

Inspiration for the American Revolution: The Enlightenment



Scientific
Revolution

17th Century
Thinkers

John Locke



ENLIGHTENMENT PHILOSOPHY



- **Enlightenment**—an intellectual movement in 18th Century Europe which promote free-thinking, individualism
 - Dealt with areas such as government, religion, relationships between the people and the government, and natural rights
- Developed by **philosophes**, or social critics, in England and France.

VIDEO: "The Enlightenment and the American Revolution."



- **200-word prompt:** Explain how Enlightenment thinking inspired the American colonists to rebel against the British Empire.



The Philosophes

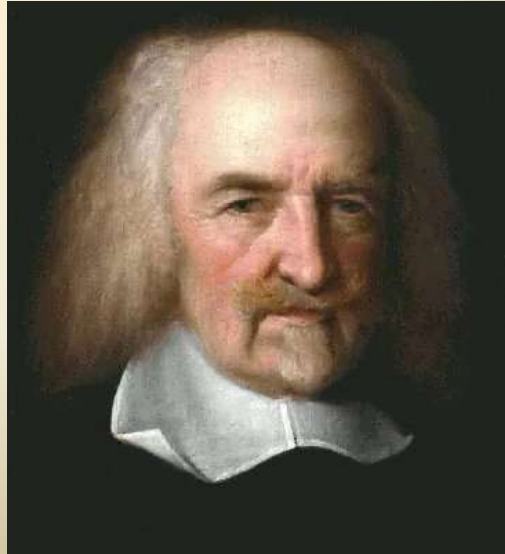


- A group of social critics in France
- Opposed to divine right and absolute monarchies
- Objected to the privileges of the nobility and clergy
- Believed people were capable of governing themselves
- Turned away from traditional religious values; most were atheists or deists (believed in God, not the Church)

The Philosophes:

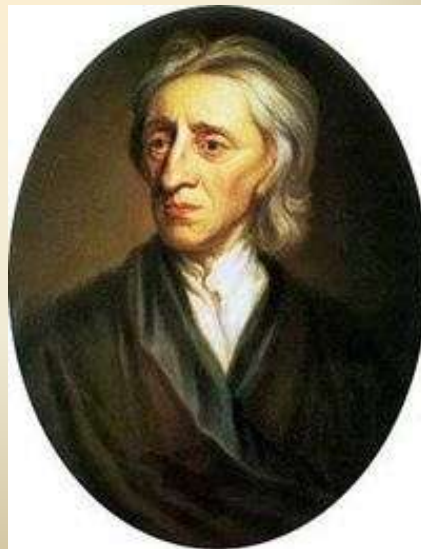
Thomas Hobbes, **1588-1679**

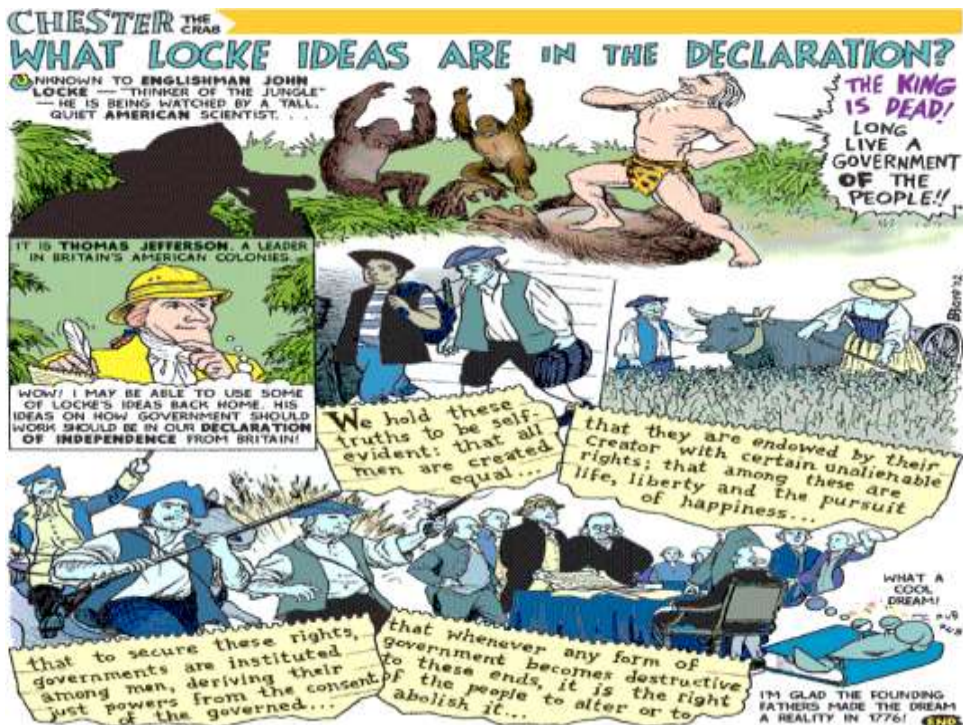
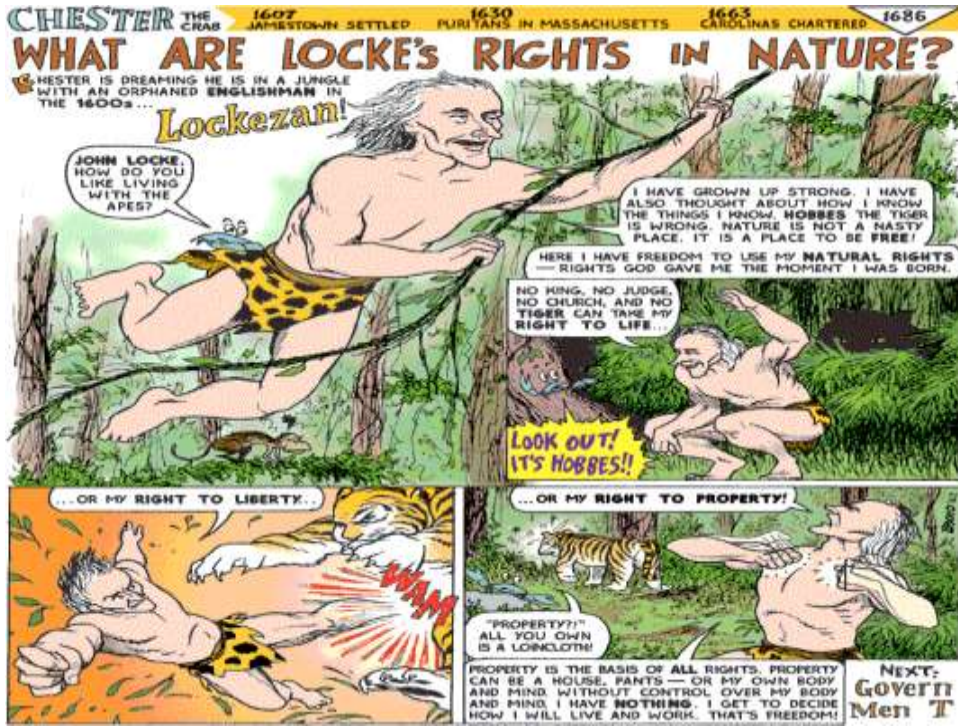
- *Believed that conflict was a part of Human Nature*
- *Hobbes believed that as people we need to make a contract with the government to maintain social order.*
- *Leviathan*



The Philosophes

- **John Locke** (August 29, 1632 – October 28, 1704) was an influential English philosopher and social contract theorist.
- *Believed that all people had Natural Rights: life, liberty, property*
- *The purpose of government is to protect these rights*
- *Government had to gain the consent of the governed.*





The Philosophes:

Baron de Montesquieu,
1689-1755

- Believed in a separation of powers in government
Legislative, Executive and Judicial
- Believed that Liberty of the people must be protected from corrupt leaders.

Persian Letters, 1721

The Spirit of Laws, 1748



The Philosophes:

**•Francois-Marie Arouet
Voltaire**

1694-1778

- Believed in tolerance, reason and limited government

• Quote: "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend your right till the death to say it."

Candide, 1759



The Philosophes: Denis Diderot, 1713-1784



Illustration from his
Encyclopedia, 1751

- Emphasized free will in human affairs.



The Philosophes: Jean-Jacques Rousseau, 1712-1778



- Believed people that lived in a civilized society were happy and unselfish
- People should live in harmony with nature
- Wrote *The Social Contract* in 1763.
 - His most famous line: "Man is born free, and everywhere he is in chains."
- Said that the General Will should take priority over individual will.



The Philosophes: Adam Smith, 1723-1790



Adam Smith, FRSE (baptised June 5, 1723 – July 17, 1790) was a Scottish politician, economist and moral philosopher. His *Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations* was one of the earliest attempts to study the historical development of industry and commerce in Europe. That work helped to create the modern academic discipline of economics and provided one of the best-known intellectual rationales for free trade, capitalism and libertarianism.

America

Influenced by the Enlightenment

America became a country during the heart of the Enlightenment. As a result, it was greatly influenced by the Enlightened thinkers. The Declaration of Independence as well as the US Constitution with its Bill of Rights would probably not have existed if the Enlightenment had not occurred.

America: Influenced by the Enlightenment






The Declaration of Independence: Author: _____ Date: _____

Quote	What Enlightened thinker did this idea come from?
"...All men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness..."	

The Constitution of the United States, 1787

Quote	What Enlightened thinker did each idea come from?
"Article I: Legislative Power..."	
Article II: Nature and Scope of Executive Power..."	
Article III: Judicial Power, Courts, Judges..."	
"Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes law, be presented to the President; if he approves he shall sign it, but if not he shall [veto] it..."	
"...The Senate shall have the sole power to try all Impeachments. When the President is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside. Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal of office..."	
Bill of Rights (in the Constitution)	
Amendment I: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press..."	

