A Nation Emerges Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Arguments over Independence**

At the outset of the war against Britain, residents of the American colonies were divided over the question of independence. Historians estimate that roughly 40% of the colonists could be considered “patriots,” another 20% would have been “loyalist,” while the remaining 40% would not have had a strong preference, at least at the beginning of the war. Use the information below, your notes from class, and your textbook pages 147-150 to make your best guess to which camp each characteristic profile below might have fallen.

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| --- | --- |
| **Patriots:**   * Also called “Whigs” * Fiercely in favor of independence * Included most of the colonial delegates to the Continental Congress | **Loyalists**   * Also called “Tories” or “Royalists” * Rejected idea of independence * Wanted to remain part of the British Empire |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Profile** | **Patriot/Loyalist/Neutral?** | **Reasoning?** |
| Puritan/Congregationalist minister |  |  |
| Anglican clergy |  |  |
| Planter in South Carolina |  |  |
| Artisan in Salem, MA |  |  |
| Scots-Irish farmer in western North Carolina |  |  |
| Mohawk Indian leader |  |  |
| Shipping merchant who sells American goods overseas |  |  |
| Dock laborer in Falmouth, Massachusetts |  |  |
| German farmer in Pennsylvania |  |  |
| New York merchant who imports goods from Britain |  |  |
| Retired officer in the British Army |  |  |
| Free African-American in Philadelphia |  |  |
| Enslaved African-American in Virginia |  |  |
| Philadelphia merchant in debt to a London bank |  |  |