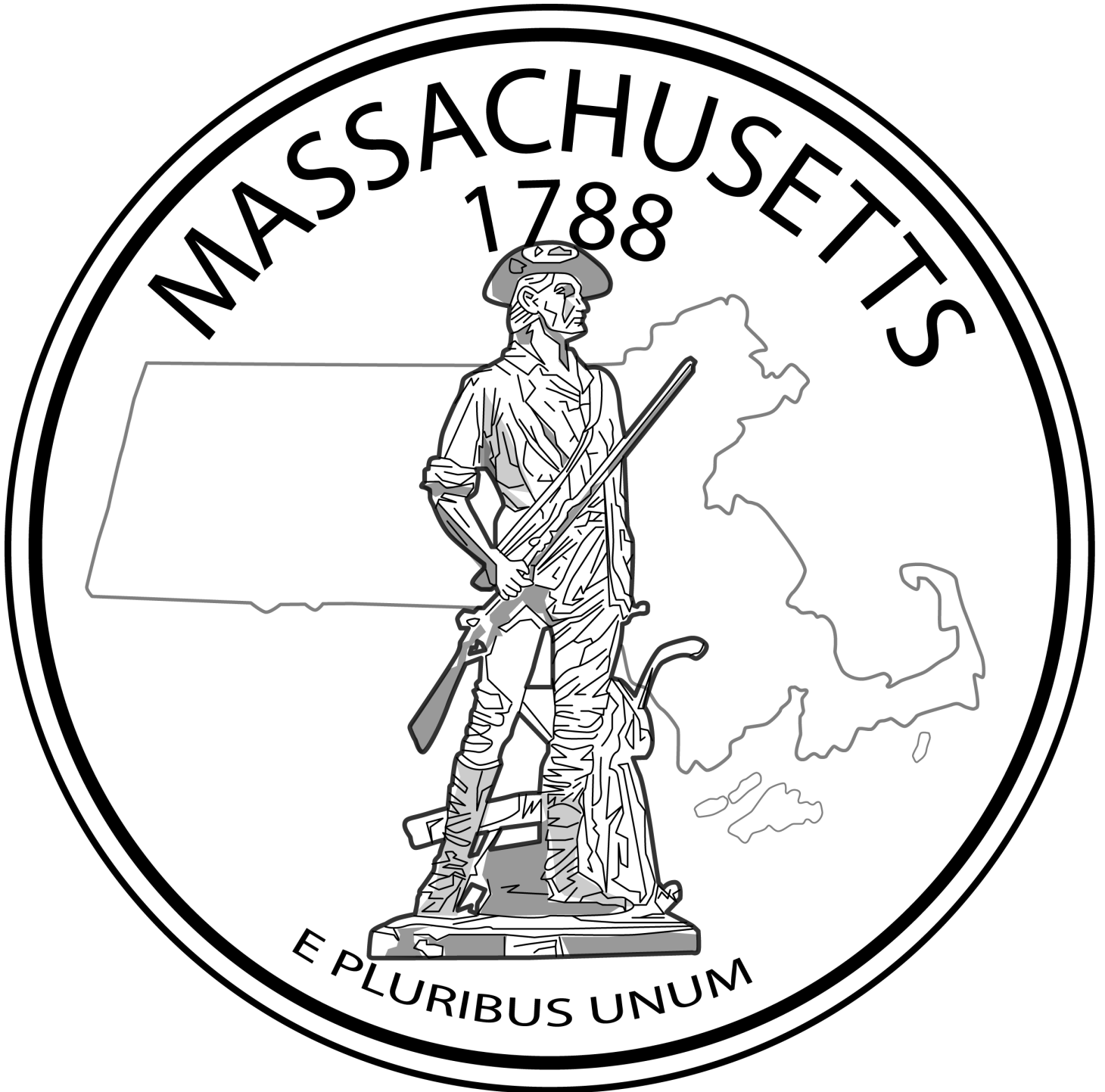
State license plate





MASSACHUSETTS

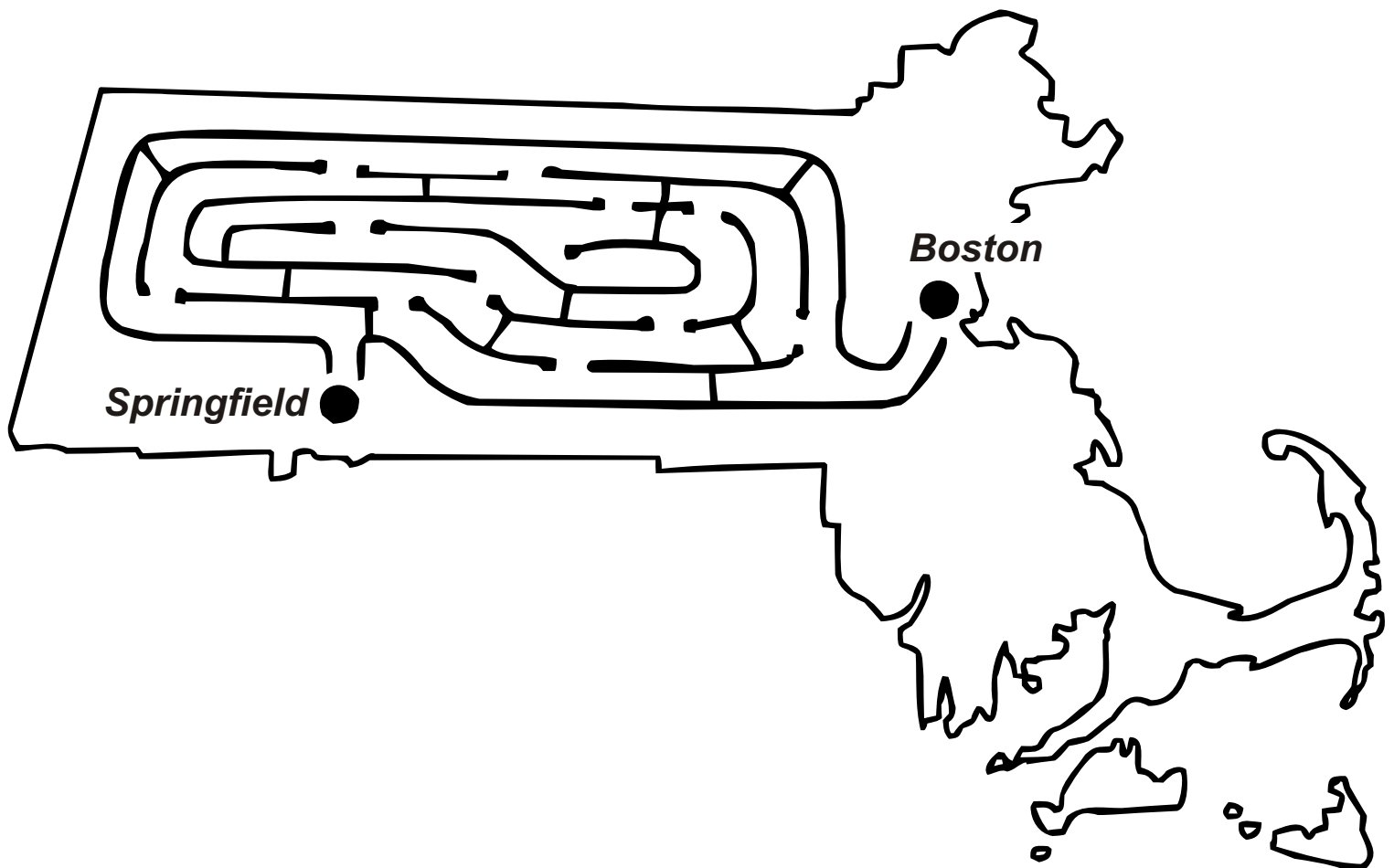
Massachusetts State Quarter

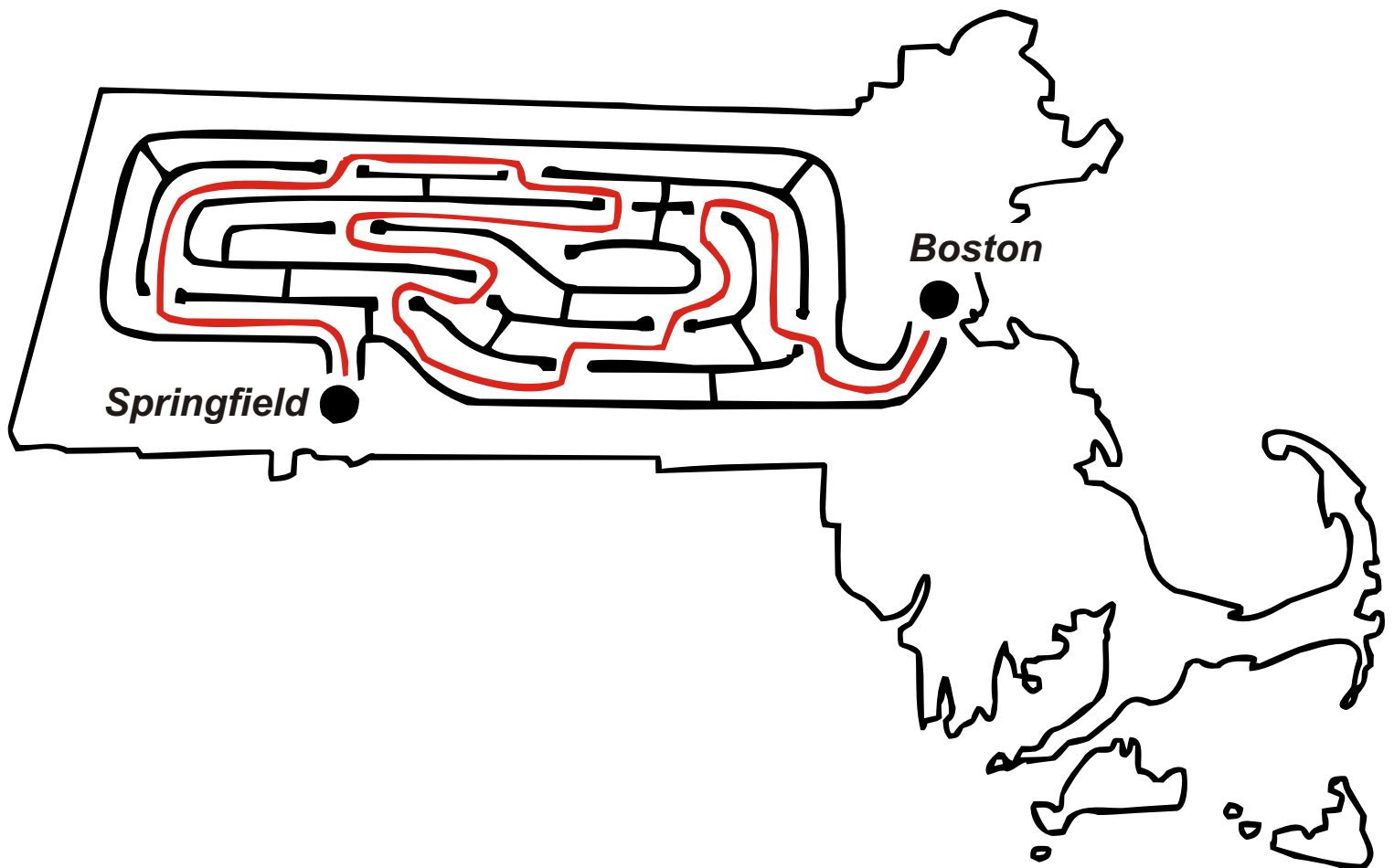




Massachusetts Printable Outline Map

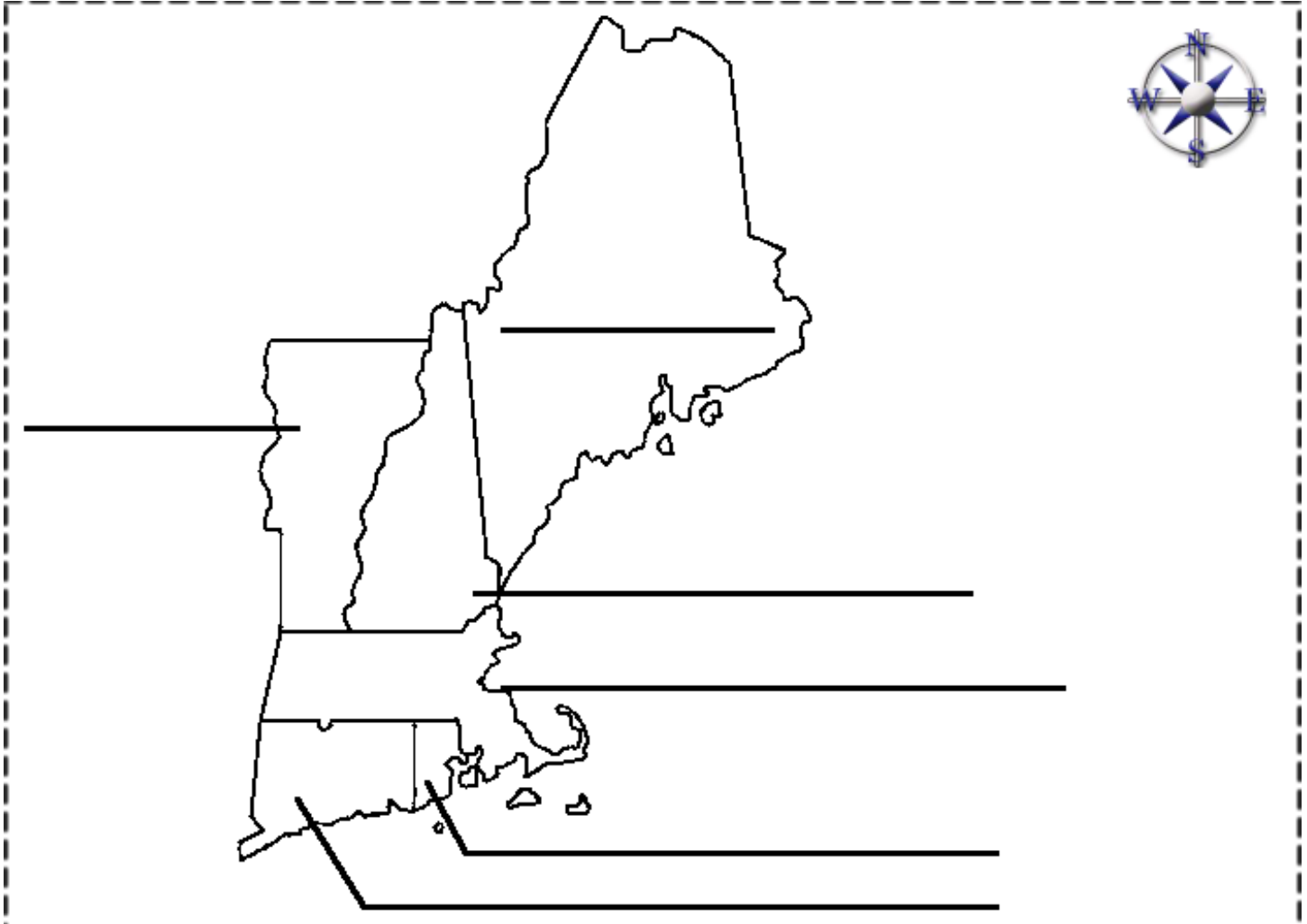






Massachusetts - The Bay State

New England Label Map





ABIGAIL ADAMS Reading Comprehension

Abigail Adams was born on November 22, 1744. Adams was both the wife and mother of two American presidents. She married John Adams, the second president of the United States, on October 25, 1764. John and Abigail Adams had six children together. One of their sons, John Quincy Adams, would later become the sixth president of the United States.

Abigail Adams is most remembered for the letters that she wrote back and forth to her husband while he was working with the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. John Adams would frequently write to her and ask for her advice on both social and political issues of the time. The letters of Abigail Adams to her husband, John Adams, are now part of the American Revolutionary War period of history because they serve as a firsthand eyewitness account of political life during this time.

Abigail Adams is also known as the first First Lady to live in the White House, which became the official residence of the presidential family after the nation's capital was relocated to Washington, D.C. in 1800. The First Lady enjoyed life at the newly built White House mansion, even though it was still under construction when the First Family moved in.

When Thomas Jefferson defeated Adams in the presidential election of 1800, Abigail and her family moved back to Quincy, Massachusetts. After leaving the White House, Abigail Adams continued to write letters to famous Americans of the time like Thomas Jefferson. She also followed John Quincy's political career with great interest. Abigail Adams died from typhoid fever at the age of 73 on October 28, 1818. Both John and Abigail are buried together in a family crypt in Quincy, Massachusetts.

_____ 1.) **Abigail Adams was not...**

- a.) a first lady.
- b.) the mother of a president.
- c.) a member of Congress.
- d.) the first woman to live in the White House.

_____ 2.) **What happened first in the passage?**

- a.) 1818
- b.) John Adams became president.
- c.) The Adams family returned to Quincy, Massachusetts.
- d.) Abigail Adams moved into the White House in Washington, D.C.

_____ 3.) **Which question can be answered in the third paragraph?**

- a.) When was Abigail Adams married to John Adams?
