



Johnny Tremain

by Esther Forbes

Teacher's Guide

Written By Kathy Sammis



CLASSROOM FAVORITES

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Synopsis

CHAPTER I: UP AND ABOUT

[Section 1]

The novel opens with a vivid description of the colonial city/town of Boston awakening at dawn; this strong sense of place, immediately established, permeates the novel. The year is 1773. The orphaned protagonist, Johnny Tremain, is a 14-year-old apprentice to the elderly silversmith Mr. Lapham. Johnny's smithing skill has given him a dominant position in the household, which he exercises in a decidedly cocky manner, especially as he bosses around the other two apprentices, 11-year-old Dusty and 16-year-old swinish Dove. Mrs. Lapham, old Mr. Lapham's widowed daughter-in-law, presides over domestic affairs in a hard-working and frugal manner, helped by her four daughters—Madge, eighteen, roughly good-natured; Dorcas, sixteen, who thirsts futilely for elegance; Cilla (Priscilla), 14, Johnny's good friend and intended future wife; and little Isannah, an angelic-looking but sickly 8-year-old.

Section 2

At breakfast this morning, old Mr. Lapham exhorts Johnny to take to heart God's warning that pride goeth before a fall and to conduct himself more humbly from now on—a pledge Johnny makes but then cheerfully ignores, supremely confident in his certain future as a master silversmith, owner of the Lapham business.

Section 3

Everyone at the Lapham shop is greatly excited later that morning when rich, prominent John Hancock appears and orders a sugar basin to match a creamer Mr. Lapham made for Hancock's uncle years earlier. The sugar basin must be ready in one week.

Section 4

Johnny works on the elaborate handles, a task that old Mr. Lapham's gnarled hands can no longer accomplish.

Section 5

Johnny reveals a secret to Cilla: his full name is Jonathan Lyte Tremain. Before she died, Johnny's mother told him that she was born Lavinia Lyte, and that she and he are related to the rich merchant Jonathan Lyte. He tells Cilla about a silver cup, a gift from his mother, that he was told never to sell.

Section 6

Johnny shows Cilla the silver cup with the Lyte family crest on it that his mother gave him, telling him never to part with the cup and never to approach his rich relatives unless he was utterly desperate "and God Himself has turned away His face from you."

CHAPTER II: THE PRIDE OF YOUR POWER

[Section 1]

Dissatisfied with his handles, Johnny gets valuable advice from Paul Revere, who adds that he would be pleased to take the boy on as his own apprentice.

Section 2

Time is running out; in order to get the basin to Hancock on Monday morning, Johnny connives with practical Mrs. Lapham to work on Sunday, which violates both Boston law and Mr. Lapham's religious convictions.

Section 3

Sly, resentful Dove sees a chance at revenge. He hands Johnny a cracked crucible in which to melt the silver, which causes a sickening accident in which Johnny's right hand is horribly burned.

Section 4

Treated by the old midwife, Gran' Hopper, the hand emerges after a month of poultices with the thumb and palm grown together. Johnny's certain future as a great silversmith has evaporated.



Section 5

Johnny's position in the household plummets to that of chore-boy, and Mr. Lapham gently tells him he must find another respectable trade. Dove and Dusty take advantage and laugh about his new lower station.

CHAPTER III: AN EARTH OF BRASS

[Section 1]

Both belligerent and embarrassed about his crippled hand, Johnny has little luck finding any skilled work he finds acceptable. He does find a potential friend in observant yet reticent Rab Silsbee, apprentice at the patriot-friendly Boston Observer newspaper.

Section 2

Johnny meets and immediately dislikes Mr. Percival Tweedie, the man Mrs. Lapham has found to buy a partnership in the silversmith shop and marry one of her daughters.

Section 3

When Johnny applies for a position with merchant John Hancock, the great man turns him away, revulsed at the sight of Johnny's hand, then sends his slave Jehu after Johnny with a purse full of silver coins.

Section 4

The boy celebrates with a lavish meal, new shoes, and presents he brings to Cilla and Isannah. But when little Isannah suddenly shrieks, "Don't touch me with that dreadful hand!" Johnny leaves the Lapham home for good.

Section 5

Feeling cut off from everyone in the world, Johnny finds his mother's unmarked grave in the Copp's Hills graveyard and cries in a frenzy of grief, sobbing repeatedly that God has turned away from him. Then a moment of peace arrives as Johnny remembers his mother's voice as she told him to go to merchant Lyte only when nothing was left to him and God had turned away. That time has come, Johnny realizes, and now sleeps deeply and calmly.

CHAPTER IV: THE RISING EYE

[Section 1]

Next morning, Johnny presents himself to the yellow-skinned, black-eyed Merchant Lyte, who at first rejects the boy's claim to be a relation but then shows great interest in the silver cup Johnny describes.

Section 2

Johnny returns to the Lapham's home for his silver cup. Mrs. Lapham tells him he is to no longer make fun of Mr. Tweedie, and he's no longer to speak of a future with Cilla. Before he leaves the house for good, Cilla and Isannah tease him in a familiar and comfortable way; he responds as he always does. He visits with Rab, who gives him a clean shirt, before heading to the Lyte house.

Section 3

When Johnny returns to the Lyte mansion next day with his cup, everyone can see it matches perfectly the three cups on the sideboard. But, Mr. Lyte announces, his fourth cup was stolen by burglars last August. Johnny is promptly arrested for stealing, an offense punishable by hanging.

Section 4

The situation looks grim, but Rab steps in as savior. He is a Son of Liberty, and Lyte is no friend of the patriot cause. Rab secures a fine patriot lawyer for Johnny, a Mr. Josiah Quincy. Mrs. Lapham says she will not allow Cilla to testify on Johnny's behalf; both Mrs. Lapham and Mr. Tweedie claim Johnny is a scoundrel.

Section 5

Johnny is uncomfortable in the courtroom until Rab appears with Cilla. Mr. Lyte informs the court how he came to possess the silver cups and how one had been stolen. Johnny relates his own story of the cup and his mother. Cilla testifies that Johnny had indeed told her his full name and shown her the cup last July. This overwhelms Lyte's testimony that his great-grandfather Jonathan Lyte of England had had six identical cups made, one for each of his sons, and that four of these cups had come to America, owned until last August by himself, Merchant Lyte. The judge dismisses the case and orders Johnny to take back his cup.

CHAPTER V: THE BOSTON OBSERVER

[Section 1]

Free but destitute, Johnny decides he must sell the silver cup—and that Lyte will pay the best price for it. When Johnny once again shows Lyte the cup, the merchant has his clerks swear that Johnny has voluntarily returned the cup and confessed the theft. Johnny barely escapes Lyte's office and an attempt to kidnap him aboard an outgoing ship. He turns to Rab again, accepting a job with Rab's master and uncle Mr. Lorne as a horseback-riding deliverer of the *Boston Observer* to subscribers in Boston and outlying areas.

Section 2

First, Johnny must learn to ride the sweet but jumpy Goblin, a daunting task for a beginning horseman that Johnny is very pleased to master; Johnny's shattered self-esteem now begins to rebuild. By reading the Observer and listening to its patriot subscribers, the previously apolitical Johnny becomes well informed and "an ardent Whig." Johnny also finds a new home and family, sharing Rab's room over the printing shop and meals across the street with Uncle and Aunt Lorne.

Section 3

Johnny spies Cilla and Isannah fetching water from the pump in North Square. He promises to meet Cilla there every Thursday and Sunday afternoon and help her carry the water that Mr. Tweedie won't let the apprentices stop work to retrieve.

Section 4

The calm, self-contained (except when exuberantly dancing with all the girls at a family gathering) Rab has a steadying effect on Johnny, who learns to check his quick tongue and temper. A newspaper-delivery meeting with Sam Adams brings Johnny another job—express riding for the Boston Committee of Correspondence.

CHAPTER VI: SALT-WATER TEA

[Section 1]

In November of 1773, Sam Adams asks Mr. Lorne to print a placard to be posted throughout Boston. Ships are about to enter the harbor carrying tea subject to a tax levied by the English Parliament. To let the tea land is to accept Parliament's right to tax colonists without representation. Johnny begins to alert the members of the Observers, a secret group of influential patriots, about a meeting.

Section 2

Johnny delivers word of the meeting to Paul Revere, in the hope of seeing Cilla and Isannah; he's saddened by the forlorn appearance of the two girls. Things are not going well in the Lapham household. Doctor Warren offers to look at Johnny's hand, but Johnny declines. Johnny is so caught up in his jobs and the rebels' planning that he often neglects to meet Cilla at the local square on their regularly appointed days; in fact, Johnny is losing interest in Cilla and news of the Lapham home.

Section 3

While the Observers meet in Rab and Johnny's attic, Johnny asks Rab what they are discussing. The boys

make a spice tea and present it to the gathered assembly of Observers. Samuel Adams swears them both to secrecy and divulges the group's plans for mass demonstrations and the dumping of the tea.

Section 4

Rab assures Johnny that he will be part of the group Rab will lead. He encourages Johnny to practice chopping so he'll be able to help breaking open the tea chests.

Section 5

As the third of the tea-bearing ships arrives in the harbor, increasingly large crowds gather. Many of the patriots take their turns guarding the ships ensuring no harm came to them and that no tea was secretly unloaded.

Section 6

On the evening of December 16, Rab and other appointed leaders summon their Indian-costumed followers—many of them, like Johnny, are Boston apprentice lads—and converge on the three tea ships tied up at Griffin's Wharf. Swiftly, they carry out the preplanned "tea party," dumping the tea in the harbor. When Johnny points out Dove trying to pocket some of the tea for himself, Rab throws the whining thief overboard with the tea.

CHAPTER VII: THE FIDDLER'S BILL

[Section 1]

Unable to find any individuals to punish for the Tea Party, England punishes the entire town of Boston by closing its port. This plan backfires, causing moderates to embrace the patriot cause and unifying the disparate colonies. With the port closed, the vibrant Boston economy falters. British troops pour in to occupy the town, behaving with a mixture of arrogance and empathy. Johnny secures additional employment as a sometime messenger for British officers, hoping to learn useful information to pass on to the patriot leaders.

