

**U.S. HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT
HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS
DUE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2008**

I. Required Vocabulary, Names, Events, and Terms Quiz on Thursday

Keep up with these basic terms and you will not only be ready for your quizzes, but you will also be ready for the Regents in June!

French and Indian War, indentured servants, triangular trade, Middle Passage, republic, Enlightenment (and its major thinkers), natural rights, charter, House of Burgesses, Albany Plan of Union, salutary neglect, Proclamation of 1763, mercantilism, Stamp Act, First Continental Congress, Olive Branch Petition, Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, Mayflower Compact, Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Paine, George Washington, John Peter Zenger

II. Introduction to the American Revolution

Read the following and answer the questions on a separate sheet of loose-leaf paper.

For over 150 years after the founding of Jamestown in 1607, England's 13 colonies had, for the most part, managed their own affairs. Each colony had its own legislature and made most of its own laws. The colonists' relations with England were generally good. Over time, however, this relationship began to change. With England far away and across an ocean, people in the colonies slowly began to see themselves as being different. Although they were loyal to England, they had developed a way of life that set them apart from the people who lived in England. They were, in short, becoming "Americans."

In spite of the differences that had developed between the English and American ways of life, the colonists did not consider seeking independence until after 1763. In that year the French and Indian War in America ended. Colonists had fought on the side of England against the French and their Indian allies, but they were angered by the policies England established once peace was achieved. The English government had run up a large war debt, and Parliament decided that the colonies should help pay the cost of the war. It also decided that colonists should help pay to maintain an army along the colonies' western edge for protection against the Indians. To pay for all of this, England demanded that colonists pay several new taxes. The colonists vigorously protested.

In the same year that the French and Indian War ended, Parliament issued the Proclamation of 1763. This law prevented colonists from settling west of the Appalachian Mountains. Its purpose was to keep the peace with the Indians who lived there. The proclamation angered the colonists. They resented a law that prevented them from crossing the mountains and claiming new lands. As a result, the relationship between England and its colonies became even more strained.

1. What do you think caused the people of the colonies to start thinking of themselves as "Americans"?
2. How did the relationship between England and the American colonies change as a result of the French and Indian War?
3. Why did England decide to keep troops along the colonies' western edge after the war?
4. What was the purpose of the Proclamation of 1763, and why did the colonists object to it?

III. Causes of the Revolutionary War

Read the following and answer the questions on a separate sheet of loose-leaf paper.



The Proclamation of 1763 was not the first British law that placed restrictions on the colonists. Laws dealing with business and trade had been in effect for years. Such laws stated that the colonies could not sell products to any country except England or buy products from any country except England. These laws, however, had never been strictly enforced.

The situation changed after 1763. With England in desperate need of money, Parliament looked for a way to make the colonists pay for the British troops stationed in America. Three acts (laws) particularly irritated the colonists. One was the Stamp Act of 1765. It required the colonists to buy stamps and put them on such legal documents as wills, deeds, and marriage licenses. Stamps also had to be placed on newspapers, playing cards, diplomas, and other items. In all, 54 different items required stamps. Although the stamps were inexpensive, the colonists objected to the tax. They felt that only their own legislatures had the right to pass tax laws. In their opinion, being taxed by a legislative body in which they had no elected members was a clear case of “taxation without representation.”

Colonists quickly reacted to the Stamp Act. Some formed secret clubs called the Sons of Liberty. Led by such Patriots as Samuel Adams and Paul Revere, members of the Sons of Liberty broke into the homes of stamp distributors and burned stamps. Sometimes they made dummies of the distributors and hung the dummies from a tree or burned them. A few distributors were even forced out of town. At the same time, colonists started to boycott English goods. (A boycott is the refusal to buy or use a certain product.) The boycott caused merchants everywhere to lose a great deal of money, and they soon began to put pressure on Parliament to repeal (cancel) the Stamp Act. Parliament did repeal the act in 1766, but then it immediately passed the Declaratory Act. This act stated that King George III and Parliament had the authority to make laws for the colonists on any matter.

Another act passed in 1765 that angered colonists was the Quartering Act. It required that colonists provide lodging for British soldiers in places where there were no barracks, or soldiers' quarters. Colonists also had to furnish the soldiers with transportation, fuel, candles, beer, and cider. They even had to wash the soldiers' clothes!

Two years after passing the Stamp Act and Quartering Act, Parliament passed the Townshend Act. The Townshend Act placed taxes on tea, glass, paper, and paint. Its purpose was to pay England's costs of governing the colonies. In addition to taxing products, the law gave the king's officers power to enter a home and search for taxable goods. As with the Stamp Act, colonists reacted to the law by boycotting English goods. Soon imports from England dropped by almost half, and Parliament was forced to repeal the taxes on every item except tea. They kept the tax on tea to show the colonies that Parliament still had the right to tax them.