- b.) Which son later became America's sixth president?
- c.) Who was the first First Lady to live in the White House when the capital was relocated to Washington, D.C.?
- d.) When did Abigail Adams die?

_____ 4.) **Which of the following is not true?**

- a.) Abigail Adams wrote letters to her husband while he was in Philadelphia, PA.
- b.) Abigail's son became the second president of the United States.
- c.) Abigail Adams was the wife of an American president.
- d.) Abigail wrote letters to Thomas Jefferson.

_____ 5.) **What does the word "crypt" mean in the last paragraph?**

- a.) house
- b.) earth
- c.) tomb
- d.) water

_____ 6.) **Abigail Adams is famous for being a First Lady and _____.**

- a.) for becoming a president herself
- b.) for the letters that she wrote back and forth to an American president
- c.) for living during the Revolutionary War
- d.) for having six children

_____ 7.) **What is implied by the following sentence:**

Abigail Adams is also known as the first First Lady to live in the White House, which became the official residence of the presidential family after the nation's capital was relocated to Washington D.C. in 1800.

- a.) The nation's capital was always located in Washington, D.C.
- b.) Abigail Adams was the last First Lady to live in the White House.
- c.) Abigail Adams was the second First Lady to live in the White House.
- d.) The nation's capital was in a different location before it was in Washington, D.C.

_____ 8.) **Who won the presidential election of 1800?**

- a.) Abigail Adams
- b.) John Adams
- c.) John Quincy Adams
- d.) Thomas Jefferson

_____ 9.) **Which question is NOT answered in the passage?**

- a.) How did John Adams die?
- b.) How did Abigail Adams die?
- c.) What did Abigail Adams do after she left the White House?
- d.) Why are the letters between Abigail and John Adams important?

_____ 10.) **Why were the letters of Abigail Adams so important?**

- a.) They describe why John Adams should have won the election of 1800.
- b.) They describe the politics of the American Revolution era.
- c.) They describe the Adams family.
- d.) They describe how John Quincy Adams will eventually become president.

The Birth of a Patriot

