

Name:  
Class:

Date:

**Directions: Read each section and answer the question with supporting evidence.**

**Washington Crosses the Delaware**

**Part 1-**

...A day or two after reaching Newton we were paraded one afternoon to march and attack Trenton. If I recollect aright the sun was shining brightly, but it had no sooner set than it began to drizzle or grow wet, and when we came to the river it rained. Every man had sixty rounds of cartridges served out to him, and as I then had a gun, as indeed every officer had, I put the number which I received, some in my pockets and some in my little cartridge-box.

**How does Greenwood describe the conditions of the crossing?**

**Main Idea:**

**Evidence:**

Source: *The Wartime Services of John Greenwood: A Young Patriot in the American Revolution*

**Part 2:**

Over the river we then went in a flat-bottomed boat, we had to wait for the rest and so began to pull down the fences and make fires to warm ourselves, for the storm was increasing rapidly. After a while it rained, hailed, snowed, and froze, and at the same time blew a perfect hurricane; so much so that I perfectly recollect, after putting the rails on to burn, the wind and the fire would cut them in two in a moment, and when I turned my face toward the fire my back would be freezing. However, as my usual forcefulness had not forsaken me, by turning round and round I kept myself from perishing before the large bonfire.

**How does Greenwood describe the conditions of the crossing?**

**Main Idea:**

**Evidence:**

**Evidence:**

Source: *The Wartime Services of John Greenwood: A Young Patriot in the American Revolution*

**Part 3**

The noise of the soldiers coming over and clearing away the ice, the rattling of the cannon wheels on the frozen ground, and the cheerfulness of my fellow-comrades, I felt great pleasure,. After our men had all crossed- and there not, as I could see, more 200 of us - we began an apparent torturous march, not advancing faster than a child ten years old could walk, and stopping frequently, though for what purpose I know not. During the whole night it alternately hailed, rained, snowed, and blew tremendously. I recollect very well that at one time, when we halted on the road, I sat down on the stump of a tree and was so numb with cold that I wanted to go to sleep; had I been passed unnoticed I should have frozen to death without knowing it; but as good luck always attended me, Sergeant Madden came made me walk about. We then began to march again, just in the old slow way, until the dawn of day, about half-past seven in the morning.

**How does Greenwood describe the conditions of the crossing?**

**Main Idea:**

**Evidence:**

**Evidence:**

Source: *The Wartime Services of John Greenwood: A Young Patriot in the American Revolution*

**1) If you were Washington, what actions would you have taken based on the conditions shown in the painting and in Greenwood’s recollections? Why?**

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**Challenge Activity:**

The Fall of Fort Washington on the end of Manhattan Island was a crushing blow for the Americans and destroyed all hope of holding anything near New York. General George Washington sent one part of his army to secure the Highlands of the Hudson. With the other part of the army he moved across New Jersey to the southern side of the Delaware River. The Battle of Trenton took place on Christmas night, Thursday, December 26, 1776 in New Jersey. General George Washington crossed the Delaware with a division of his army. It was a treacherous crossing, a violent snowstorm was raging and the Delaware river was full of ice. But George Washington and the determined soldiers crossed the river. The weather changed and the storm turned to freezing sleet and rain but on the soldiers marched on to their destination which was the **Hessian** garrison at Trenton. The American forces under George Washington and Nathanael Greene surprised the German Hessians holding the roads leading inland from the town of Trenton.

***Hessians:** German soldiers working for the British*

**2) How do you think the Battle of Trenton will affect the outcome of the Revolutionary War?**

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