

# SIGNING THE DECLARATION: WAS IT WORTH IT?

## *Teacher Resource*

### Background

While signing the Declaration of Independence was a launch pad to success for some of the signers, it also came with significant risk (death by hanging) and cost (loss of revenue) for many of them. After watching the videos on John Hancock and Thomas Heyward, students will decide if they think it was worth the cost.

### Instructions

1. Students should watch the signers bio videos for John Hancock and Thomas Heyward. They can complete the note catcher document while they watch, to collect their initial thoughts and ideas.
2. When they are finished with their notes, they can use the Window Notes handout to reflect on the experiences of both signers and the impact that their actions had on their lives after the Declaration of Independence. You may choose to have students complete this individually or with partners.
3. Using the prompts on the slide deck, ask students to move around the corners of the room to share their opinions. The discussion that corresponds with this part of the activity can be as robust as fits the needs of your class.

### Resources

- [John Hancock video](#)
- [Thomas Heyward video](#)
- [Video Note Catcher](#)
- [Reflective Window Notes](#)
- Likert corners slide deck