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Understanding the significance of Thomas Paine's writings is essential for appreciating his influence on American independence and revolutionary thought. When analyzing a passage that discusses Paine's contributions, the critical task is to identify the specific excerpts that support the claim about his role and ideas. This process involves careful reading, comprehension, and interpretation of textual evidence to substantiate assertions about Paine's beliefs, actions, or impact.

In this article, we will explore how to select the correct excerpts within a passage that support the claim that Paine was a pivotal figure in advocating for independence, liberty, and revolutionary change. We will also discuss strategies for identifying these supporting texts, analyze example excerpts, and explain their significance in the context of Paine's legacy.

Understanding the Context of Thomas Paine's Contributions

Before diving into identifying supporting excerpts, it's important to grasp the broader context of Thomas Paine's role in history:

- Author of influential pamphlets: Paine authored *Common Sense* and *The American Crisis*, which galvanized public opinion in favor of independence.
- Advocate of liberty: His writings emphasized natural rights, resistance to tyranny, and the importance of self-governance.
- Revolutionary thinker: Paine's ideas challenged traditional authority and inspired revolutionary movements across the colonies.

Given this background, any passage discussing Paine's influence or ideas will likely include references to his writings, his arguments for independence, or his stance on liberty and justice.

How to Select Supporting Excerpts in a Passage

When tasked with choosing two excerpts that support a specific claim about Paine, follow these steps:

1. Read the Passage Carefully

- Pay attention to the entire passage to understand the main idea and how Paine is portrayed.
- Highlight or underline sentences that mention Paine directly or describe his actions, beliefs, or influence.

2. Identify the Claim or Thesis

- Determine the specific claim the passage makes about Paine. For example, does it claim he was a champion of independence? His writings were persuasive? He was influential in shaping revolutionary thought?

3. Find Evidence That Supports the Claim

- Look for excerpts that explicitly or implicitly reinforce the claim.
- Supportive excerpts often include:
 - Direct quotations from Paine's writings.
 - Descriptions of his impact or influence.
 - Statements that highlight his role as a revolutionary leader.

4. Choose the Most Relevant and Strongest Evidence

- Select excerpts that are clear, specific, and directly related to the claim.
- Avoid vague or tangential statements that do not clearly support the main idea.

5. Verify the Excerpts' Accuracy

- Ensure that the selected excerpts accurately reflect Paine's views or actions.

Analyzing Example Excerpts: Supporting the Claim About Paine

Let's consider hypothetical excerpts that might appear in a passage about Paine. Suppose the claim is: "Thomas Paine was a pivotal advocate for American independence and liberty." The following excerpts could support this claim:

Excerpt 1: "In Common Sense, Paine boldly declared that monarchy was an unnatural form of government, urging the colonies to break free from British rule."

Why it supports the claim:

- It highlights Paine's role as a revolutionary thinker.

- Shows his advocacy for independence.
- Connects his writings directly to the cause of liberty.

Excerpt 2: “Paine’s The American Crisis inspired countless soldiers and colonists to persevere through the hardships of the Revolution, emphasizing that the struggle was for justice and freedom.”

Why it supports the claim:

- Demonstrates Paine’s influence on morale and public opinion.
- Emphasizes his role as a motivator for independence.
- Reinforces his commitment to liberty and justice.

Additional Supporting Excerpts and Their Significance

Other excerpts that could support the claim might include:

- “Paine argued that governments derive their power from the consent of the governed, advocating for a government based on natural rights.”
- “His writings criticized tyranny and called for the establishment of a republic founded on democratic principles.”
- “Paine’s ideas were instrumental in shaping revolutionary ideals, inspiring the drafting of the Declaration of Independence.”

These excerpts emphasize Paine’s philosophical stance on government and human rights, further supporting his role as a champion of liberty.

Implications of Selecting the Correct Excerpts

Choosing the right excerpts is critical for constructing a convincing argument or understanding the passage’s main points. Proper selection:

- Validates the claim about Paine’s influence.
- Clarifies his ideas and actions.
- Provides concrete evidence to support analysis or discussion.

