

Name:

Class:

7<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Unit II: The Road to Independence

### Part I: Multiple Choice

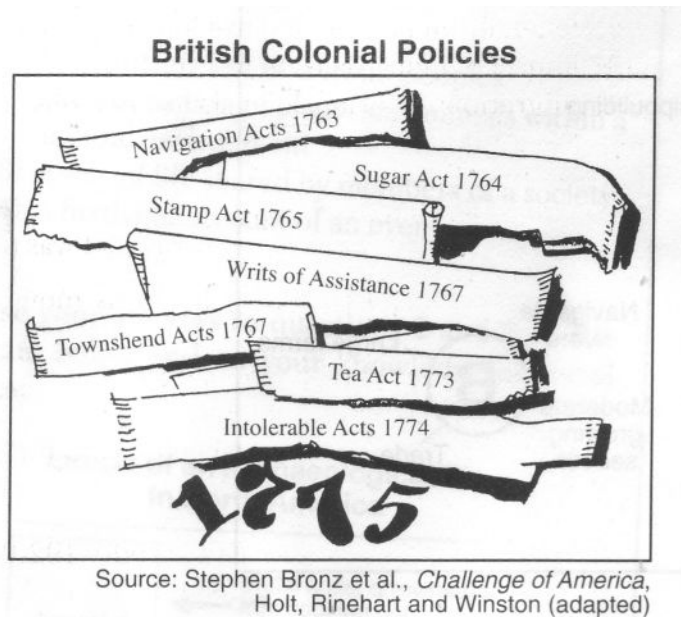
**1. Which was a result of the French and Indian War?**

- a. France controlled the American colonies
- b. Great Britain had a large war debt
- c. Native Americans were forced to leave the Americas
- d. Great Britain lost control of the American colonies

**2. Benjamin Franklin proposed the Albany Plan of Union in 1754 to**

- a. help the colonists defend themselves from the French
- b. encourage colonies to manufacture their own products
- c. force colonies to only trade with the British
- d. create one government out of the 13 colonies

**Base your answer to question 3 on the illustration below and on your knowledge of Social Studies**



**3. The main goal of most policies shown in the illustration was to**

- a. allow American colonists greater self government
- b. allow Great Britain to raise revenues through taxing the colonies
- c. encourage immigration to the colonies
- d. encourage Americans to trade with other European countries

Base your answer to question 4 on the political cartoon below



Source: Benjamin Franklin, *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, May 9, 1754 (adapted)

**4. What do the letters above each section of the snake represent?**

- a. symbols of British cities
- b. initials of the American colonies
- c. letters of Spain's colonies
- d. Native American war symbols

**5. Colonists supported the slogan, “no taxation without representation” because**

- a. they believed they were not represented in the British Government
- b. they did not have colonial governments in the New World
- c. the colonies did not have a King
- d. British leaders did not consider colonists important

**6. What was a result of the First Continental Congress?**

- a. the colonists declared war on the British
- b. the Minutemen were not allowed to fight the British
- c. a new government was created
- d. a statement of grievances to repeal acts of Parliament was written

**7. During the American Revolution, one of the most important ways American women helped the Patriot cause was by**

- a. acting as spies
- b. serving in the military
- c. managing farms
- d. all of the above

**8. Many American colonists believed that British tax laws were unfair because**

- a. Colonists lacked representation in Parliament
- b. The British treasury had a surplus of funds
- c. Native American Indians were exempt from British tax laws
- d. Taxes were higher in the colonies than in England

**9. Colonial boycotts of British goods before the Revolutionary War were effective measures because they**

- a. Reduced the profits of British merchants
- b. Lowered the prices of imported products
- c. Left British troops short of supplies in the colonies
- d. Allowed the Americans to start their own factories

**10. What was a result of the French and Indian War that led directly to the American Revolution?**

- a. The British lost most of their colonies in the Americas.
- b. French colonies expanded west of the Appalachians.
- c. Native American Indians were given lands west of the Appalachians.
- d. England decided to make the American colonists help pay war debts.

**Part II:** Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, answer the constructed response questions that follow each document.

**Part III:** Your answers to the questions will help you write your essay based on the following question:

**Were the American colonists justified in waging war and breaking away from Britain?**

**Historical Context**

English patriotism were widespread at the end of the French and Indian War within the colonies. But only twelve years later, these same American colonists found themselves locked in a bitter and violent conflict with the mother country that had so recently been the object of their proud respect. To this day, now over two hundred years later, the reasons behind this abrupt transition of England and its American colonies from allies to enemies are debated.

**Task**

In four paragraphs argumentative essay(introduction, two body paragraphs, and conclusion), use at least two documents to discuss whether the American colonists justified in waging war and breaking away from Britain?

## Document 1

On March 5, 1770, a crowd of Boston boys and men surrounded a number of British soldiers and began taunting and cursing them while throwing snowballs. Order quickly broke down, and the frightened soldiers fired into the crowd. When the shooting ended, several people were killed and more were wounded. This engraving (picture) by Paul Revere, a leader of the Boston Sons of Liberty, was sent throughout the Colonies in the following weeks to arouse anti-British feelings.



**1a. How does the engraving (Picture) tell a different story from the above description of the Boston Massacre?**

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**1b. Where do you suppose the term "massacre" came from that describes this event?**

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**Document 2**

**This excerpt is from "The Declaration of Independence", adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776.**

“The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations (unlawful seizures), all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms; our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.”

**2a. How does this document describe King George?**

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**2b. Would this excerpt be considered to be an objective or an unbiased statement? Explain.**

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### Document 3

**This excerpt is from "Considerations ...," a pamphlet written by Thomas Whately, Whately was an advisor to George Grenville, British Chancellor of the Exchequer (1763-1765) and the author of the Stamp Act. In this pamphlet, Whately explained why the British were justified in levying taxes on their American colonists.**

“We are not yet recovered from a War undertaken solely for their [the Americans'] Protection ... a War undertaken for their defense only ... they should contribute to the Preservation of the Advantages they have received....”

**3. Why did Whately (and probably most other English officials) feel that the American colonists should be willing to pay higher taxes to Parliament?**

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## Document 4

**In *The Journal of Nicholas Cresswell, 1774-1777*, Cresswell, a young Englishman, kept an account of his travels through the American Colonies. The following excerpts are dated October 19, 1774 and tell of his visit to Alexandria, Virginia.**

“Everything here is in the utmost confusion. Committees are appointed to inspect into the characters and conduct of every tradesman, to prevent them selling tea or buying British manufactures. Some of them have been tarred and feathered, others had their property burnt and destroyed by the populace....

The King is openly cursed, and his authority set at defiance.... everything is ripe for rebellion. The New Englanders by their canting, whining, insinuating tricks have persuaded the rest of the colonies that the government is going to make absolute slaves of them.”

**4. Who did Cresswell blame for the growing antagonism between the British and the American colonists?**

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