John Adams was born in 1735 to Henry and Susanna Boylston Adams. Adams graduated from Harvard University in 1755 and became an attorney in 1758. From an early age, Adams developed intense feelings for political causes. He wrote powerful speeches against the Stamp Act of 1765 but also defended British soldiers charged with murder after the Boston Massacre. In 1764, he married Abigail Smith. Together they would have five children, including future president John Quincy Adams. Their marriage would provide a source of comfort for John during his years away from her negotiating in Europe.

Political Life and Presidential Years

In 1771, Adams was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and later, to the Continental Congress in 1774. Adams carried great influence among the members of Congress and strongly favored separation from England. Adams also assisted in the drafting of the Declaration of Independence and the Massachusetts Constitution. He quickly became a vocal leader in the quest for independence and gained a reputation for being incorruptible, stubborn, and fiery. After spending several years negotiating business treaties with European powers at the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, Adams was elected as the second president of the United States (he lost to George Washington previously and served two terms as his vice president). His presidency, however, was marred by the passage of the Alien and Sedition Acts, controversy within his Federalist Party regarding foreign policy, and a general feeling that Federalists relied more on the ideas of Alexander Hamilton than his. Adams was defeated by Thomas Jefferson in 1800 in his bid for a second term in the presidency.

Later Life and Relationship with Thomas Jefferson

After completing his term as president, Adams became depressed and moved back to his home, called Peacefield, near Quincy, Massachusetts. He completely dropped out of politics. In 1812, however, he began corresponding with Thomas Jefferson, and the two former presidents sent letters to each other for fourteen years about politics, government, and philosophy. In 1825, his son, John Quincy Adams, was elected as America's sixth president. On July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, John Adams died at his home. Ironically, his friend and fellow Founding Father Thomas Jefferson died the same day, only hours before him.

Legacy as a Founding Father

Today, John Adams is remembered as one of the Founding Fathers. For much of history, however, he was overshadowed by the likes of Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, and Benjamin Franklin (whom Adams detested). Recently, however, Adams has been brought back into significance with the famous David McCullough novel called John Adams, which was turned into a popular seven-part film.