In academic settings, this skill demonstrates comprehension, analytical ability, and the capacity to synthesize textual evidence effectively.

Summary: How to Approach the Question

To effectively identify the two excerpts in the passage that support the claim that Paine was a significant advocate for independence and liberty:

1. Understand the main claim or thesis about Paine.
2. Carefully read the passage for direct or indirect references to Paine's actions, writings, or influence.
3. Highlight potential supporting excerpts that explicitly mention Paine's views or impact.
4. Select the two most compelling and relevant excerpts that clearly reinforce the claim.
5. Ensure that these excerpts are accurate and directly related to the main idea.

By following these steps, you can confidently determine which parts of the passage provide the strongest support for the statement about Paine.

Conclusion

The process of selecting the correct text excerpts in a passage requires attentive reading, critical thinking, and an understanding of the context. When analyzing claims about Thomas Paine, focus on passages that cite his writings, describe his influence on revolutionary movements, or illustrate his philosophical stance on government and liberty. The two excerpts chosen should serve as compelling evidence that firmly uphold the claim, thereby enhancing your comprehension and analytical skills.

Mastering this technique not only improves your ability to interpret texts accurately but also enriches your understanding of historical figures like Thomas Paine who played pivotal roles in shaping the course of history. Whether for academic purposes or personal knowledge, knowing how to identify and support claims with precise textual evidence is a valuable skill in reading comprehension and critical analysis.

Frequently Asked Questions

Which two excerpts in the passage best support the claim that Paine was a passionate advocate for independence?

The first excerpt highlights Paine's call for immediate action and his rejection of reconciliation with Britain, while the second emphasizes his emphasis on liberty and the need to break free from tyranny.

What specific parts of the passage demonstrate Paine's influence on American revolutionary ideas?

The passages where Paine discusses the importance of independence and the need for a new government reflect his role in shaping revolutionary thought, supporting the claim that he was a key advocate for change.

Which two excerpts support the idea that Paine believed in the power of the common people?

One excerpt shows Paine urging ordinary citizens to stand up for their rights, and another describes his belief that the strength of the people is essential for freedom, both supporting the claim of his advocacy for the common people's role.

Which parts of the passage provide evidence that Paine was a persuasive and influential writer?

The passages where Paine's words inspire action and rally support for independence demonstrate his persuasive power, aligning with the claim that he was an influential figure in the movement.

Identify the excerpts that support the claim that Paine was a revolutionary thinker committed to liberty.

The excerpts where Paine advocates for breaking away from monarchical rule and emphasizes liberty and justice support the claim that he was a revolutionary thinker dedicated to these ideals.

Additional Resources

1Select The Correct Text In The Passage.Which Two Excerpts In The Passage Supports The Claim That Paine

In exploring the influential writings of Thomas Paine, a pivotal figure in American history and revolutionary thought, readers often encounter various claims about his perspectives, motivations, and impact. The exercise of selecting the correct textual evidence that supports a particular claim about Paine requires a nuanced understanding of his writings and the context in which they were produced. This article delves into identifying two key excerpts within a passage that substantiate the claim that Paine's work was fundamentally driven by a fervent desire for liberty and justice, and that his rhetoric was both compelling and revolutionary in shaping public opinion. Through a detailed examination, we aim to clarify how specific textual elements bolster this claim and what they reveal about Paine's ideological stance and influence.

Understanding the Context of Thomas Paine's Writings

Before analyzing the excerpts, it is crucial to contextualize Paine's writings within the broader scope of his life and the revolutionary movements he inspired. Thomas Paine (1737-1809) was an English-born American political activist, philosopher, and revolutionary leader whose pamphlets and essays galvanized public sentiment against tyranny and injustice.

- Key works include *Common Sense* (1776), which argued for independence from Britain, and *The American Crisis* (1776-1783), which motivated American troops and citizens during the Revolutionary War.

- Paine's writings are characterized by clear, direct language meant to appeal to ordinary people, challenging traditional authority and advocating for democratic principles.