People of the Enlightenment -1600s & 1700s

Name	From	Wrote	Main Ideas
 Locke	England	Two Treatises on Gov't	-Observation: gov't exists to "preserve life, liberty, & property" -Hypothesis: people should be sovereign (rule) -Hypothesis: monarchs not chosen by God
 Hobbes	England	Leviathan	-Observation: Life without gov't is "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, & short." -Hypothesis: Absolute gov't needed to control evil behavior (not divine right)
 Montesquieu	France	The Spirit of Laws	-Observation: "When the legislature & executive are united in the same person, there is no liberty (freedom)" -Hypothesis: Gov't must have "Separation of Powers" -- 3 branches
 Rousseau	France	The Social Contract	-Observation: "man is born free, but everywhere he is in chains." -Hypothesis: Gov't is contract between people & rulers. Gov't must be what people want.
 Voltaire	France		-Observation: Life is better with liberty -Hypothesis: Freedom of speech & religion, separation of church & state -"I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."



Case Study - American Revolution 1775-1781

Great Britain (England) had gone through a civil war and then the Glorious Revolution during the 1600s, and as a result, citizens got used to having a say in government. The people that lived in the British colonies in the New World (like Virginia) were British citizens as well.

- 1 Britain believed in mercantilism. Therefore, it wanted colonies to make them rich. Britain really didn't care much about what the colonists wanted. The colonists didn't like this form of government. They wanted a government that did what they needed.

- 2 Britain began passing laws and taxes that colonists had to follow without letting the colonists vote on them. Back in Britain, citizens had a say in government, but in the colonies the citizens did not. American colonists thought they were being treated unfairly. They wanted to have a voice in deciding on laws.

- 3 People in the colonies were very familiar with John Locke's ideas. They agreed with him that people had basic rights that can't be taken away. They also agreed with him that if a government was not good then the people had the right to rebel and create a new one that protected their life and liberty. They felt like the British government was not protecting their rights.

- 4 Britain kept raising taxes on the colonists, which hurt American businesses but helped Britain. Britain sent troops to keep order and then made the Americans pay for them with more taxes. Britain also only allowed American businesses to trade with Britain, which meant the Americans couldn't sell to other countries that could pay more money.

- 5 On top of all this, many people in America had never liked the British government. For example, the Pilgrims and the Puritans had come to America because the government of Britain did not like the way they practiced their religion. Descendants of these groups still disliked Britain for the way their ancestors had been mistreated.

- 6 Finally, the Americans had begun to see themselves as Americans first and British citizens second. They had more in common with each other than they did the British all the way across the Atlantic. Americans began to feel that their people were being ruled by an outside people and instead they wanted independence. They loved their colonies and wanted them to grow into a powerful country independent of Britain.

Each numbered section above is an example of one of these causes of revolutions. Write the number from above in the blank next to the appropriate cause of revolutions.

☐ Social Injustice ☐ Unpopular Method of Rule ☐ Nationalism
☐ Enlightenment Ideas ☐ Religious Intolerance ☐ Economic Distress

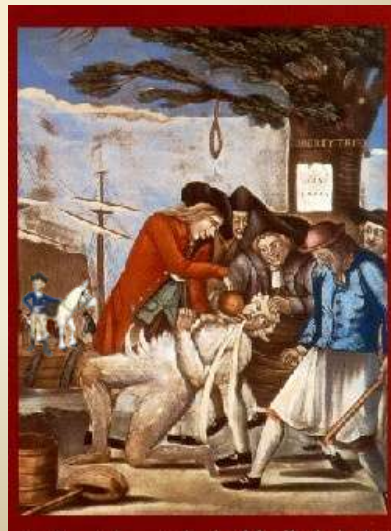
PROCLAMATION OF 1763



MADE SETTLEMENT WEST OF THE APPALACHIANS ILLEGAL. ONE OF THE EARLIEST EVENTS TO CAUSE CONFLICT BETWEEN BRITAIN AND THE COLONIES

Trade and Taxation

- The British followed a national policy of **mercantilism**--an economic theory that the prosperity of a nation (Britain) depends upon its capital as well as the world economy.
 - International trade was based upon the idea that the colonists had to supply the raw materials to the mother country (Britain), which would manufacture the finished product to sell back to the colonists at high prices and taxes!
- The American colonists were outraged. Violent protests began.
- The **Sons of Liberty** were organized by Samuel Adams and Patrick Henry to act out against the Crown.



Tar and Feathering

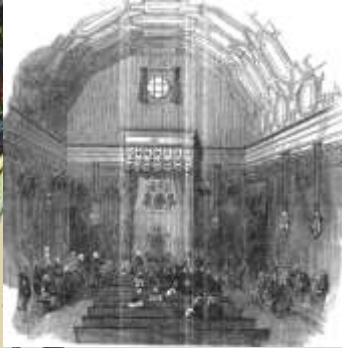


The Coming of Independence



- During the 1760's, Great Britain attempted to control the economic life of its colonies.
- The **Stamp Act** placed the first direct tax on the colonies' legal documents, newspapers, pamphlets, and even playing cards!

