THE JOURNAL OF MAJOR GEORGE WASHINGTON, 1754

| NAME_ | | | |
|--------|------|------|--|
| DATE _ | | | |

ADVERTISEMENT.

*** S it was thought adviseable by his Honour the A Governor to have the following Account of my **** Proceedings to and from the French on Ohio, committed to Print; I think I can do no less than apologize, in some Measure, for the numberless Imperfections of it

There intervened but one Day between my Arrival in Williamsburg, and the Time for the Council's Meeting, for me to prepare and transcribe, from the rough Minutes I had taken in my Travels, this Journal; the writing of which only was sufficient to employ me closely the whole Time, consequently admitted of no Leisure to consult of a new and proper Form to offer it in, or to correct or amend the Diction of the old; neither was I apprised, or did in the least conceive, when I wrote this for his Honour's Perusal, that it ever would be published, or even have more than a cursory Reading; till I was informed, at the Meeting of the present General Asembly, that it was already in the Press.

There is nothing can recommend it to the Public, but this. Those Things which came under the Notice of my own Observation, I have been explicit and just in a Recital of:—Those which I have gathered from Report, I have been particularly cautious not to augment, but collected the Opinions of the several Intelligencers, and selected from the whole, the most probable and confishent Account.

G. WASHINGTON.

BACKGROUND

At the age of 21, Major George Washington was asked by the Governor of Virginia, Robert Dinwiddie, to deliver a message to the commander of the French forces in the Ohio Valley. During his mission, Washington wrote about his experiences, including information about the geography of the land he was traversing. When he returned to Virginia, he was asked to write up a report of the mission and submit it to the Governor.

George Washington, not having much time, quickly wrote an account and gave the journal to Governor Dinwiddie the next day. Much to Washington's surprise, the journal was published in Williamsburg and London. He wrote the following Advertisement in response to the publication.

Source: The Journal of Major George Washington, 1754

| VOCABULARY | |
|---|---|
| intervened: the time allowed apprised: informed | cursory: quick, not detailed explicit: stated clearly, detailed |

Answer the following questions:

| 1a. What type of primary source is this? | |
|---|---|
| 1b. When was it created? | |
| 2. What do you notice about the letters or the spelling important to know? | |
| | |
| 3. The word <i>account</i> in the first sentence has multiple of this document? | e meanings. How is the word used in the context |
| a. an explanation of behavior | b. a statement of reasons |
| c. a written description of events | d. a formal record |
| 4. What event does George Washington describe in h support your answer. | |
| 5a. Why did Washington write this document? Provi your answer. | de evidence from the first sentence to support |
| | |
| | |

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| 5b. In the second sentence, what reasons does | s Washington give to support your answer for 5a? |
|---|--|
| Underline the evidence in the text. | |
| | |
| | |
| 6. Reread this statement from the text: | |
| neither was I apprised, or in the least c it ever would be published, or even have n | conceive, when I wrote this for his Honour's Perusal, that more than a cursory Reading |
| Which word or phrase in the statement he "Perusal"? | lps the reader determine the meaning of the word |
| a. published | b. reading |
| c. wrote | d. apprised |
| | |
| 7. In the last sentence, what does Washington | n tell the public about the writings in his journal? |
| Provide evidence form the text to support | your answer |
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| 8. What does this document tell us about the | character of a young George Washington? |
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