- 1. Which of the following reveals that John Adams was more concerned with justice than politics?**
 - A. He wrote powerful speeches against the Stamp Act
 - B. He defended British soldiers charged with murder in the Boston Massacre
 - C. He was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives
 - D. He helped draft the Declaration of Independence
- 2. John Adams is often called “incorruptible”. Which is the following illustrates someone who is “incorruptible?”**
 - A. Someone who signs the Declaration of Independence
 - B. Someone who gives away government secrets
 - C. Someone who fought against the British
 - D. Someone who refuses to do something against the law, even if it helps him or her
- 3. In contrast to his political life during the Revolution, the John Adams presidency was...**
 - A. very successful.
 - B. somewhat successful.
 - C. unsuccessful.
 - D. uneventful.
- 4. What happened in the life of John Adams between 1801 and 1812?**
 - A. John Adams was president
 - B. John Adams was out of politics
 - C. John Quincy Adams became president
 - D. Thomas Jefferson and John Adams sent letters to each other
- 5. What does “corresponding” mean in the following sentence?**

In 1812, however, he began corresponding with Thomas Jefferson, and the two former presidents sent letters to each other for fourteen years about politics, government, and philosophy.

- A. building
- B. protesting
- C. visiting
- D. communicating

6. What was ironic about the day John Adams died?

- A. It was also the day Thomas Jefferson died
- B. It was the day that John Quincy Adams became president
- C. It was the day Thomas Jefferson died and the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence
- D. Thomas Jefferson died just hours after him.

7. Which of the following best describes John Adams?

- A. He has always been regarded as one of America's great founding fathers
- B. Because he had major disagreements with other founding fathers such as Benjamin Franklin, he was long considered a villain in American history
- C. Because of the novel written by David McCullough, John Adams is no longer considered a founding father
- D. Because of the novel written by David McCullough, John Adams is once again considered one of America's great founding fathers

BOSTON MASSACRE Reading Comprehension

The situation in Boston grew more intense by the day. Local skirmishes between townspeople and British soldiers (redcoats) increased in frequency as did belligerence toward British soldiers. Rumors abounded throughout the city about possible attacks by soldiers or by the Sons of Liberty.

On Monday night, March 5, 1770, an American (patriot) began harassing a redcoat named John Goldfinch standing guard. Another redcoat nearby, named Hugh White, joined Goldfinch to defend him. White became agitated with the harassment and struck the patriot in the face with his musket. As the patriot cried out in pain, a mob of fifty or so Bostonians gathered. Goldfinch retreated to the nearby Custom House and pointed his musket toward the angry crowd.

The mob began throwing chunks of ice at White and shouted, "Kill him!" Meanwhile, other mobs were forming on Boston's streets. Those mobs began pelting other redcoats with chunks of ice. British officers on the scene ordered soldiers back to their barracks, and several had to be subdued by officers to prevent them from firing into the angry crowd. The mob surrounding Hugh White, however, grew until he was surrounded by over 400 angry Bostonians. White's shouts for reinforcements were answered by British Captain Thomas Preston and several other soldiers who entered the emotional mob.

Preston tried to march the British soldiers from the Custom House back to the main guard, but his path was blocked by the mob of patriots. Despite his demands for the dispersal of the crowd, the mob responded with more insults and ice chunks. When the British justice of the peace tried to read the Riot Act, which would subject all members of the mob to prosecution once it was read, the mob forced him to retreat by throwing snowballs and ice chunks at him.

The mob continued to provoke the soldiers and challenged them to fire. Members of the mob grew more and more violent and began striking the muskets and bayonets of the redcoats with clubs. Despite his attempts to prevent bloodshed, Captain Preston was losing control of his soldiers who were growing increasingly threatened by the angry mob. Suddenly, someone in the crowd hurled a club, which hit British soldier Hugh Montgomery and knocked him to the ground. Montgomery rose and fired into the crowd. Hearing the shot, the mob lunged at Preston and his men, wielding their clubs at them. For the next few minutes, the scene became a chaotic battle in which Preston's men fired into the crowd to avoid being beaten. The soldiers were able to fend off the mob which soon dispersed. When it did disperse, the bodies of several patriots lay dead or wounded on the ground. Preston and his soldiers formed a defensive line with guns drawn to protect themselves from another assault.

Later that evening, Preston and his soldiers were arrested and accused of murder. In the ensuing trial, almost all were acquitted (judged not guilty), as the deaths had occurred in self-defense. Additionally, Parliament repealed the Townshend Act and removed all taxes except for the tax on tea. Despite the anger in Boston over the massacre, American merchants began importing British goods again and the push for independence seemed to fizzle.

1.) Who was the redcoat captain?

- a.) Hugh White
- b.) John Goldfinch
- c.) Hugh Montgomery
- d.) Thomas Preston

2.) What word probably DOES NOT describe the Boston Massacre?

- a.) tense
- b.) scary
- c.) violent
- d.) jubilant

3.) Which of the following was not USED in the Boston Massacre?

- a.) chunks of ice
- b.) bows and arrows
- c.) muskets
- d.) bayonets

4.) Which of the following BEST describes why the Boston Massacre occurred in the first place?

- a.) John Goldfinch began harassing a redcoat.
- b.) Almost all redcoats involved were acquitted (judged to be not guilty) of crimes.
- c.) An isolated skirmish between a patriot and a couple of redcoats.
- d.) The redcoats began pelting the approaching mob with ice chunks.

5.) Which of the following best describes the meaning of "reinforcements" in the following sentence?

White's shouts for **reinforcements** were answered by British Captain Thomas Preston and several other soldiers who entered the emotional mob.

- a.) Additional help
- b.) Additional uniforms
- c.) More ice chunks
- d.) An escape route

6.) Which of the following best describes the cause and effect of the Boston Massacre?

- a.) Cause - An isolated skirmish between a patriot and a couple of redcoats.
Effect - The Boston Massacre
- b.) Cause - The justice of the peace reading the Riot Act.
Effect - The mob of people becomes more violent
- c.) Cause - An isolated skirmish between a patriot and a couple of redcoats.
Effect - Parliament repeals many of the hated taxes, and the push for independence in Boston slows down.
- d.) Cause - Several patriots are killed in the mob.
Effect - Parliament repeals many of the hated taxes, and the push for independence in Boston slows down.

7.) Why were the British officials acquitted (judged to be not guilty) after the Boston Massacre?

- a.) There was not enough evidence.
- b.) They were defending themselves.
- c.) The British agreed to repeal many of the hated taxes.
- d.) The British hated the patriots.

8.) What happened first?

- a.) The justice of the peace attempted to read the Riot Act.
- b.) Hugh Montgomery fired into the crowd.
- c.) Someone hurled a club at Hugh Montgomery.
- d.) Several members of the mob were found dead.

9.) What happened second?

- a.) The justice of the peace attempted to read the Riot Act.
- b.) Hugh Montgomery fired into the crowd.
- c.) Someone hurled a club at Hugh Montgomery.
- d.) Several members of the mob were found dead.

10.) What word would best describe the feelings of Thomas Preston as the situation escalated?

- a.) worried
- b.) desperate
- c.) unhappy
- d.) sad



Boston Tea Party and Intolerable Acts

Despite the peace that temporarily reigned in Boston, the Sons of Liberty were continually trying to find ways to keep Parliament's power over them in check. Furthermore, the tax on tea became more and more irritating.

In 1773, Parliament authorized the Tea Act. Within the Tea Act, Parliament granted the East India Company a monopoly (the only business in a specific trade or product) over the American tea trade. Although the monopoly decreased the price of tea, Americans realized that Parliament was only regulating American trade and had the power to interfere in American business whenever it suited them. Public protest of the Tea Act grew quickly through the colonies. Fearing a revolt, several ships carrying tea destined for New York and Philadelphia returned to England without unloading tea.