TOWNSHEND ACTS



- **TOWNSHEND ACTS (1767)** --ISSUED BY THE PARLIMENT. IT PUT A TAX ON GLASS LEAD, PAINT, AND OTHER ITEMS, IT WAS DIRECTED AT HOME BUILDING

Result: The Boston Massacre (March 5, 1770)



BOSTON MASSACRE

- MISUNDERSTOOD EVENT WHERE 5 COLONIST WERE KILLED AND 10 MORE WERE INJURED BY BRITISH SOLDIERS



Video: The Story Behind the Boston Massacre



Pay attention!!! Your assignments follow!

March 1770

Revolution Banner



Bloody Boston Massacre

March 1770

The British Loyalist

Now, draw a political a pro-British political cartoon here and write a matching editorial, criticizing the colonists for the riot!

The Gaspee Incident (1772)



Providence, RI coast

GASPEE INCIDENT



- **GASPEE INCIDENT**--A BRITISH REVENUE (TAX) SHIP RUNS ASHORE, AND COLONIST BURN IT IN PROTEST

Tea Act (1773)

§ British East India Co.:

Monopoly on Br. tea imports.

Many members of Parl. held shares.

Permitted the Co. to sell tea directly to cols. without col. middlemen (cheaper tea!)

§ North expected the cols. to eagerly choose the cheaper tea.



Committees of Correspondence

Purpose → warn neighboring colonies about incidents with Br.

→ broaden the resistance movement.



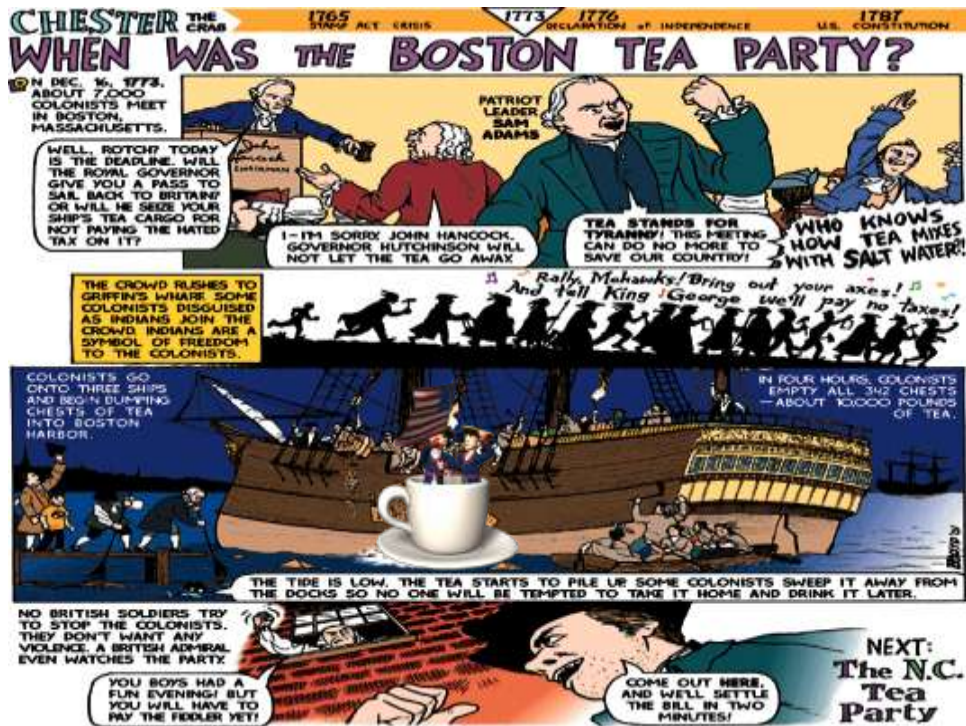
The Coming of Independence



- Angered by increasing taxation without representation, the colonists engaged in the **Boston Massacre (1770)** and staged the **Boston Tea Party (1773)** (left), during which colonists dumped tons of English Tea in Boston Harbor.

Boston Tea Party (1773)





The Coercive or Intolerable Acts (1774)



Lord North

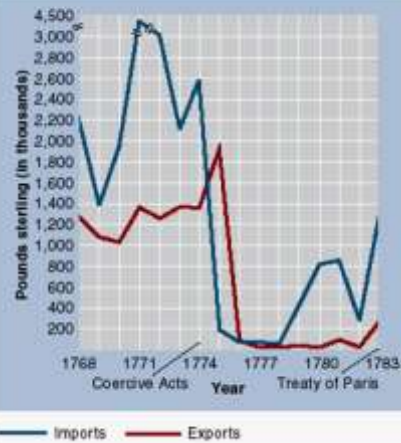


1. Port Bill
2. Government Act
3. New Quartering Act
4. Administration of Justice Act

Exports & Imports: 1768-1783

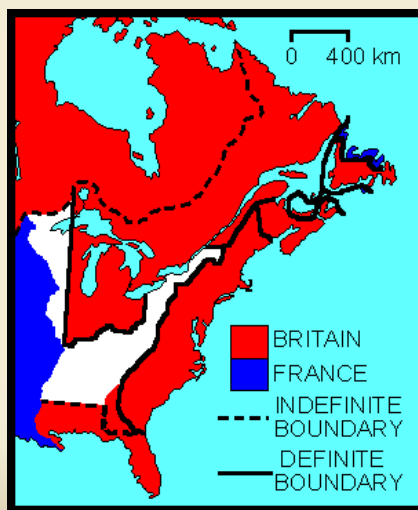


Nonimportation affected colonial commerce during the late 1760s and early 1770s, but exports as well as imports plummeted with the Coercive Acts and the outbreak of war:



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

The Quebec Act (1774)



VERSION #1

Growing Conflict with England

How did England's efforts to tax the colonies lead to the outbreak of war? To help you answer this question, complete the sentences in the chart below. The unfinished sentences for each act's set of boxes appear at the top of the chart.

England passed the act in order to...	Colonists responded to the act's passage by...	England responded to the colonists' objections by...
	1765 Stamp Act	
	1767 Townshend Acts	
	1773 Tea Act	
	1774 Intolerable Acts	

VERSION #2

Causes of the American Revolutionary War



Event	Date	Information about the Event
Proclamation of 1763	1763	
Revenue Act of 1764	1764	
Quartering Act	1764	
Stamp Act	1765	
Townshend Act	1767	
Boston Massacre	March 5, 1770	
Tea Act	May 1773	
Boston Tea Party	Dec. 16, 1773	
Intolerable Acts	1774	
First Continental Congress met in Philadelphia	Sep. 5, 1774	
Virginia Burgesses met	1775	
British land at Concord—Riders warn colonists	Apr. 19, 1775	
Battle of Lexington	May 10, 1775	
Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia	May 10, 1775	
Battle of Bunker Hill	June 17, 1775	
Common Sense written by Thomas Paine	Jan. 10, 1776	
Declaration of Independence	July 4, 1776	

STEPS TO REVOLUTION

Essential Question: Why were 1763 & 1776 turning points in American History?
Do Now: Identify how American colonists were represented in British parliament:

VERSION #3

British Action	Reason for British Action	Colonial React.	Reason for Colonial Reaction
Proclamation of 1763		Resentment and failure to comply	
Sugar Act		Boston organized with boycotts	
Currency Act		Smuggling rampant	
Stamp Act		Petitions, boycott, violence	
Repeal of Stamp Act; Passage of Declaratory Act		Rejoicing over repeal, ignoring Declaratory Act	
Townsend duties		Boycotts, petitions, newspaper attacks	
Tea Act		Protest, Boston Tea Party, boycott	
Quartering Act		Protest in assemblies	
Coercive or "Intolerable Acts"		Boycott, convening, First Continental Congress	

Lexington & Concord		Paine's "Common Sense"	
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Task: Consider the following quote:

"The Americans have made a discovery, or think they have made a discovery, that we mean to oppress them; we have made a discovery, or think we have made a discovery, that they intend to rise up in rebellion against us. We know not how to advance; they know not how to retreat." - Edmund Burke

- How could the British have halted colonial rebellion?
- How could the colonists have made amends with Britain?
- Based upon the completed chart, why do you think that a compromise was not achieved between Britain and the colonies?
- Based upon your readings and the chart, what role do you believe each of the following played in producing widespread support for independence in the colonies?
 - Inept British officials (Charles Townshend; George Grenville)
 - Dedicated Radicals (Samuel Adams; Patrick Henry)
 - Responsible Moderates (John Adams; Benjamin Franklin; Thomas Jefferson)
- How did each of the following affect relations between the mother country and the colonies?
 - Timing of new regulations
 - Distance and lack of an easy means of communications
 - Repeals of the Stamp Act and most Townsend duties

Closure: In your own words – decide whether or not the Revolutionary War was inevitable. Defend your answer.

First Continental Congress (1774)

55 delegates from 12 colonies
meet in Philadelphia in 1774

Agenda → How to
respond to the
Coercive Acts &
the Quebec Act?

1 vote per colony
represented.