His writings often emphasized themes such as liberty, equality, and the rights of individuals, making him a central voice in the revolutionary era.

Identifying the Claim: Paine's Advocacy for Liberty and Justice

The central claim under examination here is that Thomas Paine's writings explicitly support the ideals of liberty and justice, and that his rhetoric was intentionally revolutionary to mobilize the masses. When selecting textual evidence, the goal is to find excerpts that:

1. Explicitly articulate the importance of liberty and justice.
2. Demonstrate Paine's conviction that these ideals are fundamental to human rights and societal progress.
3. Show how his language seeks to inspire action and challenge existing authority.

In the passage under analysis, two excerpts stand out as supporting this claim, each illustrating different facets of Paine's revolutionary advocacy.

The First Excerpt: Paine's Assertion of Natural Rights

The first excerpt typically highlights Paine's philosophical stance on human rights. An example might read:

"All men are created equal, and endowed with unalienable Rights, among which are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

Why does this support the claim?

- Explicit Declaration of Rights: This phrase echoes the language of the Declaration of Independence, emphasizing his belief in inherent human rights.
- Universal Application: It underscores that these rights are natural and unalienable, not granted by governments but intrinsic to human existence.
- Foundation for Justice: By framing liberty as a fundamental right, Paine advocates for justice rooted in equality and natural law.

This excerpt supports the claim by demonstrating Paine's ideological foundation—that liberty and justice are natural rights that governments must respect, and that their denial is unjust and illegitimate.

The Second Excerpt: Paine's Call to Action

The second excerpt often includes a rallying call or a provocative statement aimed at inspiring revolutionary action. An example might state:

"The time to part with old ideas and oppressive governments is now. The blood of the slain, the tears of the oppressed, demand a new order—one founded on liberty and justice for all."

Why does this support the claim?

- Emphasis on Urgency: Paine underscores the immediacy of action, suggesting that the status quo is unjust and must be challenged.
- Appeal to Emotions: The mention of "blood" and "tears" evokes emotional responses, aiming to motivate readers toward rebellion against tyranny.
- Revolutionary Language: Words like "part with old ideas" and "new order" reflect a break from tradition and advocate for radical change based on liberty and justice.

This excerpt demonstrates how Paine's rhetoric is designed to inspire revolutionary fervor—making it clear that his writings are not just philosophical musings but calls for tangible societal transformation rooted in the principles of justice.

How These Excerpts Complement Each Other

Together, these two excerpts paint a comprehensive picture of Paine's ideological stance:

- The first excerpt establishes the philosophical and moral foundation—rights rooted in human nature and justice.
- The second excerpt shows how he translates these principles into action, urging society to overthrow unjust systems and embrace liberty.

They reinforce each other: one provides the moral rationale, the other the call to action. Both are essential in understanding Paine's role as a revolutionary writer whose work aimed to empower the common people and challenge oppressive authority.

Broader Significance of the Selected Texts

Choosing these excerpts as supporting evidence is significant because:

- They exemplify Paine's clarity and passion in advocating for fundamental rights.
- They illustrate his strategic use of language—combining moral authority with emotional appeal—to mobilize public opinion.
- They reflect the revolutionary ethos that defined his contributions to American independence.

This approach to textual analysis helps readers appreciate not just what Paine wrote, but why his words had such powerful impact during a pivotal historical moment.

Conclusion: The Power of Paine's Writings

In conclusion, the two selected excerpts effectively support the claim that Thomas Paine's writings championed liberty and justice and employed compelling, revolutionary rhetoric. The first excerpt establishes his philosophical conviction that rights are inherent and universal, serving as the moral backbone of his advocacy. The second demonstrates his strategic use of language to inspire action and challenge the existing authority, transforming philosophical principles into a movement for

societal change.

By carefully analyzing these textual pieces, readers gain a deeper understanding of Paine's role as a revolutionary thinker whose words continue to resonate as a symbol of liberty and justice. His writings exemplify how powerful language can be harnessed to ignite change, making him one of history's most influential advocates for human rights and democratic ideals.

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