

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag, showing the blue field with white stars and the red and white stripes. The stars are prominent in the upper and lower portions of the frame.

Introduction to American Patriotism

Focusing on the Impact of Historical Writing and the
Patriotism of American Citizens

Key Learning

Reading different genres of historical writing helps us understand important events in America's past and the patriotism of its citizens.

Unit Essential Question

How does historical writing impact our understanding of America's past and the role of patriotism in our country's development?

As we read each of the selections in the unit, think about this question. At the end of the unit, you will be expected to answer this essential question.

Let's Brainstorm

On a sheet of notebook paper, make two columns: one labeled "Fiction" and one labeled "Real."

Now, think of the movies *Titanic*, *Braveheart*, or any historically-based film. In the appropriate columns, list what you know about the movie/event. What was real and what was created just for the film?

This is an example of historical fiction.

Let's Look at Unit Content

We will complete a content map that outlines the focus of our unit—historical writing—and the selections we will read.

- “Paul Revere’s Ride” Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (poetry)
- From *Undaunted Courage* Stephen E. Ambrose (nonfiction)
- “War Party” Louis L’Amour (short story)
- “From *Lincoln: A Photobiography* Russell Freedman (biography)
- “O Captain! My Captain!” Walt Whitman (poetry)
- “The Cremation of Sam McGee” Robert Service (poetry)

Patriotism

- As we read each selection, be prepared to discuss the elements of patriotism exhibited by any (or all) of the following:
 - The author of the selection
 - The historical time period related to the selection
 - The theme or main idea of the selection
 - The characters involved in the selection

You must make connections between the literature and the history of our country.

Unit Key Vocabulary

Patriotism	Narrative poetry	Historical fiction	Informative nonfiction
Primary sources	Secondary sources	Genre	Paraphrasing
Biography	Photobiography	Extended metaphor	Symbolism
Theme	Conflict	Fact	Opinion
Main idea	Predicting	Mood	Generalizing
Tone	Scope	Text organization	Elegy
Ballad			