

1 ☐2 ☐ **I. Congress Drafts George Washington**

- Second Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia on May 10, 1775:
 - Most important single action—selected George Washington to head army:
 - Choice was made with considerable misgivings
 - He never rose above the rank of colonel
 - His largest command had numbered only 1,200
 - Falling short of true military genius, he would actually lose more battles than he won

3 ☐ **I. Congress Drafts George Washington (cont.)**

- He was gifted with outstanding powers of leadership and immense strength of character
- He radiated patience, courage, self-discipline, and a sense of justice
- He was trusted and insisted on serving without pay
- He kept, however, a careful list of expenses-\$100,000.
- Continental Congress chose more wisely than it knew.

4 ☐5 ☐ **II. Bunker Hill and Hessian Hirelings**

- War of inconsistency was fought for 14 months—April 1775 to July 1776—before fateful plunge into independence.
- Gradually tempo of warfare increased:
 - May 1775 Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold captured garrisons at Ticonderoga and Crown Point in upper New York
 - June 1775 the colonists seized Bunker Hill

6 ☐ **II. Bunker Hill and Hessian Hirelings (cont.)**

- July 1775, Congress adopted Olive Branch Petition:
 - professed loyalty to crown and begged king to prevent further hostilities
- King George III slammed door on all hope of reconciliation:
 - August 1775 he proclaimed colonies in rebellion

–skirmishes were now treason, a hanging crime

7 ☐ **II. Bunker Hill and Hessian Hirelings (cont.)**

- He next hired 1000s of German troops
- George III needed the men
- Because most of these soldiers came from German principality of Hesse, Americans called all European mercenaries Hessians
- News of Hessian deal shocked colonists
- Hessian hirelings proved good soldiers

•

8 ☐

9 ☐ **III. The Abortive Conquest of Canada**

- October 1775, British burned Falmouth (Portland), Maine
- In autumn, rebels undertook a two-pronged invasion of Canada:
 - Successful assault on Canada would add a 14th colony and deprive Britain of valuable base for striking the colonies in revolt
 - Invasion north was undisguised offensive warfare

10 ☐ **III. The Abortive Conquest of Canada (cont.)**

- Invasion of Canada almost successful (Map 8.1)
 - General Richard Montgomery captured Montreal
 - At Quebec, he was joined by army of General Benedict Arnold
 - Assault on Quebec was launched on last day of 1775
 - Montgomery was killed
 - Arnold was wounded

11 ☐ **III. The Abortive Conquest of Canada (cont.)**

- Bitter fighting persisted in colonies:
 - January 1776 British set fire to Norfolk, Va.
 - March 1776 British forced to evacuate Boston
- In South, rebels won two victories:
 - February 1776 against 15,000 Loyalists at Moore's Creek Bridge in North Carolina
 - June 1776 against an invading fleet at Charleston harbor

12 ☐ **IV. Thomas Paine Preaches Common Sense**

- Loyalty to the empire was deeply ingrained:
 - Americans continued to believe they were part of a transatlantic community
 - Colonial unity was weak
 - Open rebellion was dangerous
 - As late as January 1776, the king's health was being toasted—"God save the king"
- Gradually colonists were shocked into recognizing necessity to separate.

13 ☐

14 ☐ **IV. Thomas Paine Preaches Common Sense (cont.)**

- 1776 Common Sense by Thomas Paine:
 - One of most influential pamphlets ever published
 - Began with treatise on nature of government
 - Argued only lawful states were those that derive "their just powers from the consent of the governed"
 - As for king, he was nothing but "the Royal Brute of Great Britain"
 - 120,000 copies were sold in one week

15 ☐

16 ☐ **IV. Thomas Paine Preaches Common Sense (cont.)**

- Tried to convince colonists that true cause was independence, not reconciliation with Britain:
 - Nowhere in physical universe did smaller heavenly bodies control larger ones
 - So why should tiny island of Britain control vast continent of America

17 ☐ **IV. Thomas Paine Preaches Common Sense (cont.)**

- Paine drafted foundational document:
 - American independence
 - American foreign policy
 - Only with independence, could colonies hope to gain foreign assistance

