DVD = The Real George Washington by National Geographic

Name _____

Date_____ Period_____

Introduction: This video attempts to paint a more accurate picture of who George Washington really was. As you watch the program, explain how "myths" about George Washington are debunked by the video. Use specific examples from the video to answer the questions.

Myth #1 = George Washington was born into the Virginia aristocracy (elite class) and had lots of wealth.

Why is this not true? Explain using examples from the video.

Myth #2 = George Washington was a humble servant without any personal ambitions.

How does the video show this to be false? What things did Washington do to move up the social ladder? Give specific examples.

Myth #3 = George Washington had a distinguished military record prior to being asked to lead the Revolutionary Army.

According to the video, what were some of George Washington's shortcomings as a military leader?

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Myth #4 = George Washington married Martha Custis because he was romantically in love with her.

According to the video, why did Washington really marry Martha Custis? With whom was he romantically in love? (hint: another woman)

Myth #5 = George Washington was so virtuous that he could not tell a lie.

Give an example from the video that explains why this is definitely not true. Be specific.

Myth #6 = George Washington believed in freedom and equality for all.

Why is this not true? Explain your answer thoroughly.

Myth #7 = George Washington had wooden teeth.

What were his false teeth really made from?

Myth #8 = George Washington had a peaceful death.

Explain why this is not true. What really killed Washington?