

ROAD to the AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Britain's victory over France in the imperial struggle for North America (French and Indian War or Seven Years' War) led to new conflicts among the British government, the North American colonies, and American Indians, culminating in the creation of a new nation, the United States. It all began when Britain taxed the colonists without the consent of their assemblies in order to pay for the war debt and defense against American Indians.

Proclamation of 1763

Video (3:00)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKNTBHmWOyA>

Purpose: prohibit further colonial settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains

Why: Response to Pontiac's Rebellion

Where: Line went from Quebec to West FL. Eng. Royal posts at border. Was costly protection for colonists from Amer. Ind.

Colonial Response:

Ignore and resent policy because they view it as an attempt by the British maintain control and prevent westward expansion.

Sugar Act (1764)

Background:

<http://www.masshist.org/revolution/sugar.php>

***Purpose:** Reduce Smuggling

***Problem:** Pay debt of war / Navigation Acts ignored: merchants ship via Dutch who offer cheaper shipping rates

What:

* Reduced tax on molasses (3 to 6 pence) - was being imported from the French West Indies to North America - induce importers to buy molasses from British colonies instead of smuggling from French/Spain

* Vice Admiralty Courts (no trial by jury) - smugglers no longer tried in colonial courts with juries who would simply acquit smugglers, admiralty courts conduct trials without a jury (more found guilty)

Colonial Response:

Alarmed colonists partly because it threatened the profits of colonial merchants already in economic trouble

Currency Act (1764)

Background: <http://www.revolutionary-war.net/currency-acts.html>

Currency Examples: <http://www.coins.nd.edu/ColCurrency/>

What: prohibit colonies from creating new currency

Purpose: solve inflation and control colonies

Problem:

- colonies printing own currency (illegal) to deal with a lack of gold/silver coins (no mines)
- surplus of currency causes a depreciation and no gold to back
- American currency value questionable to merchants

Stamp Act (1765)

Stamp Act video (4:00)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?t=21&v=TYYwW7_zuYI

Stamp Act Congress

<http://loc.gov/exhibits/magna-carta-muse-and-mentor/no-taxation-without-representation.html>

Loyal Nine: <http://www.bostonteapartyship.com/loyal-nine>

Sons of Liberty

<http://www.bostonteapartyship.com/sons-of-liberty>

What: 1st direct tax imposed on colonists (usually tax trade) placed on paper (legal documents, newspapers, playing cards, books)

Stamp Act Congress: delegates from 9 colonies meet in NY to endorse petition that only colonial assemblies can impose taxes, right to consent to taxation was an essential part of colonist freedom (can't ignore assemblies)

Sons of Liberty: Boston and NY had first chapters,

* NYC residents shout "liberty" in streets nightly at end of 1765

* workers and tradesmen, not too wealthy New York merchants

* initially the Loyal Nine

* assaulted home of Thomas Hutchinson, chief justice and lieutenant governor of Mass., and Andrew Oliver, help administer Stamp attacked a building he owned; Ebenezer Mackintosh, a shoemaker led much of this violence and had Boston's working people to follow (2000 men)