18 ☐ **V. Paine and the Idea of "Republicanism" (cont.)**

- Paine also called for a *republic*:
 - Creation of a new kind of political society where power flowed from the people
 - In biblical imagery, he argued all government officials—governors, senators, judges—should derive authority from popular consent

19 ☐ **V. Paine and the Idea of “Republicanism” (cont.)**

- Paine was not first to champion republican government:
 - Classical Greece and Rome
 - Revived in 17th century Renaissance
 - Appealed to British politicians critical of excessive power in hands of king and his advisers
 - American colonists interpreted royal acts as part of monarchical conspiracy

20 ☐ **V. Paine and the Idea of “Republicanism” (cont.)**

- Paine’s summons to create a republic fell on receptive ears:
 - New Englanders practiced a kind of republicanism in town meetings and annual elections
- Most Americans considered citizen “virtue” fundamental to any successful republican government

21 ☐ **V. Paine and the Idea of “Republicanism” (cont.)**

- Individuals in a republic:
 - must sacrifice personal self-interest to public good
 - collective good of “the people” mattered more than private rights and interests of individuals
- Paine inspired contemporaries to view America as fertile ground for cultivation of civic virtue.

22 ☐ **V. Paine and the Idea of Republicanism (cont.)**

- Not all Patriots agreed with Paine’s ultra-democratic republicanism:
 - Some favored republic ruled by a “natural aristocracy” of talent
 - wanted an end to hereditary aristocracy, but not an end to all social hierarchy
 - were conservative republicans who wanted stability of social order
- Contest over American republicanism would continue for next 100 years

23 ☐ **VI. Jefferson’s**

“Explanation” of Independence

- On June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia moved:
 - “these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be free and independent states”
 - motion was adopted on July 2, 1776
 - motion was formal “declaration” of independence by colonies

24 ☐ **VI. Jefferson’s “Explanation” of Independence (cont.)**

- An inspirational appeal was needed:
 - To enlist other British colonies in the Americas
 - To invite assistance from foreign nations
 - To rally resistance at home
- Congress appointed a committee to prepare a formal statement:
 - Task of drafting fell to Thomas Jefferson
 - He was fully qualified for it

25 ☐ **VI. Jefferson’s “Explanation of Independence (cont.)**

- The Declaration of Independence:
 - Formally approved by Congress on July 4, 1776
 - Had universal appeal by invoking “natural rights” of humankind—not just British rights
 - Argued that because king had flouted these rights, the colonists were justified in cutting ties
 - Set forth long list of presumably tyrannous misdeeds of George III
 - Declaration had universal impact

26 ☐

27 ☐ **VII. Patriots and Loyalists**

- War of Independence was a war within a war:
 - Loyalists—colonists loyal to king who fought American rebels
 - called “Tories” after dominant political factions in Britain
 - Patriots—rebels who also fought British redcoats
 - called “Whigs” after opposition factions in Britain

28 ☐ **VII. Patriots and Loyalists (cont.)**

- American Revolution was a minority movement:
 - Many colonists either apathetic or neutral
 - Patriot militias played critical role:
 - took on task of “political education,” sometimes by coercion

- served as agents of Revolutionary ideas

29 ☐ **VII. Patriots and Loyalists (cont.)**

- Loyalists:
 - About 16 percent of American people
 - Families were often split
 - Many were people of education and wealth
 - More numerous among older generation
 - Included king's officers and beneficiaries
 - Included Anglican clergy and congregations
 - Virginia was notable exception

30 ☐ **VII. Patriots and Loyalists (cont.)**

- Loyalists entrenched in:
 - aristocratic New York City and Charlestown
 - Quaker Pennsylvania and New Jersey
 - were less numerous in New England
- Rebels most numerous where Presbyterianism and Congregationalism flourished

31 ☐

32 ☐ **VIII. The Loyalist Exodus**

- Before Declaration in 1776, persecution of Loyalists was relatively mild:
 - Some faced brutality (tarring and feathering; riding astride fence rails)
 - Harsher treatment began after Declaration
 - were regarded as traitors
 - were roughly handled; some imprisoned; a few noncombatants hung
 - No wholesale reign of terror