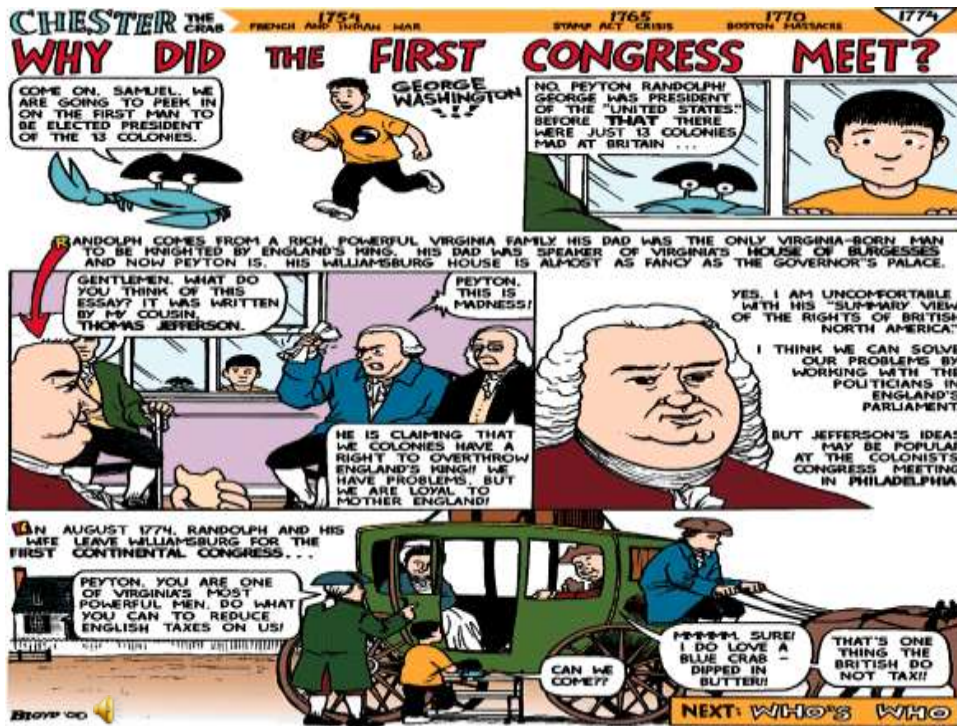


The First Continental Congress: Agenda

• Agenda:

- They were not yet thinking of open rebellion.
- They called for colonial rights of petition and assembly, trial by peers, freedom from a standing army, and the selection of representative councils to levy taxes.
- Began boycott—the refusal to purchase--British goods.





The Shot Heard 'Round the World!



Lexington & Concord - April 18, 1775

The Second Continental Congress

- **King George** of Great Britain refused the demands of the Continental Congress.
- Thus the **Second Continental Congress** convened on May 10, 1775, and were united in their hostility toward Britain. Began to propose independence!
- King George sent 20,000 more troops.



"The Redcoats are coming!"



The Second Continental Congress (1775)



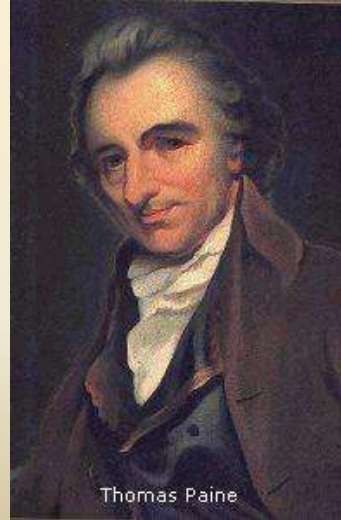
Olive Branch Petition

Thomas Paine:



The Coming of Independence Continued...

- In 1775, **Thomas Paine** wrote **Common Sense**, which attacked every argument that favored King George and encouraged the colonies to become a model for democracy. Paine's work became a rallying cry for those colonists wishing to separate from Great Britain.



Seminar Notes

All answers should be as specific as possible, and unless otherwise stated, given from the point of view from the author. Full credit will be awarded for direct use of the primary source.

USE DIRECT QUOTES FROM THE PRIMARY MATERIAL.

1.2 Common Sense and The Crisis

Thomas Paine

- A. Answer all of the below questions in paragraph form.
1. Explain the following quotes and put them into context;
 - a. "Europe and not England is the parent country of America."
 - b. "It is not in the power of Great Britain to do... justice."
 - c. "In absolute governments the king is law, so in free countries the law ought to be king."
 2. Which arguments are idealistic and which are materialistic?
 3. Where does Paine show evidence of application of the principals of natural law?

ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENT:

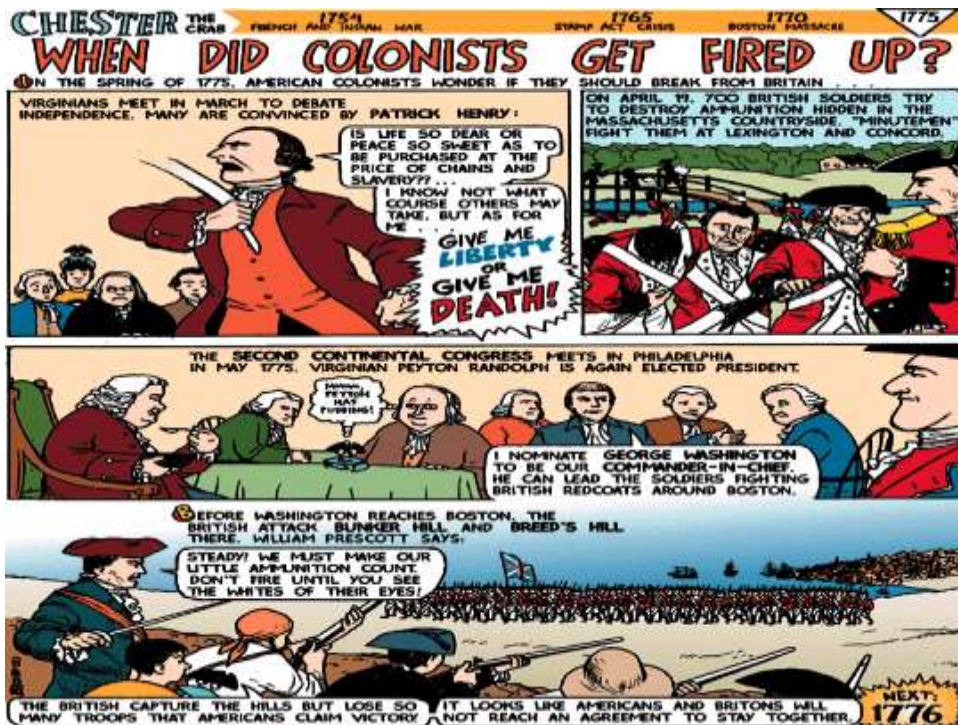
THOMAS PAINE'S "COMMON SENSE"