Section 2

Each of the colonies, pitch in to send food overland to Boston. After missing weeks of their meetings, Johnny is surprised to find Cilla talking with and drawing for Rab in the Observer office; he's further surprised by her hale appearance. Cilla tells him about her changed circumstances: the beautiful young woman Lavinia Lyte, Merchant Lyte's daughter, has taken a great fancy to Isannah and absorbed the child into her household as a

sort of pet, with Cilla signing on as a housemaid. Johnny has had a begrudging crush on Lavinia from afar, but now Cilla's and Rab's delight in each other's company brings Johnny's focus back on Cilla. Johnny seems jealous when Rab walks Cilla back to the Lyte home; Rab is amused by Johnny's discomfort.

Section 3

Johnny keeps his patriot thoughts to himself and his ears alert while caring for Goblin at a stable that is otherwise filled with British horses, officers, servants, and horse boys. The weak, dreadful Dove works here for the British as a horse boy. Johnny sabotages the efforts of the British army to commandeer Goblin; the British lieutenant realizes good-naturedly that he has been tricked and offers to teach Johnny and Goblin about jumping. Rab encourages Johnny to remain on good terms with Dove thinking he might become aware earliest when the British might be ready to take action against the rebellious colony.

Section 4

As Johnny returns from one of his delivery runs, he considers how his hatred of Dove and his desire for revenge have subsided, how his regard for Mr. Lapham had increased after the old man's death, and even his newly-found respect for Mrs. Lapham.

A surprise visit to the Lapham household convinces him even his low regard for Madge Lapham may have been misplaced.

Section 5

Johnny visits Cilla at the Lyte mansion and is appalled by their treatment at the hands of Miss Lavinia; his appreciation of the beautiful Lavinia is overwhelmed by her arrogance and cruelty. As Lavinia and her entourage prepare for a masquerade ball, Johnny's sassiness leads to his expulsion from the room. Mrs. Bessie, the Lytes' cook, confides in Johnny the fate that awaits the proud Lytes during their trip to Milton, that if there were a group of Daughters of Liberty she'd be among them, and that Sam Adams would vouch for her as a patriot.

CHAPTER VIII: A WORLD TO COME

[Section 1]

The Lytes, as usual, go out to their country home in Milton in August in their splendid ruby coach and Johnny soon sees them return to Boston in disarray one evening, having just barely escaped an attacking mob stirred up and led by the Sons of Liberty. When Cilla insists on going back to Milton for the Lytes' silver, Johnny accompanies her.

Section 2

At the house, in the family Bible, Johnny finds the Lyte genealogy. His mother's name has been scratched over, but he can read that she was born in 1740 and married Dr. Charles Latour; both are recorded as having died of plague in Marseilles before Johnny's birth. Here is proof of Johnny's place in the Lyte family tree—but he now realizes he wants no part of them, "Neither their blood nor their cup," because he has "moved on to other things." War will come, people like the Lytes will leave, and people like Johnny and Cilla will remain and fight. He rejects his mother's cup and burns the genealogy pages.

Section 3

Rab is caught while trying to purchase a stolen British musket. The farmer who arranged the theft is tarred and feathered; Rab is released because he's 'just a boy.' Rab is angry at being treated as a child, but he and Johnny share a laugh over his safety. The British military proceeds to each Boston newspaper office and announce their intent to treat anyone found buying British weapons similarly.

Section 4

Later, on a late-summer afternoon in Boston, Johnny and Cilla obliquely talk about the future; both agree that Priscilla Tremain is a fine name. Johnny is jealous to learn that Rab had taken Cilla walking and bought her sweets.

Section 5

That fall, the Observers have a final meeting above the print shop, large group gatherings having become too risky to continue. A British sortie to Charlestown has made it clear that the patriots must organize a better spy system to learn when British troop movements from Boston out to the countryside are going to happen. Sam Adams declares that it is too late to patch up differences with England; from now on, he will work for war. James Otis sweeps past Adams's reasons for going to war to declare an expansive motivation: to secure the rights of people in every part of the world to "choose who it is shall rule" over them. "We fight, we die, for a simple thing. Only that a man can stand up." As simple and as profound as that, both Johnny and Rab think.

CHAPTER IX: THE SCARLET DELUGE

[Section 1]

Paul Revere does establish a highly effective spy network in Boston that reports virtually every British

thought and plan and action. Johnny, as part of this network, reports on the doings of the officers of the Tenth Regiment who are quartered at the *Afric Queen*, the inn where *Goblin* is stabled. Johnny intercepts messages that enable the American patriots to seize the British military stores at Portsmouth.

Section 2

Johnny comes to resent the treatment of *Dove* by both the British and the colonists; even with the good treatment *Dove* receives from *Rab* and Johnny, he maintains his loyalty to the king and brags about what the British will do to the rebels. The boys get *Dove* drunk, and he tells Johnny that it was his warning to the British that brought about Johnny's no longer being called for deliveries. Johnny prepares *Lieutenant Stranger's* horse on behalf of the drunken *Dove*, and *Stranger* begins teaching Johnny and *Goblin* how to jump.

Section 3

One day in March, a British private named *Pumpkin* who works at the stable reveals to Johnny that he—like many other Whig-sympathizing soldiers—wants to desert and realize his dream of staying in America and owning a simple farm. *Rab* has been training with the Minute Men in his home town of Lexington, and Johnny knows that *Rab* longs for a fine British musket. Johnny strikes a deal: he will supply *Pumpkin* with colonial-farmer clothes, and in return *Pumpkin* will leave Johnny his musket. *Rab's* uncle successfully smuggles the musket out to Lexington, but *Pumpkin* disappears.

Section 4

With the coming of spring, everyone anticipates a British action: generals are coming from England to replace the mild *General Gage*, Minute Men practice their drills, Johnny remains attentive for any useful information.

Section 5

On a warm day in April, Johnny is exercising horses on the Common and witnesses a firing squad shooting a deserter—*Pumpkin*. How could anyone, a badly shaken Johnny wonders, “ever have the courage to stand up and face those murderous little eyes” at the ends of a line of British muskets?

CHAPTER X: ‘DISPERSE, YE REBELS!’**[Section 1]**

All Boston is abuzz on April 14, 15, and 16; the British are clearly planning to move troops out to the countryside

at any time now. *Paul Revere* and *Doctor Warren* discuss how to alert the Minute Men when the British begin their move; *Revere* shuns *Doctor Church* as the meeting breaks up.

Section 2

Rab leaves Boston for good to report to his Minute Man group in Lexington, which leaves Johnny feeling deserted.

Section 3

On April 18, Johnny worms crucial information out of *Dove* that confirms the British troops will move out of Boston that night via the river.

Section 4

Johnny takes his information to *Paul Revere*, *Doctor Warren*, *Billy Dawes*, and *Robert Newman*, the sexton of *Christ's Church*, who will light the signal lanterns indicating that the British troops are moving out by water. During the dawn of April 19, the war begins.

CHAPTER XI: YANKEE DOODLE**[Section 1]**

Dr. Warren awakens Johnny early on the morning of April 19 with the news that British troops have killed patriots at Lexington. When Johnny asks about *Rab*, *Dr. Warren* assures him *Rab* got out safely. Minute Men are marching to Concord to confront the British troops. Johnny's job for today is to stay in Boston and pick up any information he can about troop movements and arrests, then slip out of town and find *Warren* in the countryside.

Section 2

All day, the people of Boston, as well as the British soldiers, wait anxiously to learn about the outcome of the conflict in the countryside. Twelve hundred British soldiers depart Boston headed toward Concord.

Section 3

At days' end, the harried British troops begin to arrive in Charlestown, pursued by the colonials. All the well-known patriots have left Boston; *Uncle Lorne* hides when the British search his home and the *Observer* office.

Section 4

That evening, Johnny goes to the *Lytes'* and finds them packing for an early-morning evacuation to England, taking a willing *Isannah* with them. Before they depart,

Lavinia reveals to Johnny his family background. Johnny's mother Vinny was rejected by her Lyte family for marrying a Frenchman and a Catholic and by her husband's family for being a heretic. Johnny's father called himself Tremain in Boston, where Vinny met him, rather than Latour because he was ashamed of being a prisoner of war. When Lavinia tells Johnny he should call her "Aunt" rather than "Cousin," the boy's crush on her dissolves.

Section 5

The Lytes leave Cilla and Mrs. Bessie behind; Mrs. Bessie agrees to shelter the Lorne family as the Lyte house is under the protection of General Gage. Johnny retrieves Pumpkin's uniform to use as a disguise when he delivers Dr. Warren's message. Johnny tells Cilla he's off to find Rab and departs strutting like the shorter British soldiers seemed to him to do.

CHAPTER XII: A MAN CAN STAND UP

[Section 1]

Wearing Pumpkin's discarded uniform, Johnny hangs about the waterfront as the many bedraggled, wounded British soldiers are landed from Charlestown. Finally he is able to slip across the water and learns from a Son of Liberty tavern-keeper what happened this day at Concord and Lexington. Terribly anxious about Rab, Johnny is thrilled to learn that he can now find Dr. Warren in Lexington.

Section 2

Johnny makes his way toward Lexington encountering first-hand the horrors of battle; he continues his search for Dr. Warren.

Section 3

Late in the afternoon of April 20, Johnny arrives in Lexington and finds Dr. Warren, who agrees to take him to the seriously wounded Rab at Buckman's Tavern. Rab had stood up with the other men at Lexington Common, gun in hand but not firing, defying the British orders to disperse. "Rab played a man's part. Look that you do the same," Warren warns Johnny.

Section 4

Rab himself is reticent as usual, turning over his prized musket in few words but saying goodbye to Johnny with a wonderful smile: "Everything he had never put in words was in that smile." Rab dies.

