

1776 Discussion Questions

- What was the most surprising fact you learned about the American soldiers in 1776 from this book?
- How did George Washington's leadership style change throughout 1776, and what challenges shaped him?
- What does Washington's leadership during the retreats and defeats reveal about effective crisis management?
- If you were in Washington's position, what do you imagine would have been the most difficult decision to make?
- What role did ordinary citizens play in the Revolutionary War beyond just being soldiers?
- What do you think was the most important quality that helped the Americans survive the year 1776?
- Why were the victories at Trenton and Princeton so important for American morale?
- How did the British underestimate the American colonists, and what were the consequences?
- Why do you think McCullough chose to focus on 1776 specifically rather than the entire war?
- What does the book reveal about the personal costs of war for both sides?
- How does understanding the hardships and sacrifices of 1776 make you feel about the history of our country?
- What moments in the book made you feel most proud or most worried about the American cause?

- What does it mean to fight for freedom?
- Is that fight won only on the battlefield?