Directions: Use the following excerpt to answer the question that follow.

"[Books] have been written on the subject of the struggle between England and America. The period of debate is closed. I challenge the warmest advocate for [peace] to show a single advantage that the colonies can gain by being connected with Great Britain. Everything that is right and reasonable pleads for separation. The blood of the slain cries 'TIS TIME TO PART!'"

- Thomas Paine

1. What is Thomas Paine suggesting in this document (in your own words)?
2. What does Paine mean when he says, "I challenge the warmest advocate for [peace] to show a single advantage that the colonies can [gain] by being connected with Great Britain"?
3. Write your own 200-word Common Sense document In which you outline the abuses of Great Britain towards The American colonies and explain the reasons for independence!



Activity: "Give me Liberty, or Give me Death!"



- **Directions:** As a class, we will read Patrick Henry's famous "Give me Liberty, or Give me Death!" speech as well as John Dickenson's "A Speech Against Independence." Then, working in pairs, students will act as delegates from one of the other colonies and write their own such speech, either for or against independence! Once the speeches are read, if the majority of the class votes to join the independence movement, we shall declare war on Great Britain!

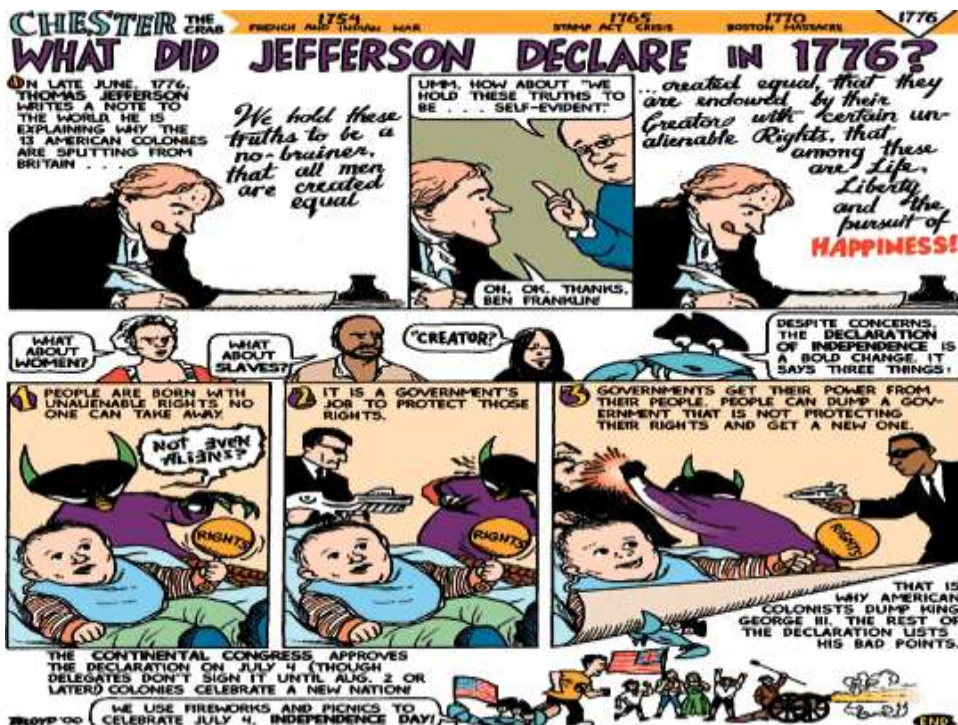
Was the
American Revolution
Inevitable??

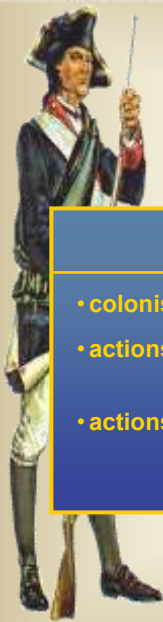
CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.
A DECLARATION
BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

The Declaration of Independence



- In May 1775 **Thomas Jefferson** and the **Second Continental Congress** produced the **Declaration of Independence**.
- On July 2, 1776 the colonies voted for independence (except New York which abstained).
- On July 4, 1776 the Congress adopted the Declaration.