Section 5

Dr. Warren, observing Johnny handling Rab's musket, tells the boy-man he can cut through the scar tissue and free Johnny's thumb enough to at least fire the musket in the coming war. As Dr. Warren prepares his instruments, Johnny stands on Lexington Green and thinks about the future "wet with blood." He realizes that this is "his land and these his people," that he is now casting his life with the cause of the war for liberty that has just begun. He feels "free, light, unreal, and utterly alone" as he prepares to step forward into this newly adult phase of his life. "True, Rab had died. Hundreds would die, but not the thing they died for. 'A man can stand up....'"

Timeline

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| July 1773 | Johnny tells Cilla his real name and shows her his silver cup; Johnny burns his hand horribly. |
| August | Johnny vainly searches for other skilled work, meets Rab at <i>Boston Observer</i> shop. |
| fall | Johnny is found innocent of stealing the cup from Merchant Lyte; Johnny starts his job as rider for the Observer, moves into attic room with Rab. |
| December | Johnny takes part in the Boston Tea Party. |
| June 1774 | Parliament closes the port of Boston; British soldiers occupy the town. |
| summer | Johnny begins delivering messages for British officers, reporting back to patriot leaders. Cilla and Isannah go to live at the Lytes' mansion. |
| August | Johnny finds and rejects his family genealogy at the Lytes' country home. |
| fall | James Otis declares "Only that a man can stand up" at the last full meeting of the Observers; Johnny is part of Paul Revere's newly organized Boston spy system. |
| March 1775 | Johnny arranges for Pumpkin to desert, gets Pumpkin's musket in return. |
| April | Johnny witnesses Pumpkin's execution. |
| April 16 | Rab leaves Boston for Lexington. |
| April 18 | Johnny brings vital information on the British expedition to patriot leaders. |
| April 19 | Lexington and Concord: the American Revolution begins; Johnny learns from Lavinia Lyte about his true family history. |

April 20

Johnny sees Rab in Lexington just before Rab dies. Dr. Warren prepares to operate on Johnny's hand.

Author Sketch

Esther Forbes was a noted historical novelist whose only book for young readers, *Johnny Tremain*, became a classic. Forbes was born in Massachusetts in 1891 to an old New England family. Forbes developed a fascination with history as a child, inspired in part by her antiquarian mother, who wrote many books on local history, and in part by family tales including one of an ancestress who died in a Cambridge jail after being arrested as a witch. Forbes graduated from Bradford Junior College in 1912 and studied history at the University of Wisconsin from 1916 to 1918 under Frederick Jackson Turner. From 1920 to 1926 she was an editor at Houghton Mifflin in Boston, overseeing publication of historical novels and writing one of her own, *O Genteel Lady!* published in 1926. The success of this novel and her marriage, also in 1926, allowed Forbes to work full-time on her writing. She published four more historical novels from 1928 through 1938, all set in New England. She divorced in 1933 and never remarried. Forbes did extensive research on colonial Boston for a novel she intended to write about a man who stayed neutral during the Revolutionary War. But when World War II broke out, Forbes abandoned her idea of neutrality and used her research instead to write a history/biography, *Paul Revere and the World He Lived In*. Published in 1942 to great acclaim, the book won Forbes the Pulitzer Prize for history. While doing the research for *Paul Revere*, Forbes became interested in the lives of Boston's young apprentices and their involvement in events leading up to the Revolution. She translated this interest into *Johnny Tremain*, which won the 1944 Newbery Medal. Forbes published two more historical novels for adults in 1948 and 1954 and also reworked her history/biography into a new version for young readers, *America's Paul Revere*, still a standard for students. Forbes died in her family home at Worcester, Massachusetts, in 1967.



Critic's Corner

Esther Forbes' historical writings, both fiction and non-fiction, were and are highly regarded by readers and critics alike. The *New York Times* obituary summed up: "Miss

Forbes, a novelist who wrote like a historian and a historian who wrote like a novelist, achieved a reputation as one of the most exciting and knowledgeable authors on the Revolutionary era." Forbes is noted for her historical accuracy, her ability to vividly evoke historical time and place, and her vibrant characterizations based on a deep understanding of human nature. *The Saturday Review* remarked that *Johnny Tremain* is "almost uncanny in its 'aliveness.'" *Horn Book* praised the novel for "its details of domestic life, its penetrating knowledge of colonial Boston, its perception of character, its artistry." *The New York Times Book Review* commented, "Miss Forbes calls this a novel for young and old, and adults will read it for its richness of color, its wit and humor, its illumination of a noble period." Recommending *Johnny Tremain* as Bicentennial reading in *Language Arts* in 1976, Dorothy Nelson wrote, "[Johnny's] quick temper and his cocksure air...make him so human and alive that Johnny carries with him whole classrooms of youngsters who learn to feel and to experience that Spirit of '76." M. Sarah Smedman, writing in *Touchstones*, concurs, "Adolescents love *Johnny Tremain* for its adventure and, primarily, because the hero, although very much a boy of his own time, is a person who resembles themselves, whose feelings they share, and whom they admire enough to want to emulate."

Other Works by Esther Forbes

O Genteel Lady! (1926)
A Mirror for Witches (1928)
Miss Marvel (1935)
Paradise (1937)
The General's Lady (1938)
Paul Revere and the World He Lived In (1942)
The Boston Book (1947)
The Running of the Tide (1948)
America's Paul Revere (1948)
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General Objectives

1. To gain an understanding of life in colonial Boston.
2. To examine the issues and events that caused the growing rift between England and its American colonies
3. To consider the meaning of freedom and any valid reasons there might be to fight and die for it
4. To think about the concept of excessive pride and its possible consequences
5. To analyze the ways in which a person can be motivated to overcome a handicap or other severe disadvantage and meet challenges to the best of her or his ability
6. To discuss ways in which a person can find a place for himself or herself and, if necessary, establish new relationships with new people
7. To identify common elements of the universal struggles of adolescence

Specific Objectives

1. To understand the terms of Johnny's apprenticeship and what options are open to him after his accident
2. To identify Johnny's family relationship with the Lytes and the reasons why he ultimately rejects that relationship
3. To note the specific ways in which events and movements leading up to the Revolutionary War impact Johnny and the people he is involved with
4. To note the ways in which Johnny exhibits excessive pride
5. To trace Johnny's fall down to feelings of worthlessness and the process by which he regains his self-esteem and self-confidence
6. To understand the different arguments for and against reconciliation between England and Massachusetts (and the other American colonies), including moderate and radical Whig positions and American and British Tory opinions
7. To identify the ways in which Johnny is a changing rather than a static character, and relate these to the universal adolescent struggles
8. To discuss the rounded nature of Forbes' depiction of British soldiers and officers who are occupying Boston
9. To analyze symbolic elements of the novel
10. To compare *Johnny Tremain* and *My Brother Sam Is Dead*, and explore the reasons for the differences between the two novels

Literary Terms and Applications

To enhance students' appreciation and understanding of the novel, present them with these terms.

Coming-of-Age Novel: a work of fiction in which the main character moves into and/or through adolescence and develops at least the beginnings of maturity. In this novel, Johnny loses his childishly smug self-satisfaction, goes through a difficult maturation process as he fashions a new life adapted to the limitations of his crippled hand, and emerges at the end of the novel as a mature young man preparing to fight, and perhaps die, for the freedom he firmly believes in.

Foreshadowing: hints or suggestions about something that will occur later in a novel. The many comments in this novel's opening chapter about Johnny's excessive pride and pride going before a fall clearly presage the terrible accident that Johnny suffers in the following chapter.

Historical Fiction: a narrative that presents an imaginative series of events occurring in an actual historical setting. The characters are usually both fictional (for example, Johnny, Rab, and the Laphams) and historical (e.g., Sam Adams, Paul Revere, and Dr. Warren). The author often does considerable research to incorporate much accurate everyday detail into the novel, as Forbes did when gathering information to use in her history/biography of Paul Revere, which she then drew on to create her vivid, accurate picture in this novel of life in pre-revolutionary Boston.

Point of View: the vantage point from which the action of a story is seen and told. This novel uses Johnny's point of view, told in the third person. Other people's thoughts and character are revealed by their actions and words as witnessed by Johnny.

Symbolism: the use of elements in a literary work that stand for something else. In this novel, for example, Johnny's stay in the Laphams' birth-and-death room symbolizes the death of Johnny the skilled silversmith and the birth of the new Johnny with his maimed hand who will have to begin an entirely new life. Interpretive Level Question #11 in the Comprehension Study section of this guide asks students to interpret various symbolic elements in this novel.

Cross-Curricular Sources

Fiction

Avi, *The Fighting Ground*

Susan Campbell Bartoletti, *No Man's Land: A Young Soldier's Story*

Patricia Beatty, *Charley Skedaddle*

James Lincoln and Christopher Collier, *The Bloody Country, Jump Ship to Freedom, My Brother Sam Is Dead, War Comes to Willy Freeman, and The Winter Hero*

Patricia Clapp, *I'm Deborah Sampson: A Soldier in the War of the Revolution*

Stephen Crane, *The Red Badge of Courage*

Betty Sue Cummings, *Hew Against the Grain*

Howard Fast, *April Morning*

Ann Finlayson, *Rebecca's War*

David Hackett Fischer, *Paul Revere's Ride*

Jean Fritz, *Early Thunder*

Robert Heinlein, *Between Planets*

Irene Hunt, *Across Five Aprils*

Lois Lowry, *Number the Stars*

Harry Mazer, *The Last Mission*

Ruth Nulton Moore, *Distant Thunder*

Anna Myer, *The Keeping Room*

Scott O'Dell, *Sarah Bishop*

Gary Paulsen, *Soldier's Heart*

Carolyn Reeder, *Shades of Gray*

Ann Rinaldi, *Time Enough for Drums*

Kenneth Roberts, *Rabble in Arms*

Leonard Wibberly, *John Treegate's Musket*

Nonfiction

Natalie S. Bober, *Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution*

Daniel J. Boorstin, *The Americans: The Colonial Experience*

Barbara Brenner, *If You Were There in 1776*

Alden R. Carter, *Colonies in Revolt*

James Lincoln and Christopher Collier, *The Drama of American History* series

Burke Davis, *Black Heroes of the American Revolution*

Linda Grant DePauw, *Founding Mothers: Women in America in the Revolutionary Era*