On December 16, 1773, the Sons of Liberty, led by Samuel Adams, planned to show Parliament how they felt about the Tea Act. They boarded the British ship Dartmouth docked in Boston Harbor, dressed up as Indians, and dumped the entire load of tea into the water. This event came to be known as the Boston Tea Party.

The historical significance of the Boston Tea Party is recognized more in the British response than in the event itself. As a result of the Boston Tea Party, Parliament passed the following laws designed to punish the Americans.

- 1.) The Boston Harbor Bill: This bill closed the harbor to all commercial traffic until Americans paid for the tea they dumped.
- 2.) The Administration of Justice Act: This act required the extradition (transfer) of all royal officials charged with capital crimes in America to courts in Great Britain.
- 3.) Massachusetts Government Act: This act ended self-rule in the colonies and made all elected officers in America subject to British appointment.
- 4.) Quartering Act: This was simply a new version of the 1765 Quartering Act which required Americans to provide accommodations (housing , food, clothing, etc.) to British soldiers if necessary.
- 5.) Quebec Act: This act extended the Canadian border (British territory) into the Ohio River Valley and eliminated lands that were claimed by Massachusetts, Virginia, and Connecticut.

These acts were called the Intolerable Acts in America and resulted in the formation of the Continental Congress.

1.) Why did Americans oppose the Tea Act?

- a.) It made tea more expensive.
- b.) It made tea cheaper.
- c.) It showed that parliament could interfere with American trade.
- d.) The quality of tea had decreased.

2.) What is a monopoly?

- a.) When all the tea is gone
- b.) When there is only one business in a specific trade
- c.) The Sons of Liberty
- d.) When all businesses fail

3.) What does "authorized" mean in the following sentence:

In 1773, Parliament authorized the Tea Act.

- a.) Found an author for
- b.) Passed or allowed
- c.) Wrote
- d.) Defended

4.) In which of the following sentences is the word "authorized" used correctly?

- a.) The league authorized several new rules for the upcoming season.
- b.) Many writers authorized their books in the form of a journal.
- c.) I authorized my little brother when he was picked on.
- d.) The winter will be authorized soon.

5.) Why did tea destined for New York and Philadelphia return to England?

- a.) The tea tax was too high.
- b.) People refused to drink the tea.
- c.) A revolt was possible.
- d.) The ports were closed.

6.) Which of the following is NOT true?

- a.) The Sons of Liberty dressed up as Indians and threw the entire load of tea aboard the Dartmouth into Boston Harbor.
- b.) The Boston Tea Party resulted in the passage of the Intolerable Acts.
- c.) The Intolerable Acts resulted in the cancellation of the Continental Congress.

7.) Which of the following reflects the Quartering Act?

- a.) This act closed Boston Harbor to all commercial traffic.
- b.) This act required all royal officials charged with crimes in America to be judged for those crimes in Great Britain.
- c.) This act required American citizens to open their homes to British soldiers.
- d.) This act eliminated American land claims in the Ohio River Valley.

8.) Which of the following reflects the Quebec Act?

- a.) This act closed Boston Harbor to all commercial traffic.
- b.) This act required all royal officials charged with crimes in America to be judged for those crimes in Great Britain.
- c.) This act required American citizens to open their homes to British soldiers.
- d.) This act eliminated American land claims in the Ohio River Valley.

9.) What happened second?

- a.) Parliament authorized the Tea Act.
- b.) The Intolerable Act
- c.) The Boston Tea Party
- d.) The Formation of the Continental Congress

10.) What happened third?

- a.) Parliament authorized the Tea Act.
- b.) The Intolerable Acts
- c.) The Boston Tea Party
- d.) The Formation of the Continental Congress



John Hancock Reading Comprehension

John Hancock was raised by his uncle in Boston, Massachusetts. His uncle sent him to Harvard University and made him a partner in his shipping company. When his uncle died in 1764, John became one of Boston's most wealthy citizens.

In 1765, John was elected to the office of Boston Selectmen. He quickly joined Samuel Adams and the Sons of Liberty and became a strong opponent of the Stamp Act, a tax levied against the colonists by Great Britain. In 1768, John was appointed as a representative of the Massachusetts legislature. He soon gained the reputation as a strong advocate of American independence. In fact, it was John's shipping company that enabled the financing and smuggling of goods that supported the region's resistance to the British. In 1774, one year after Great Britain levied the Intolerable (Coercive) Acts against the colonists, John was elected president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress, a new Massachusetts legislature which had the authority to call for troops in the wake of a British threat. The British subsequently charged Hancock with treason. In 1775, British troops would march to Lexington with the orders to capture John Hancock. It was during this march that the first shots of the American Revolution were fired. John, along with Samuel Adams, ultimately escaped.

Later in 1775, John was appointed president of the Second Continental Congress. It was John Hancock who commissioned George Washington as commander in chief of the Continental Army. On July 4, 1776, John Hancock became the first American to sign the Declaration of Independence. His large, flamboyant signature was by far the most visible of all signatures. According to legend, Hancock signed the document in such a way so that King George III of England could see the signature without his eyeglasses.

Throughout the Revolution, the Americans relied on John's ability to raise funds and supplies for the Continental Army. In 1780, he was elected governor of Massachusetts, a post he held for nine terms. John died in 1793. Today, counties in ten different states are named in his honor. In addition, the tallest building in Boston is named the John Hancock Building.

1.) How does the passage imply that John Hancock became wealthy?

- a.) He made good investments.
- b.) He inherited his uncle's shipping company.
- c.) He owned a lot of land.
- d.) He went to Harvard University.

2.) Which of the following was not true about John Hancock?

- a.) He used his shipping company to smuggle goods to help the rebels.
- b.) He supported the Stamp Act.
- c.) He was a member of the Sons of Liberty.
- d.) He supported independence.

3.) What happened in 1768?

- a.) John's uncle died.
- b.) John was elected as Boston Selectmen.
- c.) John was elected president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress.
- d.) John was elected as a representative in the Massachusetts legislature.

4.) Why was John Hancock charged with treason?

- a.) Because he spoke out against the Intolerable Acts.
- b.) Because he was elected president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress.
- c.) Because he was elected as Boston Selectman.
- d.) Because he supported the Stamp Act.

5.) John Hancock was charged with treason by the British. Treason can be defined as an act of disloyalty toward the government. Which of the following is an act of treason?

- a.) Fighting in a war against another country.
- b.) Making laws that aren't popular with the people.
- c.) Charging someone with a crime they didn't commit.
- d.) Taking steps to disrupt the functioning of the government.

6.) If John Hancock were to write a list of his life accomplishments, which of the following would NOT be on the list?

- a.) President of the United States
- b.) President of the Second Continental Congress
- c.) President of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress
- d.) Representative of the Massachusetts of legislature

7.) Why is John Hancock's signature so large on the Declaration of Independence?

- a.) Because he had poor eyesight.
- b.) Because he had poor handwriting.
- c.) Because he wanted the King of England to see his signature clearly.
- d.) He was in a hurry.

8.) What does the word "subsequent" mean in the following sentence:

The British subsequently charged Hancock with treason.

- a.) Unfairly
- b.) Next or then
- c.) Surely
- d.) Quietly

9.) Why was John Hancock important to the American cause?

- a.) He was a great general who won many battles.
- b.) He signed the Declaration of Independence.
- c.) He escaped from the British after the Battles of Lexington and Concord.
- d.) He helped raise funds for the Continental Army and used his shipping business as a way to get supplies.

