

Section 4

The American Revolution

STANDARD III: The student will understand the eras of revolution, expansion, and reform prior to the United States Civil War.

OBJECTIVE 1: Identify and evaluate the impact of the American Revolution.

ELIGIBLE CONTENT QUESTIONS (THIS IS THE STUFF YOU MUST KNOW!)

What are the major causes and consequences of the Revolutionary War?

How did a lack of free trade influence the decision to revolt? What are the basic events of the Boston Tea Party? What were the issues of the second continental congress? What are the basic events of the Boston Massacre? What is the significance of Patrick Henry's speech?

How did George Washington influence the direction and course of the revolution? How did Samuel Adams influence the direction and course of the revolution? How did Paul Revere influence the direction and course of the revolution?

What is the historic significance of the Battle of Saratoga? What is the historic significance of the Battle of Yorktown? What is the historic significance of Valley Forge?

What was the historic consequence of the Treaty of Paris? What was the historic consequence of Recognition of U.S independence? What was the historic consequence of territorial acquisition? What were some of the issues that lead to the War of 1812? What is the significance of impressment and international embargo?

Terms and Concepts for

Section 4: The American Revolution

Adams, Samuel	This was one of the leaders of the Sons of Liberty who dressed as a Native American and boarded ships carrying tea.
Albany Plan of Union (1754)	This is a plan proposed by Benjamin Franklin, but rejected by the colonies, to unite the 13colonies in the war against the French by creating a confederation of American.
Alliance	This was a union of two or more nations joined together for common purposes or goals (e.g., The U.S. and France formed a military alliance in 1778 with the purpose of defeating British forces in America.).
Attucks, Crispus	This was one of the five people killed in the Boston Massacre, he was a free black sailor active in the Sons of Liberty.
Bill of Rights	This is the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution which guarantee certain liberties such as freedom of speech and religion.
Blockade	This was a barrier, usually formed by warships, which surrounds a country and prevents that country from importing or exporting goods.
Boston Massacre (1770)	This was the killing of five Bostonians by British soldiers who claimed they were protecting themselves from a hostile mob.
Boston Port Bill (1774)	This was one of the Coercive Acts (called Intolerable Acts by colonists) which ordered the closing of Boston harbor until the tea that was destroyed during the Tea Party was paid for.
Boston Tea Party	This was a event in which colonists protested the tax on tea by dumping a shipment of tea into Boston Harbor.
Capitalism	This is an economic system based on the private ownership of property and the use of that property to make profits.
Coerce	This means to control or compel by use of force.
Coercive Acts (1774)	These were a series of laws, passed by Parliament, designed to punish Boston for the Boston Tea Party (1773) by (1) closing Boston Harbor with the Boston Port Bill, (2) weakening the power of the elected legislature of Massachusetts, and (3) restricting town meetings in Massachusetts.
Committees of Correspondence	This was a groups of colonists who wrote letters

protesting British rule--some Committees later took on an important political role by appointing delegates to the First Continental Congress.

"Common Sense" (1776)	This was a pamphlet written by Thomas Paine (published in January 1776) which argued that the thirteen colonies should declare themselves independent from Britain.
compensate	This means to pay what is due (e.g., The British wanted the states to compensate Loyalists for their losses during the Revolutionary War.).
confederation	This is a union of states where, generally, the member states retain their sovereignty and the unifying government (central government) may suggest national policies but is unable to force its will upon the member states.
constitution	This is a document which sets down the basic laws and guidelines for government.
Continental Army (1775-1783)	This was an army created by the Second Continental Congress and placed under the command of George Washington.
Declaration of Independence (1776)	This was a document signed by members of the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776 which declared that the 13 British colonies were no longer colonies but rather 13 sovereign and independent states.
Declaratory Act (1766)	This was a law passed which declared that Parliament had the right to tax the colonies if such taxes were for the good of the British Empire.
Duties, Townshend	This was a tax on goods brought into or out of a country.
Emigrate	This means to leave one's homeland to live in another country. For example, thousands of English Puritans emigrated to Massachusetts between 1630 and 1640.
Enlist	This means to join the army, navy, or another branch of military service (e.g., Men who enlist for military service are called enlisted men.).
Entrepreneur	This is a person who starts a new business with his/her own money. The entrepreneur invests money knowing that he/she runs a risk that the business may fail.
Embargo	This means prohibiting entry or departure of ships
French and Indian War	This was called the Seven Years' War in Europe, during this war, Great Britain and France fought each other for the control of

North America.

Federal Government

This is a national government which unites smaller political units, such as states or provinces, into a single nation but which allows its members limited sovereignty.

Federation

This a union of smaller political units, such as states, into a single nation wherein the national government exercises major powers but the states maintain certain powers and rights.