Facts on File, *Almanacs of American Life, Book 3: Revolutionary America, 1763-1800*

Robert A. Gross, *The Minutemen and Their World*

William H. Hallahan, *The Day the Revolution Began: 19 April 1775*

Ann McGovern, *The Secret Soldier: The Story of Deborah Sampson*

Milton Meltzer, ed., *The American Revolutionaries: A History in Their Own Words* and *Remember the Ladies*

Jim Murphy, *A Young Patriot: The American Revolution as Experienced by One Boy*

Angela Osborne, *Abigail Adams*

Francis Russell, *Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill*
Carter Smith, ed., *Daily Life: A Sourcebook on Colonial America*
Paul Zall, ed., *Becoming American: Young People in the American Revolution*

CD-ROM

American Journey—History in Your Hands: The American Revolution
(Primary Source Media)
The American Revolution: Two Views (Queue)
Founding of America (Entrex)
Revolutionary Wars: Decisions, Decisions (Tom Snyder)

Internet Sites

“Battle of Lexington and Concord—Virtually Boston”:
www.vboston.com/VBoston/Content/ClassroomRevWar/battleoflexington.cfm
“Boston’s 16 Freedom Trail Sites”:
www.discoverboston.com/
“The Freedom Trail—Virtually Boston”:
www.vboston.com/VBoston/Content/FreedomTrail/index.cfm
“A Map of Boston and Its Environs Circa 1800”:
earlyamerica.com/earlyamerica/maps/bostonmap/index.html
“The Paul Revere House”:
www.paulreverehouse.org/
“Revolutionary War Links”:
www.revwar.com/links

Video

Animated Atlas: The Revolutionary War (SVE & Churchill Media)
April Morning (1988)
Johnny Tremain (Disney Educational Productions)
Liberty! The American Revolution Curriculum Package (Twin City Public TV/PBS Video)
My Brother Sam Is Dead
The Revolutionary War Series (Discovery Channel Video)
The Shaping of the American Nation series—*Dawn of the American Revolution: A Lexington Family, The Cause of Liberty, and The Impossible War* (Learning Corp. of America)
1776: The Musical (Columbia)
To Keep Our Liberty (National Park Service)
U.S. History Video Collection: The American Revolution (Schlessinger Video)
Valley Forge—Young Spy (Young People’s Specials)

The Importance of Setting

The primary setting is pre-revolutionary Boston, brought so vividly alive with a wealth of detail that the colonial town could be considered a second main protagonist of the novel. The opening chapters center on the very modest Lapham home and silversmith shop on Hancock’s Wharf, where Johnny and his two fellow apprentices share small attic sleeping quarters and work downstairs. After his hand is burned, Johnny wanders all over the town looking for alternate work. He finds employment and a new home at the Salt Lane shop of the *Boston Observer* newspaper, where he shares an attic sleeping room with print boy Rab Silsbee, a room where the patriot Observers also meet periodically. Next door is the Afric Queen, the inn where Johnny’s horse Goblin is stabled; at these stables Johnny meets Lieutenant Stranger and picks up information on British troop movements.

On December 16, 1773, Johnny takes part in the Boston Tea Party at Griffin’s Wharf. When Cilla goes to live at the lavish Lyte mansion on Beacon Hill as a housemaid, Johnny visits her there every Thursday afternoon. Johnny frequently exercises his and British officers’ horses on Boston Common, where colonial militia and then British soldiers drill; one day on the Common, Johnny witnesses Pumpkin’s death by firing squad. Johnny experiences his night of utter despair at the Copp’s Hill graveyard in North Boston, is tried at the courthouse, and—with many other Boston citizens—observes from Beacon Hill the retreating, defeated British soldiers return to Charlestown. Outside of Boston, Johnny finds and burns his family genealogy in the Lytes’ fine country home in Milton.

The day after the war begins, Johnny crosses the river to Charlestown and makes his way out to Lexington, observing the evidences of the fighting all along the way. In Lexington, Johnny finds Rab dying at Buckman’s Tavern, adjacent to the green where the shooting happened. As the novel ends, Johnny stands on Lexington Green holding Rab’s rifle, preparing for Dr. Warren to cut his thumb free of its scar tissue and then take his place in the patriot army.

Themes and Motifs

A study of the central issues and situations in *Johnny Tremain* should include these aspects.

Themes

- identity
- physical handicap
- friendship
- courage
- loneliness
- liberty
- grief
- coming of age
- independence
- Whig vs. Tory points of view
- loss
- self
- war

Motifs

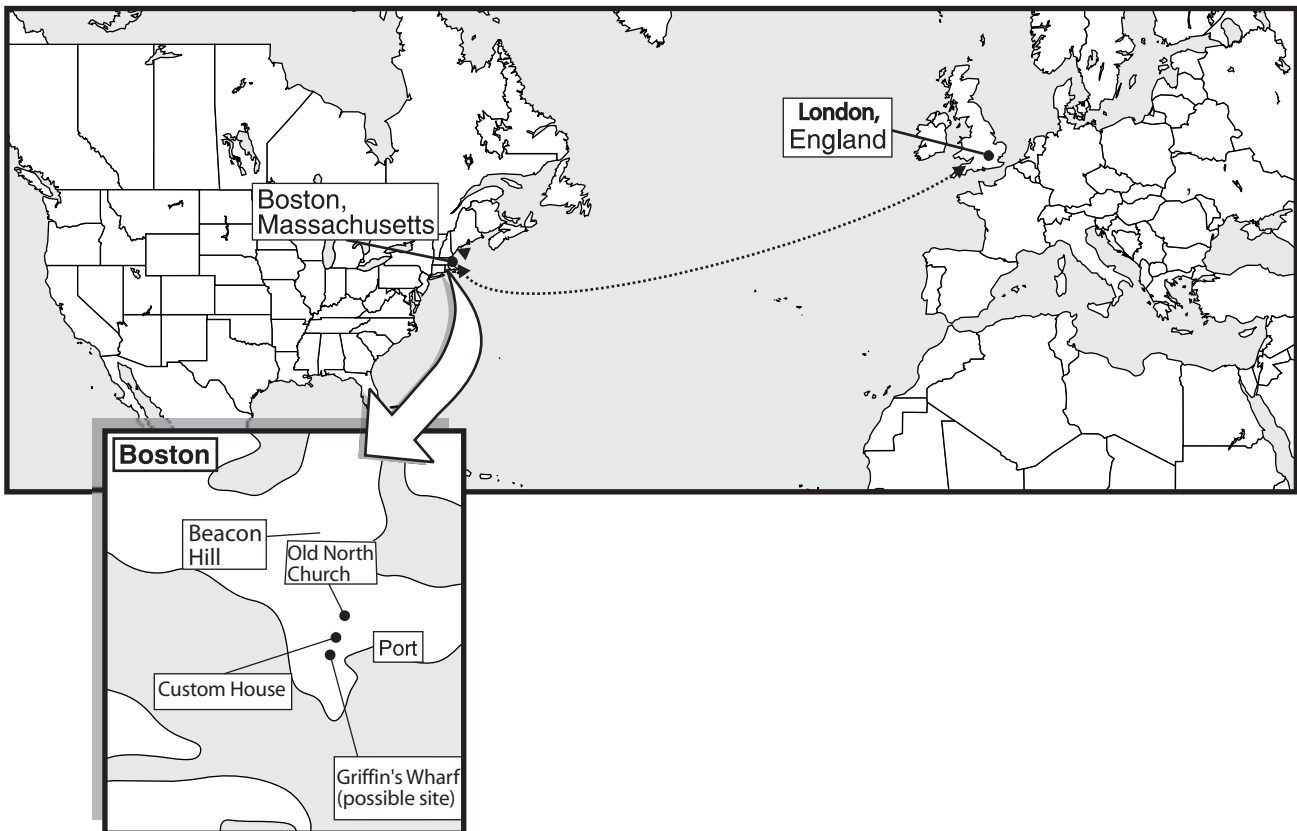
- colonial life in Boston
- silversmithing
- printing
- the apprentice system
- horsemanship
- “a man can stand up”
- rising sun
- social status and class consciousness

Meaning Study

Below are words, phrases, or sentences that have a particular meaning in the novel. Explain each as it relates to the book. Use the chapter and page numbers given in parentheses to reread the term in context if you wish.

1. her father-in-law’s apprentices (Chap. 1, p. 1)
(An apprentice was a young person, most often a boy, who was bound by contract to serve a skilled tradesman/artisan for a period of usually seven years. During this time, the master was obligated to teach his apprentice all the skills and secrets of his trade. The master did not pay an apprentice any wages during these seven years, but he did have to provide room, board, and clothing to his young helper. At the end of the contract years, the apprentice became a journeyman, certified to work for pay for any master of his trade. The ultimate step was to become a master, a person able to carry on the trade/craft independently. The apprentice system allowed young people to learn a skilled trade or craft by which they could support themselves as adults.)

2. “Get the annealing furnace going...So get out a crucible.” (Chap. 1, p. 7)
(These are two critical elements of the art of silversmithing, or making objects out of silver. Silver is placed in a vessel called a crucible on top of the annealing furnace and heated to a critical liquid state, at which point the silver is poured into shaping



molds and allowed to cool for the correct amount of time. Dove's deliberate choice of a cracked crucible when Johnny is preparing to make the handles for Hancock's sugar basin causes the accident that maims Johnny's hand.)

