E Pluribus Unum. from A gazetteer of the United States of America.

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Image Creator: Hayward, John

Caption: E Pluribus Unum.

Out of many, one. This is the literal translation for the motto of the United States of America. It was a motto suggested by a committee on July 4,



1776. Does that date sound familiar? It was the day our country's Declaration of Independence was signed! While it took many years for a seal of the United States to be finalized, this motto stuck and became the words scribed on the scroll in the beak of a bald eagle. The motto has important meaning for the United States of America. Our country began as land belonging to Great Britain. As we continued to grow, we became 13 colonies. When deciding to fight for our freedom, the colonists decided that they would be more powerful if all of the colonies fought together. Out of 13 colonies came one nation. Out of our 50 states comes one nation. The motto describes our history and our belief that we are a nation that should work together as one!

Comprehension Questions:

- 1. What is the literal translation of the motto "Out of many, one"?
- 2. On what date was the motto of the United States suggested by a committee?

Analytical Questions:

- 3. How does the motto "Out of many, one" describe the history and belief of the United States?
- 4. Explain how the motto relates to the growth of the United States from 13 colonies to one nation.
- 5. What is the significance of the motto being written on the scroll in the beak of the bald eagle?
- 6. On what other documents does the motto *E Pluribus Unum* appear?

Answer Key:

- 1. The literal translation of the motto "Out of many, one" is "E pluribus unum".
- 2. The motto was suggested by a committee on July 4, 1776, the same day the Declaration of Independence was signed.
- 3. The motto describes the history and belief that the United States is a nation that should work together as one, despite being made up of many individual states.
- 4. The motto relates to the growth of the United States from 13 colonies to one nation, as the colonies decided to fight for freedom together, becoming a single, united country.
- 5. The motto being written on the scroll in the beak of the bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States, signifies the importance and prominence of the motto as a representation of the country's unity and strength.
- 6. US currency (money), in our passports, treaties, presidential commissions, and on the seals for all three branches of government.