33 ☐ **VIII. The Loyalists Exodus (cont.)**

- 80 thousand Loyalists were driven out or fled
- Several hundred thousand were permitted to stay
- Estates of fugitives were confiscated and sold
- Some 50,000 Loyalists fought for British:

- Helped King’s cause by serving as spies
- by inciting Indians
- British did not make effective use of Loyalists
-

34 ☐ **IX. General Washington at Bay**

- Washington:
 - Could only muster 18,000 ill-trained troops to meet British invaders at New York, March 1776
 - Disaster befell Americans at Battle of Long Island, summer and fall of 1776
 - Washington escaped to Manhattan Island, finally reaching Delaware River
 - Patriot cause was at low ebb as rebels fled across river

35 ☐ **IX. General Washington at Bay (cont.)**

- General William Howe did not speedily crush demoralized American forces
- Washington stealthily recrossed Delaware River at Trenton on December 26, 1776
- Surprised and captured 1,000 Hessians
- A week later he defeated small British force at Princeton
- These two lifesaving victories revealed “Old Fox” Washington at his military best

36 ☐

37 ☐

38 ☐

39 ☐ **X. Burgoyne’s Blundering Invasion**

- London officials adopted intricate scheme to capture Hudson River valley in 1777:
 - If successful, would sever New England from rest of the states and paralyze American cause:
 - General John Burgoyne would push down Lake Champlain route from Canada
 - General Howe’s troops would advance up Hudson and meet Burgoyne near Albany
 - A third force, under Colonel Barry St. Leger, would come from west via Lake Ontario and Mohawk valley

40 ☐41 ☐ **X. Burgoyne's Blundering Invasion (cont.)**

- British did not reckon with General Arnold:
 - came along St. Lawrence to Lake Champlain area where he assembled a small fleet
 - his fleet was destroyed, but time had been won
- Without Arnold, British would have recaptured Fort Ticonderoga:
 - if Burgoyne could have started there (instead of Montreal) he would have been successful
-

42 ☐ **X. Burgoyne's Blundering Invasion (cont.)**

- Washington transferred army to vicinity of Philadelphia:
 - There he was defeated in two battles at Brandywine Creek and at Germantown
 - General Howe settled down in Philadelphia and left Burgoyne to flounder in upper New York
 - Washington retired to Valley Forge
- Trapped, Burgoyne surrendered at Saratoga to Gen. Horatio Gates on October 17, 1777

43 ☐ **X. Burgoyne's Blundering Invasion (cont.)**

- Saratoga ranks high among decisive battles of both America and world history:
 - Victory revived faltering colonial cause
 - Even more important, made possible urgently needed foreign aid from France, which in turn helped ensure American independence

44 ☐ **XI. Revolution in Diplomacy?**

- France's role in the Revolution:
 - France hoped to regain former prestige:
 - loss in Seven Years' War rankled deeply
 - America's revolutionaries badly needed help to throw off British:
 - needed to seal an alliance with France against common foe

45 ☐ **XI. Revolution in Diplomacy? (cont.)**

- American rebels also harbored revolutionary ideas about international

affairs:

- wanted end to colonialism and mercantilism
- supported free trade and freedom of seas
- wanted rule of law, not raw power, to arbitrate affairs of nations

-
-

46 ☐ **XI. Revolution in Diplomacy?**
(cont.)

- Summer of 1776, Continental Congress drafted a Model Treaty:
 - Guide commissioners dispatched to France
 - John Adams, one of chief authors, described basic principles:
 - “1. No political connection. . . 2. No military connection. . . 3. Only a commercial connection.”
 - These were remarkable self-denying restrictions
 - Infused idealism into American foreign policy

47 ☐ **XI. Revolution in Diplomacy?**
(cont.)

- Benjamin Franklin negotiated treaty in Paris:
 - He was determined that his appearance should herald diplomatic revolution
 - He shocked royal court
 - Ordinary Parisians adored him as a specimen of new democratic social order
- The British now offered a measure allowing American home rule within the empire

48 ☐

49 ☐ **XI. Revolution in Diplomacy?**
(cont.)

