

Name: _____ Date: _____

American Revolution Study Guide

Causes

French and Indian War – After the war, Britain started taxing the colonists to help pay back war debt

Sugar Act- Taxed not only sugar, but coffee, cloth, indigo, and wine

Stamp Act- Taxed anything that was printed on paper

Townshend Act- Taxed tea, glass, lead, paints, and paper that the colonies imported; was later repealed, but the tax on tea remained

Boston Massacre- Fight between British soldiers and colonists; 5 colonists were killed

Tea Act- Allowed the East India Tea Company of Britain to sell tea in America at a cheap price. The Tea Act made taxed tea even cheaper than smuggled tea. If the colonists bought the taxed tea, they would be paying a British tax, which still upset them.

Boston Tea Party- Dozens of Sons of Liberty dressed up as Mohawk Indians and boarded ships in the Boston Harbor illegally. They threw the unwanted tea into the Boston Harbor.

Intolerable Acts- After the Boston Tea Party, Lord Frederick North, passed the Coercive Acts to punish the colonists.

First Continental Congress- delegates, or representatives, from each colony met in Philadelphia to discuss the Intolerable Acts

Battle of Lexington and Concord- The British learned that Patriots were storing gunpowder and cannons in Concord, Massachusetts. They sent soldiers to destroy the supplies.

Battles

Battle of Lexington and Concord- The British reached Lexington just before sunrise. They were met by a small group of minutemen. The British told them to leave. As they turned to leave, a shot was fired. No one knows which side, the British or the colonists, shot first. Both sides began shooting at one another.

Battle of Bunker Hill- Militia leaders chose to build a fort on Bunker Hill. The hill gave them the advantage to fire cannons at the British soldiers in Boston. It also made it

difficult for the British soldiers to attack them. The militia chose to build the fort on Breed's Hill instead. Breed's Hill was closer to Boston.

Battle of Trenton- Washington decided to surprise attack an enemy camp in Trenton, New Jersey. Washington's army crossed the Delaware River and attacked Trenton during the night. His army took almost 1,000 prisoners. The Patriots were victorious.

Battle of Saratoga- The Battle of Saratoga was considered a turning point in the war. Benjamin Franklin had been trying to get help with the war from France. After the victory at Saratoga, France was convinced that the Americans could win the war with Britain. France sent money, soldiers, and a navy to help the Americans.

Winter at Valley Forge- During the winter of 1777, the Continental Army was forced to stay in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, after the British captured Philadelphia. There were no huts to sleep on, so soldiers had to sleep on the frozen ground. There was little food and many soldiers died of disease.

Battle of Yorktown- The French Navy blocked Yorktown harbor, so Cornwallis could not be rescued by British ships. Cornwallis was trapped. The British army surrendered at Yorktown. The Battle of Yorktown was the last major battle of the War for Independence.

Important People

George Washington	Paul Revere	Benjamin Franklin
Thomas Jefferson	Benedict Arnold	Patrick Henry
John Adams	King George III	Samuel Adams
Thomas Paine	Crispus Attucks	Lord North
John Hancock	Charles Cornwallis	Baron von Steuben

Declaration of Independence

Preamble - Introduction; States why the declaration is being written

Declaration of Rights - States all people are equal and have the right to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness

Bill of Indictment - States all of the complaints the colonists had against the King and Parliament

Statement of Independence - States the colonies independence from Britain

Signatures - Where delegates to Congress signed their names