3. "pride goeth before a fall." (Chap. 1, p. 10)
(Prompted by Mr. Lapham, Johnny reluctantly explains that this is the meaning of the Bible verses Mr. Lapham has had him read aloud. God, according to the Bible and the pious Mr. Lapham, disapproves of pride, and so a person who exhibits pride can expect some subsequent humbling comeuppance, a well-deserved "fall." Johnny doesn't actually believe this. However, Johnny's excessive pride is soon totally shattered by his devastating fall, the very outcome Mr. Lapham predicts.)
4. His hand had been done up in a linseed poultice....Gran' Hopper gave him laudanum and more laudanum. (Chap. 2, pp. 34-35)
(Gran' Hopper applies a soft moist mass of cloth soaked in linseed oil to Johnny's terrible burn as a healing remedy. Laudanum is an opium-based solution formerly much used as a pain reliever; Johnny needs a lot of laudanum because his burned hand is terribly painful as it heals.)
5. But he could not help but think of the gallows... (Chap. 4, p. 77)
(Merchant Lyte has falsely accused Johnny of stealing the silver cup from him, and colonial punishment for stealing was death by hanging on the gallows, a wooden frame with a cross beam supported by two uprights. Johnny had earlier felt frightened and oppressed by the sight of the town gallows, and now he worries that his earlier unease was a premonition of his death on this false charge.)
6. The Whigs declaring that taxation without representation is tyranny. (Chap. 4, p. 71)
(The Whigs insisted that it was tyranny for Parliament to levy taxes on the colonies, because the colonists sent no representatives to Parliament to speak for and protect their interests. "Taxation without representation" became a catch-phrase and rallying cry for the patriot cause and was the underpinning principle of the Boston Tea Party.)
7. ... they went on to the Common. Here was acres upon acres of meadow and cow pasture, hard ground cleared for the drilling of militia. (Chap. 5, p. 92) ... and every Sunday of late he had gone out to Lexington to watch the Minute Men drilling,... (Chap. 7, p. 135)
(Each local area in the colonies had its own military unit, the militia, which consisted of local people, with officers elected by the troops. The militia would train periodically by drilling on the

town common, as on Boston Common before British troops occupied the town, and as in Lexington, where Rab drills. The militia was oriented toward local defense, and during the actual Revolutionary War, militiamen generally fought with regular American Continental army troops only for a limited time when war action occurred in their region or colony. The Minute Men were a group of Massachusetts militia charged with being ready to fight "on the shortest notice," which they were as soon as shots were fired at Lexington.)

8. ..to do express riding for the Boston Committee of Correspondence. (Chap. 5, p. 101)
(Committees of Correspondence were groups formed before the American Revolution to stir up public opinion and coordinate actions resisting anti-colonial British policies. Boston formed the first Committee of Correspondence in 1772, and it became highly influential. As an express rider, Johnny would deliver communications from the Boston committee to other committees in Massachusetts.)
9. They were so close to treason they kept no list of members. (Chap. 6, p. 107) ... "Let's see what sort of sedition this rogue is bringing in..." (Chap. 9, p. 192)
(Treason is a violation by a subject or citizen of her/his duty of loyalty to her/his sovereign or state. Sedition is any action, especially in speech or writing, that incites discontent or rebellion against a government. The members of the Observers' Club, planning and promoting resistance to British laws and rule, are close to treason. Patriot newspapers like the Boston Observer do seem to promote sedition. Remarkably, British General Gage, in charge of Boston's military occupation, allows the newspapers to continue publishing seditious material and does not arrest patriot leaders who are probably guilty of treason against England.)
10. Muskets. It was the muskets which interested Rab the most. (Chap. 7, p. 132)
(Most colonists had only old, inaccurate guns used for hunting birds and small game. Rab longs for a modern musket, which fires more easily and accurately; Rab has been drilling with the Lexington militia every week and wants a modern gun as his weapon when the war that he expects begins. Johnny acquires a musket for Rab when Pumpkin trades his weapon for a colonial farmer disguise so he can desert from the British army. Ironically, while Rab now has his musket rather than a "pop-gun," he is gunned down on Lexington Green without ever attempting to use the gun against the British troops.)
11. Sam and John Adams were standing and the other members were crowding around them, shaking hands with them, wishing them success at the Continental Congress in Philadelphia. They

were staring the next day. (Chap. 8, p. 176)
(In response to the retaliatory measures taken by the British government after the Boston Tea Party, the American colonies named delegates who met at an all-colony assemblage to shape a unified response to British actions. The first Continental Congress met in Philadelphia in 1774, attended by Sam and John Adams from Massachusetts, among about fifty other delegates from all the colonies. The Continental Congress developed into the body that directed the Revolutionary War.)

12. "They go out by 'Yankee Doodle,' but they'll dance to it before night." (Chap. 11, p. 225)
("Yankee Doodle" began as a derisive song aimed by British troops at the colonials' supposed yokel, backward, country peasant nature. The people of Boston, watching the British troops departing town for their expedition to Lexington and Concord while insultingly playing "Yankee Doodle," predict that the supercilious British soldiers and officers will return to Boston with a newly enforced respect for Yankee fighting ability, thus "dancing to" "Yankee Doodle" rather than laughing at "Yankee Doodle" by day's end.)

Comprehension Study

Answer the following questions in your own words. There is not always a right answer. Your judgment is important, and you should be ready to defend your answers by referring to passages in the book.

Questions 1-4 (Literal Level)

1. From the experiences of Johnny Tremain and his peers, describe the duties and everyday life of a typical Boston apprentice of the mid-1700s.
(An apprentice is bound to his or her master for seven years, during which time the master teaches the apprentice all the skills needed to carry on his particular trade—in Johnny's and Mr. Lapham's case, silversmithing. The master does not pay the apprentice, but he does provide the young helper with room, board, and clothing. The youngest apprentices, like Dusty and the Webb twins, perform unskilled tasks in the master's shop and also in the mistress' house. Older apprentices like Johnny and Rab perform skilled aspects of the trades they are learning. Apprentices and most masters put in long, full days of hard work, with only Sundays and an occasional afternoon break off. Conditions of life for an apprentice depend entirely on the type of master the young person has. Johnny's master, old Mr. Lapham, is benevolent and kind, even though the Laphams can't afford to keep their apprentices bountifully. Rab's master is also his uncle, and both Uncle and Aunt Lorne treat Rab very well and provide him with ample food and clothing.)

2. How did Johnny come to be apprenticed to Mr. Lapham? What jobs is Johnny involved in during the course of the novel?
(Johnny's mother supported herself and her son as a seamstress. Knowing she was dying, she arranged for Mr. Lapham to take Johnny on as an apprentice as soon as she was gone; she wanted Johnny to learn a skilled trade, and his only choice was silversmithing. Johnny's very promising silversmithing career disappears when he burns his hand severely. After failing to find other suitable skilled work, Johnny gets a part-time job as a horse-back deliverer of the Boston Observer newspaper, in Boston itself and in the surrounding countryside. Johnny then also starts delivering messages for the Boston Committee of Correspondence and, later, carries messages for British officers as a possible means of learning valuable information to pass on to the Sons of Liberty.)
3. How is Johnny connected to the Lyte family?
(Johnny's mother was born Lavinia Lyte; her father was the younger brother of Merchant Lyte, so Johnny is that Lyte's grand-nephew and a first cousin once removed of the beautiful Lavinia Lyte, the merchant's daughter. The Lyte family disowned Johnny's mother when she eloped with the French doctor Charles Tremain (aka Latour). At first, Johnny longs to be recognized as a legitimate member of the Lyte family, a connection that Merchant Lyte refuses to acknowledge. But when the Lytes remain loyal to England and prepare to flee Massachusetts, Johnny rejects his connection with that family and gives his allegiance to the new nation that is about to be born.)
4. In what ways is Johnny involved in various events and movements leading up to the Revolutionary War?
(While he lived and worked at the Laphams', Johnny was apolitical and knew little of the growing conflict between the colonies and England. Once he begins working for the Boston Observer, a newspaper very sympathetic to the unhappy colonists, Johnny learns a lot about the issues and gets to know the leading Whigs, or patriots, such as Sam Adams, Paul Revere, John Hancock, and Dr. Warren. Johnny also absorbs a lot of information and opinions from his best friend Rab, who is one of the Sons of Liberty who create mob scenes and take justice into their own hands to thwart English policies and intimidate Tories. While riding Goblin on the Boston Common and around the countryside, Johnny often sees the American militia units drilling. Then Johnny adds express riding for the Boston Committee of Correspondence to his occupations, hired by Sam Adams. At church with Aunt and Uncle Lorne on Sundays, Johnny hears the inflammatory sermons of Doctor Cooper condemning taxation without representation. Members of the Observers' Club, made up of Boston's leading Whigs, meet in Johnny and Rab's attic room; Johnny brings secret messages to

Club members advising them of meetings, and he and Rab prepare and serve punch to Club members during the meetings. Rab enlists Johnny as one of his "Indians" at the Boston Tea Party, dumping the tea into the harbor. When Boston is subsequently occupied by British troops, Johnny shares the Boston populace's anger and oppression. When the inn where Johnny's horse Goblin is stabled is taken over by British officers, Johnny listens to conversations and also carries messages for these men and turns over any pertinent information to Paul Revere and other Whig leaders, as part of an extensive patriot spy system keeping track of British troop movements and plans. Johnny also witnesses a recurring prewar scene: a mob chasing a Tory family out of the countryside back to safety in Boston. The night before the war begins at Lexington and Concord, Johnny brings crucial information on British troop movements to Dr. Warren, Paul Revere, Billy Dawes, and the Christ's Church sexton, which results in the famous two lanterns and Revere's and Dawes' warning rides through the countryside. With many other people of Boston, Johnny witnesses from Beacon Hill the return from Concord and Lexington of the retreating British troops. Finally, Johnny journeys out to Lexington the day after the killings on the green and sees evidence from Charlestown to Lexington of the battle and retreat/pursuit. As the novel ends, Johnny is preparing to join the revolution as a soldier, with the musket he procured for Rab, who died at Lexington.)