This was essentially what colonists had asked for—except independence:

- On February 6, 1778, France offered a treaty of alliance
- Young republic concluded its first entangling military alliance and would soon regret it
- Treaty with France constituted official recognition of America's independence

- Both bound themselves to secure America's freedom

50 ☐ **XII. The Colonial War Becomes a Wider War**

- England and France came to blows in 1778
- Shot fired at Lexington widened into global conflagration:
 - Spain entered in 1779 as did Holland
 - weak maritime neutrals of Europe began to demand their rights (see Table 8.1)
 - Russia's Catherine the Great organized Armed Neutrality—lined up remaining European neutrals in an attitude of passive hostility toward Britain

—
—

51 ☐

52 ☐ **XII. The Colonial War Becomes a Wider War (cont.)**

- Fighting in Europe and North America as well as South America, Caribbean, and Asia:
 - Americans deserve credit for keeping war going until 1778 with secret French aid
 - their independence not achieved until conflict became a multipower world war too much for Britain to handle
 - from 1778 to 1783, France provided rebels with guns, money, equipment, and armed forces

53 ☐ **XII. The Colonial War Becomes a Wider War (cont.)**

- France's entrance:
 - Forced British to change basic strategy
 - They had counted on blockading colonial coast and commanding seas
 - French now had powerful fleet in American waters
 - British decided to evacuate Philadelphia and concentrate strength in New York City
 - In June 1778, redcoats were attacked by Washington
 - Battle was indecisive and Washington remained in New York area

54 ☐ **XIII. Blow and Counterblow**

- 1780: French army of 6000 regular troops, under commander Comte de Rochambeau arrived in Newport
 - French gold and goodwill help melt suspicions

- No real military advantage yet from French reinforcements
- 1780 General Benedict Arnold turned traitor
- British planned to roll up colonies, starting in Loyalist South (See Map 8.2).

55 ☐

56 ☐ **XIII. Blow and Counterblow
(cont.)**

- Georgia overrun in 1778-1779
- Charleston fell in 1780
- Warfare intensified in Carolinas
- 1781: American riflemen wiped out British at King's Mountain, then defeated a smaller force at Cowpens
- In Carolina campaign, General Nathaniel Greene distinguished himself by strategy of delay

57 ☐ **XIII. Blow and Counterblow
(cont.)**

- By standing and then retreating, he exhausted his foe, General Cornwallis, in vain pursuit
- Greene succeeded in clearing most of Georgia and South Carolina of British troops

58 ☐ **XIV. The Land Frontier and the
Sea Frontier**

- West was ablaze during war:
 - Indian allies of England attacked colonists
 - 1777 was known as “bloody year” on frontier:
 - Two nations of Iroquois Confederacy, Oneidas and Tuscarora, sided with Americans
 - Senecas, Mohawks, Cayugas, and Onondagas joined British
 - Encouraged by chief Joseph Brant, who believed victorious Britain would restrain white expansion west

59 ☐

60 ☐ **XIV. The Land Frontier and the
Sea Frontier (cont.)**

- In 1784, pro-British Iroquois forced to sign Treaty of Fort Stanwix:
 - First treaty between United States and an Indian nation

–Under its terms, Indians ceded most of their land

61 ☐ **XIV. The Land Frontier and the Sea Frontier (cont.)**

- In Illinois, British were vulnerable to attack:
 - They held only scattered posts captured from French
 - George Rogers Clark conceived idea of seizing these forts by surprise
 - 1778-1779, he quickly captured Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Vincennes (see Map 8.3)
 - Clark's admirers have argued his success later forced British to cede region north of Ohio River to United States at peace table in Paris

62 ☐

63 ☐ **XIV. The Land Frontier and the Sea Frontier (cont.)**

- America's infant navy under Scotsman John Paul Jones:
 - Tiny force never made dent in Britain's massive fleet
 - Chief contribution was destroying British merchant shipping
 - Carried war into waters around British Isles