10.) Which of the following statements could NOT be applied to John Hancock?

- a.) A man dedicated to the Patriot cause.
- b.) A man who served in the governments of the state of Massachusetts and the United States.
- c.) A man who has buildings, cities, and states named in his honor.
- d.) A man who signed the Declaration of Independence with a signature larger than anyone else.

BATTLES OF LEXINGTON AND CONCORD Reading Comprehension

Following resolutions made by the Continental Congress, armed conflict seemed imminent. King George, who declared the colonies in a state of rebellion, had authorized the deliverance of British soldiers to reinforce those who had occupied Boston since 1768. General Thomas Gage was sent to Boston to disarm the colonists and arrest the leaders of the rebellion, namely John Hancock and Samuel Adams. After learning of the existence of a large colonial arsenal in Concord, about 20 miles northwest of Boston, General Gage sent a detachment of 700 troops under Colonel Francis Smith to march to Concord for the purposes of seizing and destroying artillery and ammunition. The colonists, however, already knew their weapons were in jeopardy and had moved most of them to secret locations before the arrival of the redcoats.

As British troops mobilized in Boston, Dr. Joseph Warren alerted members of the Sons of Liberty—Paul Revere and William Dawes. Dawes promptly rode to Concord to warn Hancock, and Adams and Revere rode through the countryside yelling, “The regulars are coming” or “The regulars are out.” By dawn, about 70 armed minutemen (Massachusetts militia) had gathered in the Lexington town common awaiting the arrival of the redcoats. Gage’s own wife, Margaret Kemble Gage, is thought to have given Warren information about her husband’s planned raid in sympathy to the Revolution.

When the British arrived on the scene, someone fired a shot that would become known as “The Shot Heard Round’ the World.” To this day, historians disagree on which side fired first, or if the shot came from a spectator. Nevertheless, the redcoats subsequently unleashed devastating volleys before charging the minutemen with their bayonets. As the redcoats marched on to Concord, eight minutemen were killed and ten wounded. As the march continued, the numbers of minutemen arriving from surrounding towns swelled and the substantial militia retreated to a ridge about a mile from Concord across the North Bridge. Meanwhile, British troops had occupied Concord, destroyed several cannons, and burned leftover ammunition. A gun battle erupted as the two sides crossed at the North Bridge. In a stunning turn of events, the minutemen held the bridge, forcing the redcoats to retreat. As the redcoats exited Concord on their way back to Boston, hundreds or even thousands of farmers and other colonial workers had positioned themselves behind trees, rocks, in pastures, under bridges, and in places they could not be seen by the redcoats, firing at them as they marched on. Desperate redcoats, frustrated by an enemy they could not see and in revenge for the brutal scalping of one of their dead, sometimes pillaged houses and communities along the way, killing dozens of colonists. Colonial militias, however, continued to snipe away the lines of redcoats. By the time they finally had made it back to Boston, 73 redcoats were killed and 174 were wounded. The American Revolution had officially begun.

- 1.) **When did British troops begin their occupation of Boston?**
- a.) 1768
 - b.) Following resolutions made by the Continental Congress
 - c.) During the search for weapons
 - d.) After the Battles of Lexington and Concord

- 2.) **What does “in jeopardy” mean in the following sentence?**

The Colonists, however, already knew their weapons were in **jeopardy** and had moved most of them to secret locations before the arrival of the redcoats.

- a.) safe
- b.) damaged
- c.) destroyed
- d.) threatened

- 3.) **Which of the following was NOT a reason General Gage was sent to Boston?**
- a.) To disarm the colonists
 - b.) To arrest Samuel Adams
 - c.) To arrest John Hancock
 - d.) To arrest Benjamin Franklin

- 4.) **Which of the following best describes Margaret Kemble Gage?**
- a.) Concerned for the colonists
 - b.) Concerned for herself
 - c.) Concerned for her husband
 - d.) Concerned for no one

- 5.) **Why was the first shot of the Revolutionary War known as the “Shot Heard Round’ the World?”**
- a.) It changed the course of world history.
 - b.) Many people lost their lives.
 - c.) The cannons fired were very loud.
 - d.) Shots occurred all around the world.

- 6.) **Who fired the first shot?**
- a.) No one knows
 - b.) A spectator
 - c.) The British
 - d.) The Patriots

- 7.) **What happened as the redcoats marched on to Concord?**
- a.) The militia grew.
 - b.) The Americans were defeated.
 - c.) The minutemen fled.
 - d.) None of the Above.

- 8.) **Which of the following happened first?**
- a.) Minutemen gathered on the Lexington Town Common.
 - b.) The confrontation at the North Bridge
 - c.) The American Revolution had begun.
 - d.) The redcoats marched from Concord back to Boston.

- 9.) **Which of the following best describes the redcoats as they marched back to Boston?**
- a.) vulnerable
 - b.) confident
 - c.) hungry
 - d.) bored

- 10.) **Which of the following is NOT true?**
- a.) 73 redcoats were killed by the time they made it back to Boston.
 - b.) The Ride of Paul Revere was nothing but a legend.
 - c.) The colonists had prepared for the confiscation of their weapons by the British.
 - d.) Many redcoats were killed by minutemen who hid behind rocks and trees.



The Massachusetts Colony

The colony of Massachusetts was founded in 1620, when the Pilgrims arrived from England and formed the Plymouth Colony. Although the Pilgrims were ravaged by disease and hunger, they managed to write the Mayflower Compact, a local government that established rules and regulations in order to ensure the colony's survival.

Upon their arrival, local Wampanoag Indians, led by Chief Massasoit, taught them to plant crops. About half the original passengers on the Mayflower survived. In 1620, the Pilgrims and Indians celebrated the first Thanksgiving, though it was certainly not the type of celebration we have today.

In 1629, Puritans founded the Massachusetts Bay Colony in Boston. The Puritan colony grew quickly and soon became the economic and religious center of Massachusetts. Unlike the Pilgrims, who came to Massachusetts for religious freedom, the Puritans came for religious purification, and were intolerant of other religious groups. Many religious groups were banned from Massachusetts and several dissenters exiled by the Puritans, such as Roger Williams and Joseph Hooker, founded other colonies.

1.) Who arrived in Massachusetts in 1620?

- A. Pilgrims
- B. Wampanoags
- C. Joseph Hooker
- D. Roger Williams

2.) Which of the following best describes the Mayflower Compact?

- A. A small army
- B. A small government
- C. A small ship
- D. A small weapon

3.) Which of the following words best describes the Wampanoag Indians in how they acted toward the Pilgrims?

- A. Tiresome
- B. Illegal
- C. Suspicious
- D. Helpful

4.) _____ of the passengers on the Mayflower survived at Plymouth.

- A. Most
- B. All
- C. None
- D. Some

5.) The Pilgrims were _____ equipped for life in the New World.

- A. Well
- B. Poorly
- C. Totally
- D. Sort of

6.) The Massachusetts colony would soon be dominated by...

- A. the English
- B. the Pilgrims
- C. the Indians
- D. the Puritans

7.) Pilgrims came to America for _____ and Puritans came to America for _____.

- A. religious purification; religious purification
- B. religious freedom; religious freedom
- C. religious purification; religious freedom
- D. religious freedom; religious purification

8.) The Puritans were _____ of other religious groups.