Questions 5-8 (Interpretive Level)

5. As a fourteen-year-old apprentice silversmith, Johnny is afflicted with excessive pride in his skills and status (present and future). What examples can you find in the novel of Johnny exhibiting this excessive pride?
(Examples are many and include: Johnny haughtily orders Dusty and Dove around, advising them to "Look sharp" as he assigns them their unskilled tasks, relishing his higher status as an already skilled future silversmith too useful in the shop to be spared for lowly chores. He delights in calling stupid Dove names like "pig-of-a-lose," and he arrogantly calls each of Master Lapham's granddaughters "my girl." Johnny thinks his oral Bible readings to the family are as fine as any preacher might perform. He gets mad at having to say aloud that God likes humble people and dislikes pride. He routinely imagines how he will run things when he becomes a master smith and is in charge of the shop, in ways far superior to Mr. Lapham's approach to his trade. Smugly self-satisfied in his present and future skills, Johnny has a slightly condescending attitude toward his own master, feeling surprised that humble Mr. Lapham once was highly skilled and able to make something so wonderful as the Hancock creamer, and confidently taking customers' orders and even directing Mr. Lapham as to his own work. After the terrible accident, Johnny's former pride in his skill and his status makes it extremely difficult for him to show anyone his crippled hand or to look for any kind of unskilled work.)

6. Describe Johnny's relationship with each of these characters: Rab, Cilla, Lavinia Lyte, Lieutenant Stranger, Dove.

(Rab, the apprentice printer, becomes Johnny's best friend, but Rab is a self-contained person of few words, so Johnny never feels as if he really knows Rab thoroughly. Rab, two years older than Johnny, exerts a steadying influence on the younger, impulsive boy. While Johnny lives with the Laphams as an apprentice silversmith, he and Cilla are good friends, although they express the friendship through frequent teasing; the plan is for Johnny and Cilla to marry when Johnny becomes a master silversmith and takes over the Lapham shop. When Johnny becomes involved in his new life with Rab, the Boston Observer, and patriot activities, he loses interest in Cilla and often fails to meet her on their appointed days. His interest is rekindled by jealousy when he sees Rab and Cilla enjoying each other's company, and he then makes great efforts to visit with Cilla weekly at the Lytes', reestablishing their close friendship. They even obliquely speak of possible future marriage, as both agree that Priscilla Tremain is a fine name. Lavinia Lyte is the object of Johnny's first romantic crush, as Johnny secretly admires the older, rich, and beautiful Lavinia from afar even though he thinks he doesn't much like her. He dislikes the way Lavinia treats Isannah like a pet and Cilla like a stupid lowly servant; Lavinia in return treats Johnny with contempt. In the end, it is Lavinia who explains the true family connection to Johnny, and her statement that he should call her Aunt rather than Cousin abruptly terminates the boy's crush. His relationship with Lieutenant Stranger puzzles Johnny but not the British officer. On the Common, riding together with the lieutenant teaching Johnny and Goblin how to jump, the two interact as equals and friends. Indoors, however, the lieutenant's class-consciousness revives and he rigidly acts like a British officer and "gentleman" and treats Johnny like a clear inferior. As for Dove, Johnny lords it over the older boy at the Laphams', looking down on Dove for his stupidity and loutishness. Later, Johnny is forced to act friendly with Dove when they are both caring for horses at the stable, in hopes of getting some valuable information out of Dove about British plans. Johnny still looks down on, even despises Dove, yet he also protects Dove from some of the worst hazing the British stable boys try to inflict on him.)

7. What are the short- and long-term effects of the crippling injury that Johnny suffers?
(At first, the injury destroys Johnny's self-esteem. His assured future as a master silversmith has dissolved; the source of his pride and self-esteem—his skill with his hands at silver-smithing—has vanished. As a boy with a crippled hand unable to find another skilled trade to work at, Johnny feels he is worthless, an unwanted outcast from society. He is by turns bitter and heartbroken, as when Isannah tells him not to touch her with his "dreadful hand." He hits bottom during the night at his

mother's grave, when he feels that even God has turned away from him. After Johnny takes the job with the Boston Observer, he begins slowly to rebuild his self-confidence and self-esteem. Rab's relaxed assumption that Johnny can perform various tasks like learning to ride Goblin, splitting logs, and writing left-handed inspires Johnny to indeed master these new skills. Following Rab's quiet example, Johnny also learns to check his quick temper and quick tongue. The humbling effects of his struggle to forge a new life extinguish Johnny's former cockiness, arrogance, and overbearing manner and allow the boy to integrate with his new family, friends, and mentors in a loving, accepting, and willing-to-learn-from-others way. At the novel's end, Johnny has moved far beyond narrow self-interest and self-concern. He has become a young man who has identified values in the coming war that he is willing to fight and die for.)

8. What differing views about the American-British conflict does Johnny encounter and consider?
(The novel presents a full range of opinions about the complicated issues. Mr. Lapham disapproves of "these fellows that are always trying to stir up trouble between us and England. Maybe English rule ain't always perfect, but it's good enough for me." This is the Tory point of view: that all differences between England and the colonies can be settled with "time, patience, and respect for government." The Whigs insist that taxation without representation—i.e., Parliament enacting taxes on the colonies although the colonists send no representatives to Parliament to vote for them—is tyranny. The more radical Whigs, like Sam Adams, want a complete break from England—independence—and are willing to go to war to achieve this. The more moderate Whigs seek compromise with England on some basis, short of a war for independence, that will nevertheless protect the colonists' "rights of Englishmen." James Otis voices the most expansive reason for going to war with England: not to protect colonial taxpayers, nor even to secure the "rights of Englishmen," but to win for people all around the world, now and in the future, the right to choose who shall rule over them: "We fight, we die, for a simple thing. Only that a man can stand up." On the British side, while some British officers recognize that colonists and English citizens are "all one people," most British officers consider the colonists to be yokels who owe subservience to the British crown and have no right to object to anything the British government decides for the colonies. British soldiers will "fight like hell" against the colonists if it comes to that, yet many of these regular soldiers are sympathetic to the Whig cause, as are many English citizens back home.)

Questions 9-11 (Critical Level)

9. Esther Forbes has said that in writing this novel, she wanted to show "the excitement of human nature, never static, always changing, often unpre-

dictable and endlessly fascinating." How does she use Johnny to show this "excitement of human nature"?

(Johnny changes and grows in the course of the novel; he is not a static character. He goes from cocky and overbearing to tolerant and cooperative. He bases his self-esteem on a skill that vanishes, he plunges to the depths of no self-esteem, and then rebuilds his self-confidence based on a new set of skills and understandings. As a silversmith apprentice, Johnny is talented but abrasive, charming yet arrogant. Quick-tongued and impulsive, Johnny learns by Rab's example to think before speaking and acting. Cheerful and friendly and outgoing, Johnny also tastes despair and bitterness and hate. He is courageous yet has moments of fear. He values friendship, yet he becomes bored with his dear friend Cilla for a time, and although he considers Rab his best friend, he isn't able to penetrate Rab's ultimately aloof, silent nature. Originally apolitical, Johnny then becomes an ardent Whig/patriot ready to die for the cause of freedom.)

10. What portrait does Forbes paint of the British men—soldiers and officers—occupying Boston?
(She presents a fair, rounded portrait showing different aspects and attitudes. Some British officers are arrogant and treat colonials and their own soldiers with casual violence and personal disregard, as when an officer whacks Rab unconscious for touching a musket; even Lieutenant Stranger, Johnny's boon companion while out riding, treats Johnny as a distinct inferior indoors, in social situations. Other British officers, like the doctor who checks on Rab, are friendly and reasonable, recognizing that "We're all one people, you know." General Gage exhibits remarkable restraint, allowing the Whigs to say and print anything they want about him and his troops. The common British soldiers are quite friendly with the people of Boston—so long as no one tries to interfere with their military mission or their muskets. Sergeant Gale cheerfully marries Madge Lapham. Pumpkin tells Johnny that many of the British regulars are Whigs and favor the patriots' cause; however, he adds, when it comes to fighting, these same soldiers will "fight like hell" for the British side.)
11. What symbolic meaning do the following have: Isannah's statement just before Johnny's accident that "Johnny's going to Hell"; the birth and death room; the green apple Cilla gives to Johnny; Johnny's burning of his genealogy papers; the rising sun?
(Isannah means that Johnny will go to Hell after he dies for working on the Sabbath, but Johnny figuratively goes to Hell in his lifetime when the burning accident cripples his hand and plunges him into unemployment, deep despair, and feelings of utter worthlessness, with only his own grit and self-reliance to pull him back out. Recovering from the burn in the Laphams' tiny birth-and-death room, Johnny the skilled silversmith dies and

Johnny the maimed-hand boy is born. With his old way of life dead, Johnny must now develop an entirely new life for himself. The green apple is a token of Johnny's and Cilla's unripe future, which may or may not be together. The apple might ripen, or it might rot away, or it might be wormy, or it might dry up; it is sure to change, just like human relations and the course of life. In burning the genealogy papers that prove his relationship to the Lytes and his right to his grandfather's house, Johnny rejects his connection with that Tory family and casts his future solidly with the new nation that is starting to emerge. The rising sun as the Lyte family crest represents the Lytes' wealth and power: "Let there be Lyte." But the Milton mob smashes that sun, as the colonists are determined to smash all British/Tory power over them. After the final Observers' meeting, Johnny sees a "new sun rising"—the sun of freedom from tyranny for all people.)

Questions 12-13 (Creative Level)

12. What might the course of Johnny's life have been if he had not suffered the crippling injury?
13. Write some letters between Johnny and Cilla in which Johnny describes his experiences as a young soldier in the American Revolutionary army and Cilla describes life in wartime Boston.

Across the Curriculum

Art

1. Create a colonial-style sign for an artisan's or tradesperson's shop, like the one that hangs outside the *Boston Observer*.
2. Create an illustration of a Minute Man and/or a British soldier with his equipment, labeled with explanations. Or make your own patriot or British uniform to wear in a Revolutionary War reenactment.
3. Create a model or illustration of the Lapham home and shop. Or make a mural showing the many shops and businesses along Hancock's Wharf.
4. Create a model or detailed illustration of one of the ships—the *Dartmouth*, the *Eleanor*, or the brig *Beaver*—that were involved in the Boston Tea Party.

Geography/Mapping

1. On a map of Boston and its environs, trace Johnny's Friday and Saturday newspaper routes (see page 90 of the novel). Also, trace Paul Revere's route on the December ride to Portsmouth,

Revere's and Dawes' routes on the night of April 18-19, and the route taken out and back by the British troops on April 19.