64 ☐ **XIV. The Land Frontier and the Sea Frontier (cont.)**

- Privateers:
 - Privately owned armed ships—legalized pirates
 - Authorized by Congress to attack enemy ships
 - 1,000 American privateers responded to call of patriotism and profit, with about 70,000 men
 - Captured some 600 British prizes, while British captured same number of merchantmen and privateers

65 ☐ **XIV. The Land Frontier and the Sea Frontier (cont.)**

- Privateering was not an unalloyed asset:
 - Diverted manpower from main war
 - Involved Americans in speculation and graft
- Privateering was also good:

- Brought in urgently needed gold
- Harassed enemy
- Raised American morale
- Ruined British shipping
 - Shippers and manufacturers wanted to end war

66 ☐ **XV. Yorktown and the Final Curtain**

- One of darkest periods of war was 1780-1781, before last decisive victory:
 - Government was virtually bankrupt
 - declared it would repay debt at only 2.5 cents per dollar
 - Despair prevailed:
 - sense of unity withered
 - mutinous sentiments infected army

67 ☐ **XV. Yorktown and the Final Curtain (cont.)**

- Cornwallis blundered into a trap:
 - After futile operations in Virginia, he fell back to Chesapeake Bay at Yorktown:
 - Awaited seaborne supplies and reinforcements
 - Assumed Britain still controlled seas
 - During this period British naval superiority slipped away

68 ☐ **XV. Yorktown and the Final Curtain (cont.)**

- French actions:
 - Admiral de Grasse informed Americans he could join them against Cornwallis at Yorktown
 - Washington makes a swift march of 300 miles from New York to Chesapeake
 - Accompanied by Rochambeau's French army, Washington besets British at land
 - While de Grasse blockaded sea

69 ☐

70 ☐ **XV. Yorktown and the Final Curtain (cont.)**

- Cornered, Cornwallis surrendered entire force of 7000 men on October 19, 1781
- George III planned to continue struggle:
 - Fighting continued for a year after Yorktown, with savage Patriot-Loyalist warfare in South

- Washington's most valuable contributions were to keep cause alive, army in the field, and states together

71 ☐ **XVI. Peace at Paris**

- Aftermath of war:
 - Many Britons weary of war
 - Suffered losses in India and West Indies
 - Island of Minorca in Mediterranean fell
 - Lord North's ministry collapsed in March 1782 temporarily ending George III's personal rule
 - Whig ministry, favorable to Americans, replaced Tory regime of Lord North

72 ☐ **XVI. Peace at Paris (cont.)**

- American negotiators Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay gathered at Paris:
 - Instructed to make no separate peace and to consult with French allies at all stages
 - American representatives chafed under directive
 - Knew it had been written by subservient Congress under pressure from French Foreign Office

—

73 ☐ **XVI. Peace at Paris (cont.)**

- France in difficult position:
 - Had induced Spain to enter war
 - Spain coveted immense trans-Allegheny area
 - France desired independent United States, but wanted to keep New Republic east of Allegheny Mountains
 - A weak America would be easier to manage in promoting French interests and policy
 - France was paying heavy price to win America's independence and wanted her money's worth

74 ☐ **XVI. Peace at Paris (cont.)**

John Jay was unwilling to play French game:

- Secretly made overtures to London
- London came to terms with Americans
- Preliminary treaty signed in 1782

Formal Treaty of Paris signed in 1783:

- Britain recognized independence of United States
- Granted generous boundaries: to Mississippi (west), to Great Lakes (north), and to Spanish Florida (south)
- Yankees retained access to fisheries of Newfoundland

75 ☐ **XVI. Peace at Paris
(cont.)**

- American concessions:
 - Loyalists not to be further persecuted
 - Congress was to *recommend* to states that:
 - confiscated Loyalist property be restored
 - debts owed to British creditors be paid
- British concessions:
 - Accept defeat in North America
 - Ending war allowed England to rebuild

76 ☐ **XVII. A New Nation Legitimized**

- British terms were liberal:
 - Granted enormous trans-Appalachian area
 - In spirit, Americans made a separate peace—contrary to French alliance
 - France relieved with end of costly conflict
 - America alone gained from world-girdling war:
 - Began national career with splendid territorial birthright and priceless heritage

77 ☐

78 ☐