- A. intolerant
- B. fairly tolerant
- C. totally tolerant
- D. accepting

9.) Which of the following WAS a result of the Puritan stance on religious freedom?

- A. The Pilgrims protested
- B. Dissenters founded colonies based on the same ideals.
- C. Dissenters founded colonies based on opposite ideals.
- D. The passage does not say.

10.) What does the word 'banned' mean in the following sentence?

Many religious groups were **banned** from Massachusetts and several dissenters exiled by the Puritans, such as Roger Williams and Joseph Hooker, founded other colonies.

- A. Allowed
- B. Contained
- C. Prohibited
- D. Destroyed

Massachusetts Reading Comprehension

Name _____

While Massachusetts may be one of America's smallest state by size, it's certainly one of America's most important states in history. Many of America's "firsts" occurred in the Bay State. When the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth in 1620, they wrote the Mayflower Compact. A compact is another word for "agreement." The Mayflower Compact was the first example of a self-government in America. This means that the Pilgrims would make their own government.

Did you know America's first college, Harvard, was founded in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1636? America's first public school, the Boston Latin School, was built in Boston, Massachusetts, a year earlier. Even America's first public park, Boston Common, was established in 1634. In 1704, America's first newspaper was published in Boston.

1. According to the passage, Massachusetts is ...

- A. a large state in size and important in history.
- B. a large state in size but not that important in history.
- C. a small state in size and important in history.
- D. a small state in size and not that important in history.

2. What first did NOT occur in Massachusetts?

- A. College
- B. Public School
- C. Newspaper
- D. Colony

3. Why was the Mayflower Compact important?

- A. It was the first example of people being ruled by a king in America
- B. It was the first example of people ruling themselves in America
- C. It was the first colony in America
- D. It was the first compact in America

4. What happened in 1635?

- A. The Boston Latin School was founded
- B. Harvard College was founded
- C. Boston Common was founded
- D. The Mayflower Compact was written

Massachusetts Population Studies (rounding)

Name _____

Massachusetts city populations.

Ranking	City	Population
1	Boston	639,594
2	Worcester	182,511
3	Springfield	153,836
4	Lowell	108,491
5	Cambridge	106,844
6	New Bedford	94,873
7	Brockton	94,267
8	Quincy	92,920
9	Fall River	88,756

Answer the questions below:

1. Round the populations of the following cities to the nearest hundred:

a.	Boston	
b.	Springfield	
c.	Quincy	
d.	Fall River	

2. Round the populations of the following cities to the nearest thousand:

a.	Worcester	
b.	Lowell	
c.	New Bedford	
d.	Cambridge	

3. Write the names of the cities in their correct tables when rounded to the nearest ten thousand.

150,000	110,000	100,000	90,000

Plymouth Colony Reading Comprehension

The holiday of Thanksgiving was born from the Puritan settlement of Plymouth, on the coast of present-- day Massachusetts.

Puritan separatists, desperate for religious freedom, left England in 1607 for the Netherlands under increasing pressure from the crown to conform. Although they were allowed religious freedom, they were not granted citizenship in the Netherlands, and hence, could not secure meaningful jobs and were restricted to those that were low paying and unskilled. Some Puritans, disheartened by the drifting of their children from the church, made arrangements with the Merchant Adventurers (a London joint-- stock company) to relocate to America. Payment for their passage was made in exchange for future repayment and a percentage of future profits made by the settlement.

Thirty-- five Pilgrims (as they would come to be known) boarded the Mayflower with 67 other passengers and set sail for Virginia on September 16, 1620. The treacherous voyage across the stormy Atlantic Ocean lasted 10 weeks. When the Mayflower finally approached America, it was nowhere near Jamestown or even Virginia. On November 11, 1620, the Mayflower reached land off present-- day Cape Cod. Some historians believe the Mayflower never intended to sail to Virginia, but rather had secretly planned to sail to New England. Many of the passengers threatened mutiny because they were supposed to be brought to Virginia. As a result, the Mayflower Compact was drafted which guaranteed the equal treatment of all settlers in the new colony. The Mayflower Compact further documented the colony's continued allegiance to England but also called for the establishment of an independent, civil government.

The Compact was signed by 41 male passengers, and the decision to remain at Plymouth rather than to spend more time at sea was made. The settlers organized themselves into a group known as the Council of New England. The council promised one hundred acres of land to those settlers who remained at Plymouth for seven years. The Mayflower and its passengers explored the coast of Massachusetts for several weeks before finding the perfect spot at Plymouth on December 21, 1620.

Life in Massachusetts was difficult for the settlers. Half of the original passengers on the Mayflower died of disease, starvation, and the harsh Massachusetts winter. Unlike Jamestown, however, Indian attacks were not a constant threat. Rather, the local Wampanoag Indians were responsible for the colonists' survival. Squanto, who was kidnapped and had experienced life in Europe as a slave and later as an observer of European culture in a monastery, had recently returned to Massachusetts only to find his former village ravaged by death and disease. He assimilated into the Wampanoag village located at Plymouth and later joined the Pilgrim colony at Plymouth when they learned he could speak English. Squanto taught the Pilgrims how to establish friendly relations with the Indians and how to plant crops, fish, and trap mammals for the fur trade. If it weren't for Squanto, the Wampanoags and their sachem Massasoit, all of the settlers would have surely perished. One year after the landing of the Mayflower, the surviving Pilgrims celebrated their first fall harvest with a prodigious feast. They invited 91 of their Wampanoag neighbors in what some call the first ever Thanksgiving.

1.) Why did some passengers threaten to mutiny?

- a.) The trip took too long.
- b.) They were criminals.
- c.) They thought they were going to Virginia but were actually going to Massachusetts.
- d.) They thought they were going to Massachusetts but were actually going to Virginia.

2.) What holiday was born from the settlement of Plymouth? Be careful to use correct spelling.

3.) What happened third?

- a.) The Council of New England was organized.
- b.) The Mayflower Compact was signed.
- c.) November 11, 1620
- d.) The settlers found the perfect spot to start a settlement at Plymouth.

4.) Why did the Puritans leave England?

- a.) They wanted more money.
- b.) They wanted religious freedom.
- c.) They wanted new scenery.
- d.) They were kicked out.

5.) About how many passengers died of disease, winter, and starvation?

- a.) 35
- b.) 67
- c.) 102
- d.) 51

6.) Circle all of the following that explain why Squanto was important to the settlers.

- a.) He could speak English.
- b.) He taught the settlers how to steal from local Indians.
- c.) He taught settlers how to speak the Wampanoag language.
- d.) He taught settlers how to maintain friendly relations with Indians and how to plant crops.

7.) In the following sentence, what does the word "conform" mean?

Puritan separatists, desperate for religious freedom, left England in 1607 for the Netherlands under increasing pressure from the crown to conform.

- a.) To be the same as
- b.) To be different from
- c.) To give money to
- d.) To hate

8.) What phrase best describes the Puritans of Plymouth?

- a.) Dependent on their Indian neighbors
- b.) They were able to survive because of their resourcefulness.
- c.) Interested in gold and riches
- d.) They probably wanted to go back to England.

9.) What did the Mayflower Compact not do?

- a.) Proclaim allegiance to England
- b.) Guarantee that all settlers would be treated as equals
- c.) Called for the establishment of an independent government
- d.) Proclaim independence from England

10.) What happened first?