2. Create a map of colonial Boston, labeling as many as possible of the streets, buildings, wharves, and other places mentioned in the novel.

Health

1. Demonstrate the proper first-aid treatments for a burn, depending on its severity. Also, report on how Johnny's very serious burn would be treated in a medical facility today.
2. Johnny's mother "coughed all the time," became terribly weak, was "burned up by fever," and then died. Johnny's lawyer, Josiah Quincy, is frail, "flushed with fever," and his "cough was prophetic of an early death." What is this illness? How common was it in colonial America? What are its causes and symptoms? How was it treated in colonial times, and what is the status of this illness today?
3. Sam Adams, according to the novel, suffers from palsy. What is this illness? How is it treated?

History and Social Studies

1. Create a time line of the Revolutionary War and the events leading up to it.
2. Report orally or in writing on one of the pre-Revolutionary events on your time line, such as the formation and activities of the Committees of Correspondence or the Committees of Safety or the Sons of Liberty, the imposition of the Stamp Act or the tea tax, the Port Act closing Boston Harbor, the Boston Massacre, the meeting of the Continental Congress, or the quartering of British troops in Boston.
3. Report orally or in writing on the role of women or African-Americans in colonial American society and/or in the Revolutionary War.
4. Write a biography of a Revolutionary war figure, in particular, one of those mentioned in the novel, such as Sam Adams, John Hancock, Paul Revere, or Dr. Warren. How accurately is this person depicted in *Johnny Tremain*?
5. Create a chart that shows the worldwide effects over the years of the American Revolution.

6. After reading *My Brother Sam Is Dead* (see Language Arts #3 below), consider this question: How do contemporary events influence a writer's interpretation of a historical event? Note that Sam's authors were writing during the Vietnam War era, while Esther Forbes wrote during World War II; in fact, she started writing *Johnny Tremain* the day after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and the United States finally entered that war.
7. Report orally or in writing on the role of religion in colonial society, and on the extent to which religious beliefs were reflected in colonial laws, especially in Boston and New England in general.
8. Explain more fully the concept of "rights of Englishmen" and "natural rights" cited by Whig leaders to support their cause.
9. Compare the treatment of Boston's people by the occupying British troops in the 1770s with the Nazis' treatment of civilians in countries they occupied during World War II.

Language Arts

1. Read Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem, "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere," and deliver it aloud to the class. Then point out what was inaccurate about Longfellow's tale. You could also write your own, historically accurate and also stirring, poem about this event.
2. Write a newspaper story—for the *Boston Observer*, or for a Tory newspaper—including eyewitness quotes on the Boston Tea Party, the violent confrontation at Lexington Green, or the return of British troops to Boston from Concord and Lexington.
3. Read Christopher and James Lincoln Collier's novel *My Brother Sam Is Dead*. What different messages do Sam and *Johnny Tremain* offer readers about the Revolutionary War?
4. Reread the vivid description of Boston awakening that opens the novel and establishes a strong sense of place. Then write your own vivid description of a setting you know well, using a variety of sensory images—sound, sight and color, smell, and so on.
5. *Johnny Tremain* won the Newbery Medal as "the most distinguished contribution to American literature

for children" in the year of its publication. Nominate your favorite novel for a Newbery Medal, explaining why you think your choice deserves this special honor.

6. What other novels or plays have you read, or videos/films have you seen, in which the main character starts out exhibiting excessive pride, only to suffer a serious fall, as Johnny did? What was the outcome for these other protagonists?

Mathematics

1. Calculate the length of each of the routes on your map of Boston and its environs. How many hours would it take a person on horseback to ride each of these routes? How long would it take to cover these same routes today by car? by bicycle?
2. Johnny figures his silver cup is worth four pounds if sold for old silver, but worth twenty pounds to Merchant Lyte, who owns three matching cups. How much would these amounts be in today's currency?

Music

1. Play (yourself, or via recordings) music of the American Revolution, both songs favored by American and by British troops. Be sure to include "Yankee Doodle."

Science

1. Using visual aids, explain the process of silver-smithing as practiced in colonial America.
2. Create a poster explaining how a musket was fired using powder, ball, bullet, and paper cylinder in both pan and barrel.

Student Involvement Activities

1. Choose either the Whig or the Tory side to defend and argue for in a classroom debate. Use the arguments presented in the novel to support your position, and add more of your own, based on historical arguments and your own opinion.
2. Create a chart that shows the ways in which Johnny Tremain's everyday life is different from and similar to yours. Compare areas such as schooling, meals, work vs. leisure time, religion, family relations, and living conditions.

3. With classmates, dress as Minute Men and British soldiers. Restage the confrontation on the Lexington village green on the school grounds.
4. Visit the Minute Man National Historical Park, which includes the Lexington-Concord Battle Road and Old North Bridge in Concord, and the Lexington Green. Take photographs, collect brochures and maps and other visitor information, and create a class display.
5. Make and serve a meal of colonial-era foods, especially those mentioned in the novel.
6. Alone or as part of a small group, develop a scenario by which the colonists and England avoid war. How is this accomplished? How does it affect the future course of American history?
7. If you are familiar with horses and riding, deliver a class presentation on types of horses, horseback riding, and clothing/gear involved in this activity.
8. Attend a Revolutionary War reenactment event. Take photos and share what you have seen and learned with classmates.
9. Visit Boston and walk the Freedom Trail and other sites mentioned in the novel. Take photos, collect informational materials, and share your experience with classmates. If you can't visit Boston in person, take a virtual tour of these sites on the Internet.
10. Research the history of your local area (or read an old family diary) and then write a historical fiction short story centered on a young person about your age.
11. With classmates, conduct Johnny's trial for stealing the silver cup from Merchant Lyte.

Alternate Assessment

1. Draw up a list of the novel's more important characters. Next to each name, write a brief character description, explain that character's relationship with Johnny, and tell what part the character plays in the novel's plot.
2. On a map of colonial Boston, label and note the places where significant events of the novel take place. On separate sheets of paper, summarize each of these events and give the approximate date when each took place. Or create a time line of the novel's events and then summarize each significant event.
3. In paragraph, outline, or chart form, trace the changes in Johnny's life and behavior, step by step as they occur through the novel.
4. Explain why the Revolutionary War happened, as revealed by the novel. Note causes of British/American conflict, clashes and cooperation between people of differing views, and how and why this conflict came to violence.

Vocabulary

Match each underlined word with its meaning listed below. Write the letter of the meaning in the space next to the sentence number.

- | | | | |
|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| A. trousers | F. complaints of injustice | K. plain, lacking beauty | P. red-faced |
| B. minor fight | G. sense of superiority | L. straight and limp | Q. flabby |
| C. religious | H. crippled, disfigured | M. with resentment | R. flooded |
| D. casually | I. incapable of being beaten | N. taunting remark | S. distant |
| E. scatter | J. military, warlike | O. cool, unexcitable | T. wealth |

- ___ 1. Whatever a "pig-of-a-lose" was, it did describe the whitish, flaccid, parasitic Dove.
- ___ 2. Mr. Lapham took his time blessing the meal. He was a deacon at the Cockerel Church and very pious.
- ___ 3. Such a wealthy patron might lift the Laphams from poverty to affluence.
- ___ 4. Johnny walked all over Boston, his hand thrust deeply in his breeches pocket.
- ___ 5. Seemingly in one month Johnny had become a stranger, an outcast on Hancock's Wharf. He was maimed and they were whole.
- ___ 6. Rab was both friendly and aloof.
- ___ 7. Nonchalantly Rab took out his claspknife, cut hunks of bread from the long loaf.
- ___ 8. The arrogance Johnny now displayed had always been there, but formerly it had come out in pride in his work.
- ___ 9. Johnny combed his lank, fair hair with his fingers.
- ___ 10. Johnny had seen enough of Madge and Dorcas and their suitors to know that the gibe about poor boys aspiring to Miss Lavinia had gone home.
- ___ 11. Mr. Justice Dana was a stout and florid man, dressed in a black silk robe and a great woolly white wig.
- ___ 12. Rab had stepped out of his imperturbable usual self at the dance.
- ___ 13. England had, by the fall of 1773, gone far in adjusting the grievances of her American colonies.
- ___ 14. Off the ships poured a flood, scarlet as a tide of blood. Boston was inundated with British soldiers.
- ___ 15. Pumpkin screwed up his homely little face.
- ___ 16. Sandy, the old war-horse, hearing the drums, the tramp of feet, immediately lifted his head, arched his neck, cocked his tail, and struck a martial attitude.
- ___ 17. Rab laughed at him. He was going to leave. Johnny was gazing at him sullenly.
- ___ 18. Major Pitcairn was saying, "Disperse, ye rebels, ye villains, disperse! Why don't you lay down your arms?"
- ___ 19. From the tavern-keeper Johnny learned for the first time what had happened after the skirmish at Lexington.
- ___ 20. Johnny had seen so much of the British army he had come half to believe that they were, even as they said, invincible.

Comprehension Test A

Part I: Matching (20 points)

Read each character description. In the list below, find the character who matches the description. Write the letter of the character in the space next to the description number. Use each name only once.

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| _____ 1. Rich, dark beauty who is the object of Johnny's at-a-distance crush | A. Johnny Tremain |
| _____ 2. Fat, lazy, resentful boy who is a silversmith apprentice | B. Rab Silsbee |
| _____ 3. Gentle, pious, humble silversmith | C. Cilla Lapham |
| _____ 4. Silversmith apprentice who becomes a horseback messenger | D. Dove |
| _____ 5. Radical patriot leader who suffers from palsy | E. Isannah Lapham |
| _____ 6. Angelic-looking little girl | F. Mr. Lapham |
| _____ 7. Wealthy patriot leader who commissions a silver sugar basin | G. John Hancock |
| _____ 8. Dark, self-contained printer's boy who befriends Johnny | H. Pumpkin |
| _____ 9. British soldier who tries to desert | I. Lavinia Lyte |
| _____ 10. Clever, hard-working girl who may become Johnny's wife | J. Sam Adams |

Part II. Multiple Choice (30 points)

Underline the choice that correctly completes each of these sentences.