Liberty Tree: elm tree where hung an effigy of Andrew Oliver

NYC Sons of Liberty Leaders: Alexander McDougall, Isaac Sears, John Lamb

<p>Committees of Correspondence http://www.bostonteapartyship.com/committees-of-correspondence</p>	<p>(Lamb speaks Dutch, French, German so work with ethnic groups) - post signs "Liberty, Property, and No Stamps", enforce boycotts, 1765, stone Fort George on tip of Manhattan REPEALED by Parliament in 1766, (British merchants/ manufacturers did not wish to lose their American markets) threatened concept of liberty as the Stamp Act Congress felt the right to consent to taxation was essential to people's freedom Committee of Correspondence in Boston communicated with other colonies to encourage opposition (also Sugar and Currency acts)</p>
<p>Declaratory Act (1766) Video (4:+) : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KL_fw4UMP4</p>	<p>Parliament repealed the Stamp Act but issued the Declaratory act; Parliament and King George have the authority to make laws and tax the colonists</p>
<p>Townshend Act (1767) Background: http://www.let.rug.nl/usa/essays/before-1800/townshend-duties-dylan-van-rijsbergen.php</p> <p>Daughters of Liberty https://www.masshist.org/revolution/non_importation.php</p>	<p>What: import duties (taxes on glass, paper, lead, tea, paint imported from Britain) * Board of Customs: created to catch smugglerst Purpose: Pay salaries of Amer. governors and judges. Colonial Response: * Boycotts, petitions, newspaper attacks, * Non-Consumption Movement don't buy British, buy colonial goods Boycott Brazen Head and shops that sell British * Non-Importation Movement 1768 Boston merchants vote to block English trade (boycott British goods) and push NY, Philadelphia and other ports to join boycott (Boston would suspend trade with non-participating colonies) - expire 1770 * <u>Elites support boycott</u> - VA planters temporarily ban import of slaves * <u>Urban artisans</u> - support ban on British goods, increase their sales Boston, Summer 1768, customs officials impounded John Hancock's sloop for trade violations and crowds mobbed the customs office, forcing officials to retire to British Warship until reinforcements - stand down but employ Non-Importation Movement Issues: merchants have large inventory of British goods to sell, not all fully participate in boycott * Daughters of Liberty - homespun clothing = badge of patriotism to support boycott of British made goods; spinning/weaving parties become social engagements REPEALED by Parliament May 1770 (except duties tea) (many colonists eagerly consume British goods again)</p>
<p>Boston Massacre (March 5, 1770)</p> <p>Crispus Attucks & Others in the "Massacre" Video (3:00): http://www.history.com/shows/america-the-story-of-us/videos/boston-massacre</p> <p>Paul Revere Image ("Bloody Massacre"): http://www.paul-revere-heritage.com/boston-massacre-engraving.html</p>	<p>What: British soldiers fired into a Bostonian mob and killed 5 colonists in self-defense * Crispus Attucks killed - 1st martyr for American Revolution (sailor, mixed Ind-Af-white ancestry) * Conclusion: Trial - 8 soldiers + 1 commander, John Adams defends 7 found not guilty, 2 convicted Paul Revere (Boston Sons of Liberty) - silversmith + engraver, Print of Boston Massacre popularize tragic event, influence/support anti-British public opinion (copied Henry Pelham) 1- British Grenadiers are shown in a straight line shooting rifles in a volley -->Disturbance on both sides (belligerent and riotous) 2. Sky Blue, no snow / ice --> Riot occurred after 9pm, cold winter night 3. Crispus Attucks shown as white --> becomes most famous black man to fight for cause (1st martyr) 4. Red on British uniforms and blood (colorized by Christian Remick)</p>

<p>Tea Act (1773) Background: http://www.bostonteatpartyship.com/the-tea-act</p>	<p>What: *save British East India Co. by lowering tea tax and granting a monopoly on American tea trade. Way to help the comp. sell an oversupply of tea. * They bypass merchants and sell directly to shopkeepers. * British Tea is the cheapest available, undercut local merchants</p> <p>Colonial Response: * Even though tea became cheaper, colonists were still being taxed without representation, trick them into buying British goods made them mad when trying to Boycott * Boston Tea Party</p>
<p>Boston Tea Party (December 16, 1773) Boston Tea Party: (Interactive Video/Slide show that is fun, interesting, and quick) http://www.havefunwithhistory.com/activities/btp.html</p>	<p>Boston Tea Party - colonists disguised as Indians boarded 3 ships in Boston Harbor and throw more 342 chests of tea into the water. Loss to East India Company \$1 million today. * NY & Philadelphia turned tea ships back to Britain</p>
<p>Quartering Act (1765 & 1774) Background: http://www.bostonteatpartyship.com/the-quartering-act</p>	<p>What: British soldiers would be housed in American barracks and public houses (if soldiers numerous, use inns, alehouses, barns...) Colonial Response: NYC refused quartering in 1766 for 1,500 soldiers who had to stay on their ship British Response: Parliament suspended NY Gov. and Legislature in 1767 + 69; 1771 NY assembly allocated funds to quarter troops * All colonies (except PA) refuse to comply</p>
<p>Coercive Acts (aka: Intolerable Acts - 1774) Background: http://www.masshist.org/revolution/coercive.php</p>	<p>What: response to Boston Tea Party of 1773 * Close Boston harbor to trade * Self-government ends (no town meetings, no elected councils, no colonial voice) * Quartering Act * Massachusetts Charter of 1691 changed to curtail town meetings & authorize royal governor to appoint members to the councils (usually elected)</p>
<p>Quebec Act (1774) Video (1:36) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93CNllwiydY</p>	<p>It extended the southern boundary of Canada to the Ohio River and granted religious toleration to Catholics in Canada. This act threatened the land claims in Ohio country, and threatened colonists Protestant heritage (Canada - French Catholics) (Threaten Liberty & God)</p>
<p>1st Continental Congress (Sept. 5 1774) Background: http://www.masshist.org/revolution/congress1.php</p> <p>Suffolk Resolves, Declaration of Rights and Grievances, Continental Associations: http://www.bostonteatpartyship.com/continental-congress</p>	<p>1st Continental Congress: Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, 56 leaders , 12 colonies (no GA) <u>Mass</u> - John & Sam Adams <u>VA</u> - George Washington, Richard Henry Lee, Patrick Henry "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" Goal - form a plan of action in response to the Intolerable Acts Congress accepts the following: Suffolk Resolves - encourage Massachusetts to protest Intolerable Acts (stockpile military supplies, prepare for war,operate independent government, with hold taxes, don't obey new laws, delegates from Mass. (Suffolk County), boycott British goods, denounce allegiance to Britain Declaration of Rights and Grievances - argued that Parliament's actions were part of "a system formed to enslave America * establish rights: life, liberty, property, and right to establish own taxes * reasons for rebellion - Boston Port Act, Quebec Act, oppressive royal governors, taxation without representation Convene on Oct. 14, 1774 --> meet May 10, 1775 unless Parliament address concerns</p>