First Continental Congress (1774)

This was a meeting of delegates (chosen by various Patriot groups in the colonies--excluding Georgia) which decided to oppose the Coercive Acts by mounting a colony-wide boycott of British goods.

Free Booter

This was a pirate, buccaneer, or other such plunderer.

Guerilla War Tactics

Patriots used these tactics in the South to strike quickly and then disappear into the woods or swamps.

Grievance

This is a complaint against something thought to be wrong.

Henry, Patrick

This was a prominent burgess (representative) in Virginia whose "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death!" speech in Virginia's House of Burgesses (March, 1775) aroused colonial leaders to revolt against Great Britain and fight for freedom.

Hessians

This is a Soldiers from the German state of Hesse which were hired by King George III of Britain to fight against the rebellious colonists.

Impressment

This was the practice by the British and French, who were fighting each other on the open seas, of taking sailors from United States ships and forcing them to serve in the British or French navy.

Indentured Servant

This was a person who agrees to work for a certain length of time for a person who pays the servant's passage to the colonies.

Intolerable Acts

These were a series of laws designed to punish Boston for the Tea Party and discourage rebelliousness elsewhere by (1) closing Boston harbor with the Boston Port Bill, (2) weakening the power of the elected legislature of Massachusetts, and (3) restricted town meetings.

Iron Act (1750)

This was a law that encouraged colonists to ship crude (raw) iron to England, but prohibited colonists from making finished iron products like farm tools. Many colonists refused to obey this law.

Loyalist	This is an American who remained loyal to the King of Britain during the Revolutionary War.
Mercenary	This is a soldier who is hired to serve in a foreign army (e.g., During the American Revolution, King George hired Hessian mercenaries to fight against the Patriots.).
Militia	This is a military group made up of volunteer citizen-soldiers.
Magna Carta (1215)	This was a document which King John of England was forced to sign stating that nobles were entitled to vote on tax increases and that freemen accused of wrongs were entitled to a trial by jury of their peers.
Mercantilism	This is an economic theory widely held during the 16th and 17th centuries that a favorable balance of exports over imports would result in national wealth (gold) and power and that a nation's economic and colonial policy should be directed toward that end.
Middle Ages	This is the period of time between A.D. 476 (the end of ancient history with the fall of Rome) and A.D. 1453 (the fall of Constantinople to the Turks and the beginning of modern history).
Minutemen	This was a Patriots who volunteered to fight British forces on a moment's notice.
Munitions	This a general term meaning things like guns, bullets, or other war supplies.
Nationalism	This means devotion to one's country.
Natural Rights	These are those rights, such as the right to life, which all people are entitled to by virtue of being human beings--rights which cannot be taken away by government.
Navigation Acts	These were laws passed by Parliament between 1651 and 1673 which required that certain colonial products could only be sold to England and that colonists were required to buy manufactured goods only from England--these laws were intended to enforce England's mercantile system.
New World	This was a name given to North and South America after its discovery by Columbus as distinguished from the known Old World of Europe, Asia, and Africa.
Olive Branch Petition (1775)	This was A document sent by the Second Continental Congress to King George III pledging loyalty to the king and urging him to protect the colonies from Parliament's harsh and "illegal" policies.

Patriots	These were colonists who opposed British policies such as taxation without representation and who came to favor American independence from Britain.
Privateer	This was a privately-owned ship whose captain has been given authority to arm that ship and wage war on the enemy.
Parliament	This is the law-making body of England first established in 1295.
Patriots	These were colonists who opposed British policies such as taxation without representation.
Preamble	This is an introduction to a document which explains why it is being written. The introduction to the U.S. Constitution is called the Preamble.
Proclamation of 1763	This was the British law prohibiting colonial settlement of lands west of the Appalachian Mountains.
Quartering Acts (1765 and 1774)	These were laws which required colonists to provide quarters (housing) for British troops.
Quebec Act (1774)	This was a law which extended the boundaries of Quebec province southward to the Ohio River and, in doing so, deprived colonies such as Virginia and Massachusetts of western lands that had been promised to them in their original charters.
Revolt	This meant to rise up against the government's authority.
Revolution	This means a complete change such as the overthrow of an established government and the creation of a new one.
Representative Government	This is a government made up of officials who are elected by the citizens. These officials speak for, or represent, the citizens who elected them to office.
Salutary Neglect	This was a policy of nonenforcement of the Navigation Acts--the aim of which was to allow freer economic development of the colonies and increased trade between Britain and her colonies.
Search Warrant, General	This was a governmental order that allowed an official to search any building or ship at any time.
Search Warrant, Specific	This is a governmental order that authorizes an official to search a specific location, for a specific purpose, and during a specific period of time.
Second Continental Congress	This was a second meeting of the Continental Congress which at first (1775) urged a change in British policies but, failing that, declared American independence the following year (July 4, 1776).