- a.) The Mayflower Compact
- b.) The settlers met Squanto
- c.) September 16, 1620
- d.) The Council of New England was organized.

Salem Printable Reading Comprehension

Name _____

It all began in late January of 1692 at the home of Samuel Parris. His daughter Betsy, and niece, Abigail, began exhibiting strange and destructive behavior. They shrieked, had convulsions and seizures, entered trance-like states and suffered from high fevers. Parris tried desperately to keep their condition a secret, but finally agreed to contact his physician. Upon examining the girls, Doctor William Griggs could find nothing physically wrong with them. He suggested their condition might be the result of witchcraft. The diagnosis of witchcraft, while certainly devastating, was not uncommon at the time. Throughout February, Parris prayed for the evil forces to release the girls.

The Puritan townspeople began pressuring the girls to identify the reasons for their suffering. The girls named three women as witches. One was a slave named Tituba who had often told them magical stories from her native Barbados, another was a peasant mother named Sarah Good, and the last was an elderly woman named Sarah Osborne who regularly failed to attend church. The women were arrested and examined in the village meetinghouse. During the examinations the girls described how they had been attacked by “specters” of these three women. While the two Sarah’s denied engaging in witchcraft, for some reason, Tituba confessed! Tituba then claimed the two Sarah’s were also ghosts and had conspired with her to torment the girls.

Soon, more young girls began acting strangely. One of the girls, Ann Putnam, was the daughter of one of the most influential families in Salem. Her family’s support of her accusations helped to legitimize the guilt of the “witches”.

Other townspeople soon would be accused of engaging in witchcraft. The people within the town of Salem became hysterical. Even Rebecca Nurse, a mother of eight, would be tried and convicted of witchcraft. Several girls claimed that Nurse’s apparition (ghost) tortured them and other witnesses linked her to the unusual deaths of several Salem residents. During her trial, 39 of her neighbors signed a petition stating she was a woman of propriety (virtue or goodness). When the jury declared her not-guilty, an uprising nearly occurred. The audience was horrified that she was acquitted, and several of the judges were left unsatisfied or left the bench. The jury was forced to reconvene and the court brought a confessed witch by the name of Deliverance Hobbs to the courtroom. When asked about Hobbs, the nearly deaf Nurse replied ‘she was one of us’. After hearing the words of Nurse, the jury returned a guilty verdict. Nurse later explained that she had never really heard the question, and that when saying ‘she was one of us’ she meant a co-defendant. Nurse was nevertheless hanged on July 19, 1692. Other accused witches were tortured until they confessed. In all, 26 “witches” were executed in Salem in 1692.

1. In Massachusetts in 1692, a diagnosis of witchcraft was...

- A. devastating and very unusual.
- B. a certain death sentence.
- C. devastating, but not uncommon.
- D. unheard of.

2. What is not true about Samuel Parris?

- A. He wanted to keep the condition of the girls a secret
- B. His daughter, Abigail, showed signs of being bewitched
- C. Eventually agreed to contact Dr. William Griggs
- D. He prayed in February for evil forces to release the girls

3. Why did Tituba confess to being a witch?

- A. She was angry at Sarah Good
- B. She thought if she confessed her life might be spared
- C. She claimed Sarah Good and Sarah Osborne helped her
- D. The passage doesn't tell

4. Why was Anne Putnam important?

- A. She was from an important Salem family. When her parents supported her claims, everyone thought the "witches" were guilty
- B. She was the first to accuse Tituba of witchcraft
- C. She failed to attend church, and thus, was in danger of being accused of witchcraft
- D. She was the first to accuse Rebecca Nurse, a mother of eight, of engaging in witchcraft

5. The trial of Rebecca Nurse...

- A. first resulted in her acquittal and then in her conviction.
- B. first resulted in her conviction and then in her being hanged.
- C. resulted in her acquittal.
- D. resulted in her confession.

6. The testimony of Deliverance Hobbs...

- A. resulted in the guilty verdict against Nurse.
- B. resulted in Nurse's acquittal.
- C. had no major impact of Nurse's trial.
- D. resulted in several judges leaving the bench.









7. Which is true about "she was one of us?"

- A. The court took it to mean that Rebecca Nurse said that Deliverance Hobbs was "also" a witch
- B. Rebecca Nurse meant that Deliverance Hobbs was a witch
- C. The court took it to mean that Rebecca Nurse never really heard the question
- D. Rebecca Nurse meant that both her and Deliverance Hobbs were in the same situation

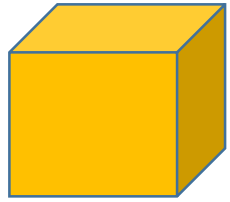



Area of Small States and Place Value

Name _____

Sq. miles means “square miles” and refers to the area of the state.

			
Vermont 9,616 sq. miles	Connecticut 5,543 sq. miles	Delaware 2,489 sq. miles	Massachusetts 10,554 sq. miles
			
Rhode Island 1,545 sq. miles	New Hampshire 9,349 sq. miles	New Jersey 8,723 sq. miles	Maryland 12,406 sq. miles

Place Value Chart

			
Thousand	Hundred	Ten	One

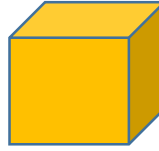
The areas of states are expressed in place value blocks below. Can you find the state?



X 5



X 3



X 5

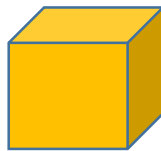


X 4

What state? _____



X 1



X 9



X 6



X 6

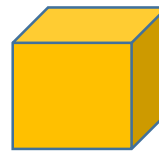
What state? _____



X 9



X 4



X 2



X 8

What state? _____



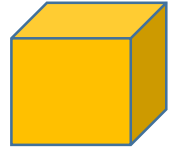
X 4



X 6



X 0

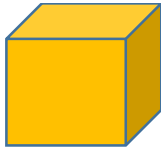


X 12

What state? _____



X 4



X 10



X 5



X 5

What state? _____



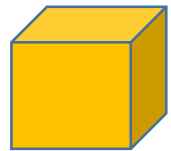
X 3



X 4



X 9



X 9

What state? _____

Massachusetts Reading Comprehension Answers

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Boston Tea Party	C	B	B	A	C	C	C	D	C	B
Boston Massacre	D	D	B	C	A	C	B	A	C	B
John Adams	B	D	C	B	D	C	D	B	D	C
Abigail Adams		C	B	C	B	C	B	D	D	A
Salem Witch Trials	C	B	D	A	A	A	D			
Plymouth Colony	C	Thanksgiving	A	B	D	A, D	A	A	D	C
Massachusetts Bay Colony	A	B	D	D	B	D	D	A	C	C
Intro. to Massachusetts	C	D	B	A						
John Hancock	B	B	D	B	D	A	C	B	D	C
Lexington/Concord	A	D	D	A	A	A	A	A	A	B

Massachusetts Math Answers

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Massachusetts Population - Rounding	639,600; 153,800; 92,900; 88,800	183,000; 108,000; 95,000; 107,000	150,000 - Springfield	110,000 - Lowell; Cambridge	100,000 - none	90,000 - New Bedford; Brockton; Quincy; Fall River	639,600; 153,800; 92,900; 88,800
Small State Areas and Place Value	Connecticut	Vermont	Delaware	Maryland	Massachusetts	New Hampshire	Connecticut