Declaring Independence: What did it all mean? Why was this so “revolutionary?”

Declaration of Independence, July 4th 1776

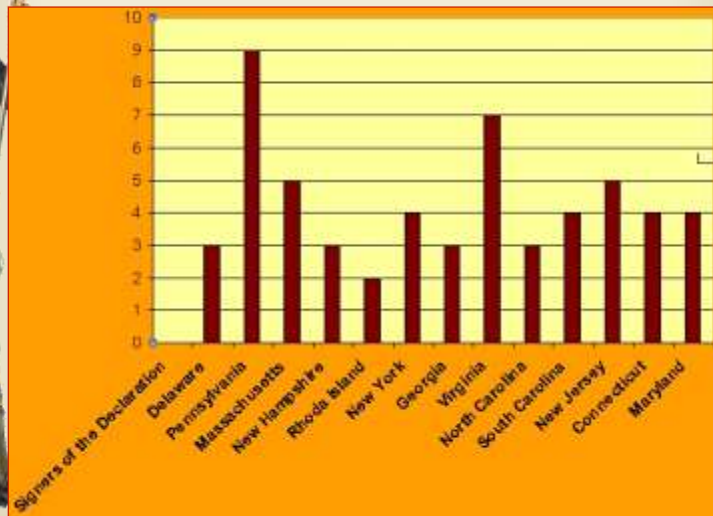
- **colonists' rights**— the colonists have unalienable rights
- **actions of King George III**— King George violated these unalienable rights
- **actions of colonists**— because King George violated these rights, the colonists have the right to be independent



Activity #1: Why was Jefferson chosen to write the Declaration?

- **Directions:** You will read “Writing the Declaration of Independence, 1776,” containing an eyewitness account by John Adams as to why Thomas Jefferson was chosen to write the most important document in our nation’s history. Then, answer these questions:
 - 1) Was Jefferson the right person to write the Declaration? Defend your answer, using detail from the text.
 - 2) Was anything changed or omitted from the original draft the declaration? Why? Explain.

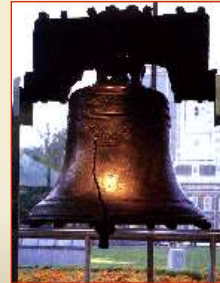
Declaration of Independence



Independence Hall



New National Symbols



Seminar Notes

All answers should be as specific as possible, and unless otherwise stated, given from the point of view from the author. Full credit will be awarded for direct use of the primary source.

USE DIRECT QUOTES FROM THE PRIMARY MATERIAL.

1.3 The Declaration of Independence

Thomas Jefferson

- A. Evaluate and react to the following quotes in paragraph form.
 1. "All men are created equal."
 2. "Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."
 3. "... truths to be self evident."
- B. Answer the below questions in paragraph form.
 1. According to Jefferson, what are the conditions which justify revolution?
 2. What is the role of God in society?

WHAT DID THE DECLARATION ACTUALLY DECLARE?

Directions: Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

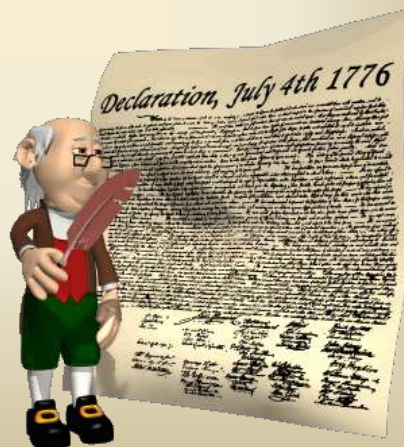
"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute a new government..."

- Declaration of Independence

1. What did the writers of the Declaration of Independence mean when they wrote "all men are created equal"?
2. What natural rights does the Declaration of Independence provide for?
3. Where do people get their natural rights from?

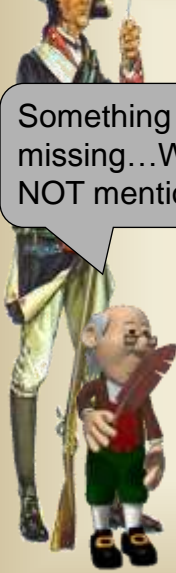
Importance of the Declaration of Independence

- It established the **legitimacy**—legal authority—of a new nation in the eyes of foreign governments.
- It established the **American Creed**, a set of political beliefs which stress natural rights, limited government, equality under the law, and government by **consent of the governed**—the people give government the right to rule.
- The newly formed States began to write their own constitutions which later influenced the Constitution of the United States.
- The State constitutions purposely divided power among three branches, executive, legislative and judicial, and established a system of checks and balances.



The Declaration's Strengths and Limitations

Something is missing...Who is NOT mentioned?



IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776 The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

- *When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.*
- *We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.*

ASSIGNMENT:



- Read and answer the questions to “Letters Between Abigail and John Adams on Women’s Rights.”