Sons and Daughters of Liberty	These were the organizations of men and women who actively protested the Stamp Act and other "illegal" British policies.
Stamp Act (1765)	This was a law passed by Parliament which taxed legal documents, newspapers, and almanacs by requiring sellers of those articles to buy stamps from the government and place those stamps on the articles to be sold.
Stamp Act Congress (1765)	This was a meeting of delegates from nine colonies which petitioned the king and Parliament to abandon the Stamp Act on the grounds that it was taxation without representation.
Second Continental Congress	This group of people met between 1775-1781. It was a second meeting of the original Continental Congress whose members signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 and served as the U.S. national government from 1776 to 1781 when it was replaced by the Congress of the Articles of Confederation.
Sons of Liberty	This was a secret group of colonists who came together to organize a boycott, refusing to buy British goods.
Social Contract	This is the idea that a government's authority rests on the consent of the people.
Sovereignty	This means having the highest political authority; not having to obey the laws of any other authority; being totally independent and self-governing.
State	This is a nation; a political authority, especially an independent government, of people who live within certain definite boundaries. (Note: With the Declaration of Independence, the 13 colonies declared themselves to be totally free, independent states. Each state saw itself as an independent and sovereign nation. Later in 1788, when the states ratified the U.S. Constitution, they continued to call themselves "states" even though they had surrendered some of their sovereignty to the federal government.)
Strategy	This is a plan of action such as a plan for winning a war.
Suffrage	This means the right to vote.
Tar and Feather	This meant to cover a person with hot tar and feathers as a method of punishment.
Tariff	This is a tax on imports.
Tory	This was a conservative-minded Englishman, or colonist, who favored royal power and opposed liberal

change.

Townshend Acts (1767)

These were a series of laws that taxed glass, lead, paint, paper, and tea imported into the colonies.

Treatise

This was a book or essay which systematically develops certain ideas or principles and formulates conclusions or theories based on those ideas.

Treaty of Paris (1783)

This was the treaty ending the Revolutionary War in which Great Britain agreed to recognize the independence of the 13 states and surrender to them land westward to the Mississippi River.

Unalienable

This means that which cannot be taken away such as natural, "God given" rights.

Valley Forge

This is where General Washington trained his tired and poorly equipped troops; with the help of other foreign generals, General Washington was able to instill discipline and lift morale that winter.

Washington, George

This person was unanimously chosen by Congress to command the army forming around Boston. He was chosen because he supported colonial independence, he was a strong leader, and, as a Virginian, he would help unite the southern colonies with the rebellion in New England.

Whig

This was a liberal-minded Englishman, or colonist, who favored democratic reform.

Writs of Assistance

General search warrants authorizing officials to search for smuggled goods in any building or ship at any time.

Timeline for

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- 1754-1763 The French and Indian War
- 1764 The Sugar Act
- 1765 The Stamp Act
- 1765 Patrick Henry's "If This Be Treason" speech
- 1765 The Stamp Act Congress
- 1767 Townshend Act
- 1770 The Boston Massacre
- 1773 The Boston Tea Party
- 1774 Boston Port Act (part of the Intolerable Acts)
- 1774 Administration of Justice Act (part of the Intolerable Acts)
- 1774 Massachusetts Government Act (part of the Intolerable Acts)
- 1774 Quartering Act of 1774 (part of the Intolerable Acts)
- 1774 Quebec Act (part of the Intolerable Acts)
- 1774 The First Continental Congress met in Philadelphia.
- 1775 The Rides of Paul Revere and William Dawes
- 1775 The Battles of Lexington and Concord
- 1775 Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys Seize Fort Ticonderoga
- 1775 The Second Continental Congress (met in Philadelphia.
- 1775 Washington named Commander in Chief
- 1775 Battle of Bunker Hill (fought on Breed's Hill)
- 1775 Montgomery captures Montreal for Americans
- 1775 Benedict Arnold's failed attack on Quebec
- 1776 Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" published
- Patriot triumph at Moore's Creek, NC (2/27)
- Continental fleet captures New Providence Island in the Bahamas (3/3)
- The British evacuate Boston (3/17)
- Richard Henry Lee proposes Independence (6/7)
- British defence of Fort Moultrie, SC (6/28)
- Declaration of Independence adopted (7/4)
- Declaration of Independence signed (8/2)
- Arrival of 30,000 British troops in New York harbor
- British win the Battle of Long Island (Battle of Brooklyn) (8/27-30)
- British occupy New York City (9/15)
- British win the Battle of Harlem Heights (9/16)
- Benedict Arnold defeated at Lake Champlain (10/11)
- American retreat at the Battle of White Plains (10/28)
- British capture Fort Washington, NY and Fort Lee, NJ (11/16)
- Washington Crosses the Delaware and captures Trenton (12/26)
- 1777 Washington wins the Battle of Princeton (1/3)
- Washington winters in Morristown, NJ (1/6-5/28)
- Flag Resolution (flag possibly designed by Hopkinson, likely sewn by Betsy Ross) (6/14)
- St. Clair surrenders Fort Ticonderoga to the British (7/5)
- Lafayette arrives in Philadelphia (7/27)
- Americans under Herkimer defeat the British under St. Leger at Fort Stanwix, in the Mohawk Valley in Oriskany, New York (8/6)
- American Militia under General Stark triumph over Hessians at Bennington (8/16)
- British General Howe lands at Head of Elk, Maryland (8/25)
- British success at the Battle of Brandywine, PA (9/11)
- Rain-out at the Battle of the Clouds, PA (9/16)
- Burgoyne checked by Americans under Gates at Freeman's Farm, NY (9/19)
- Paoli Massacre, PA (9/21)