- Johnny is dreadfully injured by a **(knife wound, horseback riding accident, burn, gunshot wound)**.
- The Lyte family crest features a **(rising eye, sailing ship, liberty symbol, dot-L-dot)**.
- In Johnny Tremain's Boston, law forbids people to work on **(Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday)**.
- The Lapham home and shop is located on **(Beacon Hill, Hancock's Wharf, Boston Common, Salt Lane)**.
- Johnny recovers from his terrible injury in **(the Boston Hospital, the Lyte mansion, Buckman's Tavern, the Laphams' birth-and-death room)**.
- The opposing political factions in the British-American conflict are **(Whig and Tory, Democrat and Republican, patriot and traitors, Tory and British)**.
- Johnny stables his horse at the **(Bunch of Grapes, Observers, Squeak-Pig, Afric Queen)** inn.
- (John Hancock, Sam Adams, Paul Revere, James Otis)** would like to take Johnny on as a silversmith apprentice.
- Madge Lapham marries **(Mr. Tweedie, Sergeant Gale, Johnny, John Hancock)**.
- Isannah Lapham leaves home to live with **(Johnny and Rab, the Lornes, the Lytes, the Silsbees)**.
- The patriot leader who is sometimes not entirely sane is **(Sam Adams, Billy Dawes, James Otis, Paul Revere)**.
- Lieutenant Stranger teaches Johnny to **(jump horses, shoot a musket, read and write, speak like a British gentleman)**.
- Johnny gets crucial information about British plans to march out of Boston from **(Cilla, Sergeant Gale, Lieutenant Stranger, Dove)**.
- To punish Boston for the Tea party, England **(closes the port of Boston, arrests patriot leaders, forbids printing of patriot newspapers, hangs the Tea Party participants)**.
- At the Lytes' country home in Milton, Johnny finds and burns proof of his **(silversmithing license, family history, real age, criminal record)**.

Comprehension Test A (Page 2)

Part III: Fill-In (20 points)

Write one or two words in each blank to make each statement true.

1. Rab is killed in the face-off against British troops on the green in the village of _____.
2. A young person who is bound by contract to serve a master in order to learn a trade is called a(n) _____.
3. Mr. Lapham repeatedly warns Johnny that the boy has the character flaw of showing much too much _____.
4. Rab is a member of a semi-secret patriot group called the _____ of _____.
5. James Otis declares that the colonists will go to war "So a man can _____ _____."
6. Goblin is Johnny's _____.
7. By profession, the patriot leader Warren is a(n) _____.
8. Johnny is tried in court for allegedly stealing a(n) _____ _____ from Mr. Lyte.
9. Rab is an apprentice at a(n) _____ shop, where the *Boston Observer* is produced.
10. As the novel ends, the _____ War is beginning.

Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Compare Johnny and Rab.
2. How do Johnny's life and character change after his accident at Mr. Lapham's shop?
3. Explain the colonial apprentice system.

Comprehension Test B

Part I: Matching (20 points)

Read each quotation. In the list below, find the character who spoke the words. Write the letter of the character in the space next to the quotation number. Use each name only once.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| A. Johnny Tremain | D. Madge Lapham | G. Paul Revere | I. Lavinia Lyte |
| B. Rab Silsbee | E. Isannah Lapham | H. Pumpkin | J. James Otis |
| C. Cilla Lapham | F. Mr. Lapham | | |

- _____ 1. "Johnny, I don't want you to be always riding them boys so hard. You're getting above yourself. God is going to send you a dire punishment for your pride."
- _____ 2. "You know you have to marry someone whose last name goes with your first. A girl has to think about things like that."
- _____ 3. "Boy, I like it here. I want to live here forever. A farm of my own. Cows. Poor folk can't get things like that over in England."
- _____ 4. "We fight, we die, for a simple thing. Only that a man can stand up."
- _____ 5. "There's my musket—over there. It's better now than any they have.... You can have that musket. I sort of like to think of its going on."
- _____ 6. "If your master wants to cut down, you tell him from me that I'll buy your unexpired time. I think between us we could make some fine things—you and I."
- _____ 7. "I want nothing of them. Neither their blood nor their silver."
- _____ 8. "Precious, would you rather go with me to London and be a great lady and wear silks and jewels and ride in coaches, or stay here and be just another poor working girl like your sister?"
- _____ 9. "Ma says I've got to marry Mr. Tweedie. I can't, I can't marry Mr. Tweedie—not since I met Sergeant Gale."
- _____ 10. "Don't touch me! Don't touch me with that dreadful hand!"

Part II. Multiple Choice (30 points)

Underline the choice that correctly completes each of these sentences.

- This novel takes place in the **(1600s, 1700s, 1800s, 1900s)**.
- John Hancock commissions Mr. Lapham to make him a replacement silver **(sugar basin, spoon, picture frame, belt buckle)**.
- Mrs. Lapham secures the future of the Lapham silversmithing shop by marrying **(Johnny, Paul Revere, Rab, Mr. Tweedie)**.
- After his terrible accident, Johnny finally finds work as a **(soap-maker, clerk, rider, cabin boy)**.
- Rab's master and mistress, the Lornes, are also his **(uncle and aunt, parents, cousins, grandparents)**.
- The fighting at Lexington and Concord takes place in **(March, April, May, September)**.
- Johnny's severe injury is treated by **(Dr. Warren, Cilla Lapham, the midwife Gran' Hopper, a passing sailor)**.
- Rab is an apprentice at a **(printing, silversmithing, merchant's, clockmaker's)** shop.
- Johnny's horse is named **(Patriot, Spook, Pumpkin, Goblin)**.
- Johnny often rides horses on the open space of Boston **(Graveyard, Wharf, Garden, Common)**.
- The *Boston Observer* is a **(tavern, newspaper, merchant ship, filmstrip)**.
- Johnny gets a purse of silver coins from **(Sam Adams, Mr. Tweedie, John Hancock, Merchant Lyte)**.
- Johnny's mother's name before she was married was **(Lavinia Lapham, Priscilla Tremain, Lavinia Lyte, Dorcas Adams)**.
- Pumpkin is killed by **(Minute Men, a Sons of Liberty mob, a British firing squad, a runaway horse)**.
- Johnny's father was a **(British officer, French doctor, Minute Man, Spanish preacher)**.

Comprehension Test B (Page 2)

Part III: Short Answer (20 points)

Write a one- or two-word answer to each of the following questions.

1. What colonial American town is the main setting for this novel? _____
2. What trade is Johnny apprenticed to learn from Mr. Lapham? _____
3. What country rules over the American colonies during the events of this novel? _____
4. What part of his body does Johnny injure severely at the beginning of the novel?

5. What event does Johnny take part in at Griffin's Wharf that involves throwing things into Boston Harbor?

6. What item, given to him by his mother, does Johnny show Merchant Lyte to prove they are related?

7. Who is the author of this novel? _____
8. What treasured type of gun does Johnny finally get for Rab? _____
9. Who is Johnny's childhood friend and, maybe, future wife? _____
10. What war is Johnny planning to fight in as the novel ends? _____

Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Compare Johnny's relationship with Cilla to his relationship with Lavinia Lyte.
2. In what ways does Johnny's new skill at horseback riding involve him in patriot pre-Revolutionary activities?
3. Summarize the views of Tories, moderate Whigs, and radical Whigs.

Answer Key

Vocabulary

- | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. Q | 6. S | 11. P | 16. J |
| 2. C | 7. D | 12. O | 17. M |
| 3. T | 8. G | 13. F | 18. E |
| 4. A | 9. L | 14. R | 19. B |
| 5. H | 10. N | 15. K | 20. I |

COMPREHENSION TEST A

Part I: Matching (20 points)

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. I | 6. E |
| 2. D | 7. G |
| 3. F | 8. B |
| 4. A | 9. H |
| 5. J | 10. C |

Part II: Multiple Choice (30 points)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. burn | 9. Sergeant Gale |
| 2. rising eye | 10. the Lytes |
| 3. Sunday | 11. James Otis |
| 4. Hancock's Wharf | 12. jump horses |
| 5. the Laphams' birth-and-death room | 13. Dove |
| 6. Whig and Tory | 14. closes the port of Boston |
| 7. Afric Queen | 15. family history |
| 8. Paul Revere | |

Part III: Fill-In (20 points)

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Lexington | 6. horse |
| 2. apprentice | 7. doctor |
| 3. pride | 8. silver cup |
| 4. Sons of liberty | 9. printing |
| 5. stand up | 10. Revolutionary |

Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Answers will vary.

COMPREHENSION TEST B

Part I: Matching (20 points)

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. F | 6. G |
| 2. C | 7. A |
| 3. H | 8. I |
| 4. J | 9. D |
| 5. B | 10. E |

Part II: Multiple Choice (30 points)

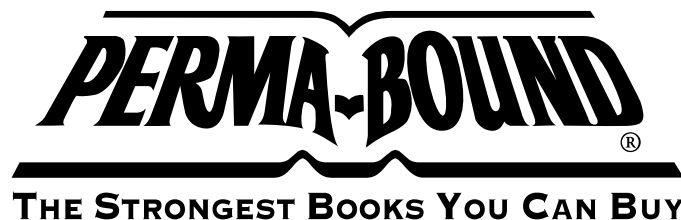
- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. 1700s | 9. Goblin |
| 2. sugar basin | 10. Common |
| 3. Mr. Tweedie | 11. newspaper |
| 4. rider | 12. John Hancock |
| 5. uncle and aunt | 13. Lavinia Lyte |
| 6. April | 14. a British firing squad |
| 7. the midwife Gran' Hopper | 15. French doctor |
| 8. printing | |

Part III: Short Answer (20 points)

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Boston | 6. silver cup |
| 2. silversmithing | 7. Esther Forbes |
| 3. England | 8. musket |
| 4. (right) hand | 9. Cilla |
| 5. Boston Tea Party | 10. Revolutionary |

Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Answers will vary.



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