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Mrs. McGee

English I Honors

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Informative/Argumentative Writing Assessment: George Washington

In modern times, many leaders have emerged to add their personal achievements and successes to the rich history. One, in particular, is our first President George Washington. Washington is well known for his tenacious personality, his drive for freedom against Britain, and finally his desire to keep newly liberated the United States unified. Washington shows all of this in his Farewell Address once he stated that he would not run for a third term. Washington’s prowess to drive the British out during the Siege of Boston demonstrates his exceptional leadership qualities and skill to become the American hero. His leadership skills especially shined the most when he was given an opportunity to lead our whole country by becoming the first president of the United States. While leadership skills and fighting power are excellent qualities of a hero, George Washington is an exceptional case due to his humble and selfless personality.

The Siege of Boston led by George Washington played a significant role in the American Revolution and symbolized the United States rebelling against Great Britain. It took place in Boston where Great Britain was oppressing the townspeople by taxing them illegally. In the Battle of Trenton, General Washington leads his army to New Jersey and fights the ”formidable garrison of Hessian mercenaries” before he draws back for a week (History.com). Even though he drew back, he comes back even stronger and conquers most of New Jersey, demonstrating his perseverance to keep fighting for the good. His patience and strategic skills showed when he waited for a week to lure the British in, and then came back to surprise the British and won the battle. Not only Washington showed his perseverance through his battles, his selflessness to serve for the country is also demonstrated as he slowly rose in power. “In 1782, peace negotiations began and on September 3, 1783 United States was recognized as a free and independent nation after signing of the Treaty of Paris. Instead of seizing power, Washington resigned as Commander-in-chief and returned as quickly as possible to cultivating his lands” (Rawat). This example showed that when the treaty of Paris was signed, he could have seized more power and became a more prominent authority, but he chose to resign as a Commander-in-chief and cultivate his land. Due to such qualities that inspired many hearts, George Washington was loved and respected by his people.

George Washington was chosen unanimously as the first US president because of his great achievements in the American Revolution. Everybody admired him because of his fearlessness and courage. The townspeople and the higher Authority loved George Washington. When Washington was gaining support to lead the country as the first president,” With 69 electoral votes, Washington won the support of each participating elector. No other president since has come into office with a universal mandate to lead” (D. Jason Berggren). Due to his achievements in the American Revolution, George Washington unanimously got all the votes of the electors and became the first President to come to the office. He served two terms and refused to run the third term.” As the first president, Washington was astutely aware that his presidency would set a precedent for all that would follow. He carefully attended to the responsibilities and duties of his office, remaining vigilant to not emulate any European royal court. To that end, he preferred the title "Mr. President," instead of more imposing names that were suggested” (Biography.com). By declining to run for office after his second term, Washington’s humbleness set an example for the future presidents, and due to his great legacy as president he was, and is still, respected by the whole nation.

 George Washington will be a powerful hero for the game due to his leadership and tactic skills to lead an army, while also being a humble and a selfless man who never gave up the fight for his country. His strength and tactics are displayed when he conquered most of New Jersey during the Battles of Trenton. He put forth himself as an example for other leaders to follow when he declined to run for his third term as president. His strength and admiration led him to win the electoral vote unanimously. George Washington’s integrity and perseverance helped the American society win the American Revolution, and his character greatly influenced the beliefs and ideas of the American culture in the past, present and future.

Sincerely,

Anshul Vij

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Reflection:

 This essay was about a letter you would send to Sony to accept the game you are making. You had to pick a hero that you want to write about in your game. You must include examples about the hero and show why he would be the perfect hero for your game. I learned a lot about George Washington and his rise to fame. I want to be courageous and become a leader like George Washington. If I was going to do this again, I would talk more about George Washington’s childhood. I want to know what made him so courageous and why he joined the army.