

Pre-Rhetoric Literature Assignment for Co-Op 15

For Pre-Rhetoric Literature Co-Op 15 we will be reading *Johnny Tremain*. Please read through the information and questions below before you begin reading the book. **Please write in complete sentences and restate the question as part of your answer in questions 2-10.**

The genre of *Johnny Tremain* is historical fiction. This means that it is a fictional novel that takes place in the past and may refer to actual people or events. However, other characters or events may come straight from the author's imagination, so a reader can actually "experience" the past. Examine the genre of historical fiction by answering these questions.

1. What actual significant historical events preceded the Boston Tea Party in 1765, 1767 and 1770? Make a small timeline noting each event with its date and a brief description.
2. Which of these events are mentioned in *Johnny Tremain*?
3. Which people in *Johnny Tremain* do you recognize from your history readings?
4. Which people are likely fictional? How do you know?
5. Describe the difference between a Whig and a Tory.
6. One of the most important elements of historical fiction is the setting. What is the general setting of this novel?
7. Using a dictionary, look up 4 unfamiliar words from this book and write their definitions.
8. What role did printers play in the cause of liberty? What fills this role in our society today?
9. What does Mr. Otis mean in his statements about "only that a man can stand up" near the end of Chapter VIII?
10. What do the last three sentences of the book mean to you?