	<p>Continental Association - part of a series of efforts by Cont. Congress to promote unity & to take action against enemies of liberty, called for a complete halt to trade with GB and West Indies</p> <p>Committees of Safety - Continental Congress's effort to promote unity and take action against enemies of liberty - authorized to oversee halt to trade w/ GB, encourage domestic manufacturing, take action against "enemies of American Liberty" (NY assembly doesn't support local enforcement)</p> <p>General Thomas Gage conducted raids of colonial military supplies around Boston (strongest anti-British sentiment)</p>
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<p>Lexington and Concord (April 19, 1775)</p> <p>Video (6:41): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wlq-iA2ARRg</p> <p>http://www.ushistory.org/us/11c.asp</p>	<p>What: General Gage sends British soldiers from Boston to Lexington to capture Sam Adams, John Hancock Concord to seize gunpowder</p> <p>Warning: 2 Lanterns then British attack by sea Regulars: Paul Revere, William Dawes, Dr. Samuel Prescott gallop to warn that the "Regulars were coming"</p> <p>Lexington "the shot heard round the world" 240 Regulars arrived in Lexington, 70 minutemen stood on Lexington Green --> 7 Americans killed</p> <p>Concord - Regulars retreat here after Lexington and thwarted by colonists; British retreat to Boston -> shot at from fences, trees -125 British casualties</p>
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ROAD TO REVOLUTION

DIRECTIONS:

Respond to the question that follows after watching videos, reading the background of events and people, and assessing images. Write a brief essay response that includes an introduction, body and conclusion. I have provided an introduction for you below. You must write your argument using the examples I have in bold. I have underlined the thesis. Write your response in your composition notebook.

QUESTION:

It has been argued that the American Revolution came about primarily through an evolving series of meetings, conventions, and congresses. Support, modify, or refute this contention using specific evidence.

Introduction:

The French and Indian war changed the relationship between the colonists in North American and Britain. The cost of war led to the taxation of the colonies and the end of salutary neglect by Parliament and King George III. Virtual representation angered assemblies, disrupting the colonial tradition of self-rule. As Britain enforced tighter regulations on its colonies to help pay for the French and Indian war, colonists began to resist the forces that threatened their economic activities and political rights. Colonists inched closer to revolution and independence from the British empire as colonial leaders and political activism of laborers, artisans, and women organized to resist these constraints. Revolution resulted from the **Stamp Act, Townshend Act, Boston Massacre, Tea Act, and the Intolerable Acts**. Colonists organized and responded to these threats with the **Stamp Act Congress, Sons of Liberty, Daughters of Liberty, Boston Tea Party, and 1st Continental Congress**. The "shot heard round the world" at Lexington and Concord in 1775 began the military conflict between colonists and their mother country.

Questions:

1. What were the major causes of colonial resistance and ultimately revolution?
2. What were some arguments for resistance?
3. In what ways did colonists organize to resist?
4. What led to a victory by Patriots over Great Britain who had both financial and military advantages?