These and other laws and restrictions all demonstrated the attitude of the king and Parliament that it was colonists' duty to obey England and the laws it created. This attitude eventually led to the Revolutionary War (which is also called the American Revolution).

1. What were the Sons of Liberty?
2. Explain what each of the following laws required colonists to do: Stamp Act, Quartering Act, and the Townshend Act.

3. If you have lived in the 1760s, which of the acts from question 2 do you think you would have resented the most? Why?
4. Why was boycotting a successful way to force Parliament to repeal several unpopular laws?
5. What does “taxation without representation” mean?
6. Why did parliament keep the tax on tea even though it repealed the taxes on all other items?

IV. Patrick Henry

Read the following and answer the questions on a separate sheet of loose-leaf paper.

One man more than any other convinced colonists that only war with England would win them their rights. That man was Patrick Henry of Virginia. Henry was the Revolutionary War’s greatest speaker. When he spoke, people listened.

Although he was very bright, Henry was not a good businessman. As a young man, he failed both at shopkeeping and at farming. Henry’s success finally started when he decided to study law. This was in 1760 when he was 24 years old. He studied for only six weeks before passing the lawyer’s exam required by Virginia. Afterwards, he went on to become famous and wealthy as a trial lawyer.

In 1764 Henry was elected to the Virginia legislature. There he quickly became an effective speaker. In 1765 he attracted widespread attention when he stood before that group and spoke out against the Stamp Act. At the same time, he criticized King George. Those members of the legislature most loyal to the king were shocked at Henry’s words. They could not believe that this young legislator could be so daring. Raising his voice over their accusations of treason, Henry concluded his speech by saying, “If this be treason, make the most of it.”

In 1774 Henry was elected as one of Virginia’s delegates to the First Continental Congress. There he made another stirring speech, one which he ended by saying that “the distinctions (differences) between New Englanders and Virginians are no more. I am not a Virginian, but an American.”

Patrick Henry’s most memorable speech, however, came on March 23, 1775, before the Virginia legislature. This was the speech in which he called on Virginia to be ready to fight against England. He concluded with the famous words, “Give me liberty or give me death!”

Patrick Henry served his country well. He was a member of both Continental Congresses, and he became Virginia’s first governor after independence from England was declared. He was elected governor six times. He never served in the federal government, but he did turn down job offers from several presidents.

Number the following events in the life of Patrick Henry in the order in which they occurred.



1. ____ became a lawyer
 2. ____ gave a speech against the Stamp Act
 3. ____ became governor of Virginia
 4. ____ became an unsuccessful shopkeeper
 5. ____ was elected to the Virginia legislature
 6. ____ gave famous “give me liberty or give me death” speech
7. Do you think the Revolutionary War could have been prevented if the British had arrested Patrick Henry and others like him? Why or why not?

V. The Battle of Saratoga: The Turning Point in the War

Read the following and answer the questions on a separate sheet of loose-leaf paper.

An unexpected event in the war occurred in the fall of 1777. The British were defeated at the Battle of Saratoga in New York.

The British had come up with a plan they hoped would end the war. It involved a three-pronged attack (three groups would advance on Albany, New York, from three different directions). Part of the British plan was for General John Burgoyne to march down from Canada toward Albany with an army of 6,000 soldiers. Another army under General William Howe was supposed to advance on Albany from New York City. A third army commanded by Colonel Barry St. Leger was ordered to move toward Albany from the west. If everything went as planned, the British would capture the area around the Hudson River and cut New England off from the rest of the colonies. (New England consisted of all the colonies north and east of New York.) The British thought the Patriots would surrender once New England was cut off.

The plan failed. Howe decided to attack Philadelphia before leaving for Albany, and St. Leger met with defeat along the way. As a result, neither made it to his destination as planned and Burgoyne was left to face the Americans alone. He retreated from Albany to Saratoga, where he found himself surrounded. The Americans, led by General Horatio Gates, forced Burgoyne to surrender.

Saratoga was a turning point in the war. It convinced France that the Continental Army had the ability to win. France joined the war on the side of America. After Saratoga, the British found themselves fighting a defensive war.

Complete these sentences about the Battle of Saratoga. Write the missing words, one letter per blank, to fill in the puzzle.

1. Burgoyne hoped to capture the area around the _____ River.
2. The British hoped to cut off the area known as _____ from the rest of the colonies.
3. The Battle of Saratoga brought the country of _____ into the war on America's side.
4. Burgoyne's army left _____ and marched south toward Albany.
5. Colonel Barry _____ moved toward Albany from the west.
6. General _____ was supposed to march up from New York City to join Burgoyne.
7. General Horatio _____ led the American forces at the Battle of Saratoga.
8. The British plan of attack called for three armies to meet at _____.

1. _ _ _ S _ _

2. _ _ _ _ _ A _ _

3. _ R _ _ _ _

4. _ A _ _ _ _

5. _ T _ _ _ _ _

6. _ O _ _

7. G _ _ _ _

8. _ _ _ A _ _