British under Howe occupy Philadelphia (9/26)
 Americans driven off at the Battle of Germantown (10/4)
 Burgoyne loses second battle of Freeman's Farm, NY (at Bemis Heights) (10/7)
 Burgoyne surrenders to American General Gates at Saratoga, NY (10/17)
 Hessian attack on Fort Mercer, NJ repulsed (10/22)
 British capture Fort Mifflin, PA (11/16)
 Americans repulse British at Whitemarsh, PA (12/5-7)
 The Winter at Valley Forge, PA (12/19/77-6/19/78)
 1778 The French Alliance (2/6)
 British General William Howe replaced by Henry Clinton (3/7)
 Van Steuben arrives at Valley Forge
 Battle of Barren Hill, PA (5/20)
 Washington fights to a draw at Battle of Monmouth (6/28)
 George Rogers Clark captures Kaskaskia, a French village south of St. Louis (7/4)
 French and American forces besiege Newport, RI (8/8)
 British occupy Savannah, GA (12/29)
 1779 Militia beat Tories at Kettle Creek, GA (2/14)
 American George Rogers Clark captures Vincennes on the Wabash in the Western campaign (2/25)
 Fairfield, CT, burned by British (7/8)
 Norwalk, CT, burned by British (7/11)
 American "Mad" Anthony Wayne captures Stony Point, NY (7/15-16)
 "Light Horse" Harry Lee attacks Paulus Hook, NJ (8/19)
 John Paul Jones, aboard the Bonhomme Richard, captures British man-of-war Serapis near English coast (9/23)
 The Tappan Massacre ("No Flint" Grey kills 30 Americans by bayonet) (9/28)
 American attempt to recapture Savannah, GA fails (10/9)
 Coldest Winter of the war, Washington at Morristown, NJ
 1780 The Campaign for the South
 British capture Charleston, SC (5/12)
 British crush Americans at Waxhaw Creek, SC (5/29)
 Patriots rout Tories at Ramseur's Mill, NC (6/20)
 French troops arrive at Newport, RI, to aid the American cause (7/11)
 Patriots defeat Tories at Hanging Rock, SC (8/6)
 British rout Americans at Camden, SC (8/16)
 Benedict Arnold's plans to cede West Point to the British discovered (9/25)
 King's Mountain, SC: battle lasted 65 minutes. American troops led by Isaac Shelby and John Sevier defeated Maj. Patrick Ferguson and one-third of General Cornwallis' army. (10/7)
 Washington names Nathanael Greene commander of the Southern Army (10/14)
 1781 Mutiny of unpaid Pennsylvania soldiers (1/1)
 Patriot Morgan overwhelming defeated British Col. Tarleton at Cowpens, SC (1/17)
 The Battle of Cowan's Ford, Huntersville, NC (2/1)
 Articles of Confederation adopted (3/2)
 British win costly victory at Guilford Courthouse, NC (3/15)
 Greene defeated at Hobkirk's Hill, SC (4/25)
 Cornwallis clashed with Greene at Guilford Courthouse, NC (5/15)
 Americans recapture Augusta, GA (6/6)
 British hold off Americans at Ninety Six, SC (6/18)
 "Mad" Anthony Wayne repulsed at Green Springs Farm, VA (7/6)
 Greene defeated at Eutaw Springs, SC (9/8)
 French fleet drove British naval force from Chesapeake Bay (9/15)
 Cornwallis surrounded on land and sea by Americans and French and surrenders at Yorktown, VA (10/19)