

Matrix of Excerpts from *Common Sense*

STUDENT HEADQUARTERS 4.1A

Directions: Use the matrix below to record your interpretation of the excerpt your pair has been assigned. Create an act it out of the excerpt. Then use this matrix to take notes during class presentations about the other excerpts.

	Excerpt from <i>Common Sense</i>	What the excerpt means in our own words
A	"I have heard it asserted by some, that as America hath flourish'd under her former connection with Great Britain, the same connection is necessary towards her future happiness, and will always have the same effect. This may be the more tedious than the kind of argument."	
B	"We have bewail'd the protection of Great Britain without considering that her protection was inferior, not advantageous; and that she did not protect us from our enemies on our account, but from her enemies on her own account..."	
C	"But Britain is the nearest country, say some. Then the more should we depend upon her conduct. Even brutes do not desert their young, but swallows make war upon their landlady..."	
D	"I challenge the war that advocates for reconciliation, to show a single advantage that this continent can reap, by being connected with Great Britain. I repeat the challenge; not a single advantage is deriv'd."	
E	"Some interests, not capable of justifying themselves, are the proper objects for kingdoms to take under their care, but there is something absurd, in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island. In no instance hath nature made the satellite larger than the primary planet."	
F	"Nothing but independence... can bring the peace of the continent... A government of our own is our natural right; and when a man seriously reflects on the precariousness of human affairs, he will become convinced, that it is infinitely wiser and safer, to form a constitution of our own in a cool deliberate manner, while we have it in our power..."	