

1 ☐2 ☐ **I. The Deep Roots of Revolution**

- America was a revolutionary force from the day of its discovery by Europeans:
 - The New World nurtured new ideas about the nature of society, citizens, and government.
 - Republicanism—defined a just society as one in which all citizens willingly subordinated their private, selfish interests to the common good.
 - Stability and government depended on the virtue of the citizenry.

3 ☐ **I. The Deep Roots of Revolution (cont.)**

- Virtue of the citizenry—its capacity for:
 - Selflessness
 - Self-sufficiency
 - Courage
 - Appetite for civic involvement
- Republicanism was opposed to hierarchical and authoritarian institutions such as aristocracy and monarchy.

4 ☐ **I. The Deep Roots of Revolution (cont.)**

- Radical Whigs: British political commentators whose ideas fundamentally shaped American political thought:
 - They feared the threat to liberty posed by the arbitrary power of the monarch and his ministers relative to elected representatives in Parliament.
 - They warned citizens to guard against “corruption” and conspiracies to take away their liberties.

5 ☐ **I. The Deep Roots of Revolution (cont.)**

- Americans had grown accustomed to running their own affairs.
- The great distance from Britain weakened royal authority.

6 ☐ **II. Mercantilism and Colonial Grievances**

- Mercantilism:
 - Rested on the belief that wealth was power.
 - A country's economic wealth (and its military and political power) could be measured by the amount of gold or silver in its treasury.
 - To amass gold or silver, a country needed to export more than it imported.

7 ☐8 ☐ **II. Mercantilism and Colonial Grievances (cont.)**

- Colonies conferred distinct advantages:
 - Could supply raw materials to mother country, reducing need for foreign imports.
 - Could provide guaranteed market for exports.
 - London government viewed American colonies as tenants.

9 ☐ **II. Mercantilism and Colonial Grievances (cont.)**

- From time to time Parliament passed laws to regulate the mercantilist system:
 - Navigation Law (1650)—aimed at Dutch shippers—said that all commerce flowing to and from colonies could be transported only in British (including colonial) vessels.
 - European goods destined for America first had to land in Britain, where tariff duties could be collected and British middlemen got profits.

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10 ☐ **II. Mercantilism and Colonial Grievances (cont.)**

- Other laws stipulated that American merchants must ship “enumerated” products, notably tobacco, exclusively to Britain, even though prices might be better elsewhere.
- British policy inflicted a currency shortage on the colonies.
- This situation forced the colonies to issue paper money.

11 ☐ **II. Mercantilism and Colonial Grievances (cont.)**

- But Parliament prohibited colonial legislatures from printing paper currency.
- The British crown reserved the right to nullify any legislation passed by colonial assemblies if it would harm the mercantilist system.

- Royal veto was rarely used, but just the idea of a veto incited colonial anger.

12 ☐13 ☐ **III. The Merits and Menace of Mercantilism**

- The British mercantile system seemed oppressive, but its laws were loosely enforced.
- Americans also reaped direct benefits:
 - London paid liberal bounties to colonial producers.
 - Colonies had protection of the world's most powerful navy and a strong, seasoned army.

14 ☐ **III. The Merits and Menace of Mercantilism (cont.)**

- The mercantile system burdened colonists with annoying liabilities:
 - It stifled economic initiative and imposed a rankling dependency on British agents and creditors.
- Colonists found it to be debasing:
 - They felt used and kept in a state of perpetual economic adolescence.
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15 ☐ **IV. The Stamp Tax Uproar**

- After the Seven Years' War, Britain held one of world's largest empires and the biggest debt.
- It moved to redefine its relationship with the colonies.
- 1763: Prime Minister George Grenville ordered the navy to strictly enforce the Navigation Laws.

16 ☐ **IV. The Stamp Tax Uproar (cont.)**

- 1764: He secured from Parliament the Sugar Act, the first law passed by Parliament to raise revenue for the crown from colonies:
 - Increased duty on sugar from the West Indies.
 - After bitter protests, duties were lowered substantially, and agitation died down.
- Resentment renewed when the Quartering Act (1765) required colonies to provide food and quarters for British troops.

17 ☐ **IV. The Stamp Tax Uproar (cont.)**

- 1765: Stamp tax was imposed:
 - It aimed to raise revenue to support the new military force.
 - It mandated the use of stamped paper or affixing of stamps, certifying tax payment.
 - Stamps were required on bills of sale for about 50 trade items.
 - Grenville regarded these measures as reasonable.
 - People in England paid a higher stamp tax.

18 ☐ **IV. The Stamp Tax Uproar (cont.)**

- But Americans were angry:
 - The new law pinched pocketbooks and seemed to strike at local liberties.
 - Some colonies refused to comply with the Quartering Act; some voted only to supply a fraction of the supplies requested.
 - The acts also seemed to jeopardize the basic rights of colonists as Englishmen.
 - Offenders were tried in admiralty courts without juries and “innocent until proven guilty” concept.

19 ☐ **IV. The Stamp Tax Uproar (cont.)**

- With French and Indians defeated, what need was there for a military force in the colonies?
 - Colonists feared a conspiracy to strip them of their historic liberties.
 - The Stamp Act became the chief target of their anger.

20 ☐ **IV. The Stamp Tax Uproar (cont.)**

- Americans made a distinction between “legislation” and “taxation”:
 - They conceded the right of Parliament to legislate matters related to the entire empire.
 - They denied the right of Parliament, in which no Americans were seated, to impose taxes on Americans.
 - Such taxes were seen as robbery.

- Only colonial assemblies could tax colonists.

21 ☐ **IV. The Stamp Tax Uproar (cont.)**

- Grenville used the theory of “virtual representation”:
 - All citizens were represented by Parliament.
- The dispute eventually caused Americans to:
 - Deny the authority of Parliament
 - Consider their own political independence

22 ☐ **V. Forced Repeal of the Stamp Act**

- Colonial protest against the hated stamp tax took various forms:
- Stamp Act Congress of 1765:
 - Stated the rights and grievances of colonists
 - Beseeched the king and Parliament to repeal the repugnant legislation
 - Was ignored in England
 - Was a significant step toward intercolonial unity
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23 ☐ **V. Forced Repeal of the Stamp Act (cont.)**

- Nonimportation agreements:
 - Agreements against importing British goods
 - Were a promising stride toward union
 - Helped unite the American people for the first time in common action
 - Gave Americans new opportunities to participate in colonial protests
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25 ☐ **V. Forced Repeal of the Stamp Act (cont.)**

- Sons of Liberty and Daughters of Liberty:

- Took law into their own hands
- Cried, “Liberty, Property, and No Stamps”
- Shaken by colonial commotion, the machinery for collecting the tax broke down.
 - By the time the act was to go into effect (1765), all stamp agents had been forced to resign.
- The boycott also hurt the English economy.
- Parliament repealed the Stamp Act in 1766.
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27 ☐ **V. Forced Repeal of the Stamp Act (cont.)**

- Parliament then passed the Declaratory Act reaffirming its right “to bind” colonies “in all cases whatsoever.”
- The British government defined its constitutional principle: absolute and unqualified sovereignty over the colonies.
- The stage was set for continuing confrontation as colonies wanted a measure of their own sovereignty.
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28 ☐ **VI. The Townshend Tea Tax and the Boston “Massacre”**

- 1767: Townshend Acts:
 - Imposed a light import duty on glass, white lead, paper, paint, and tea
 - Was an indirect customs duty payable at American ports
- Colonists refused any taxes without representation.
- They were especially concerned because these taxes would pay salaries of royal governors.

29 ☐ **VI. The Townshend Tea Tax and the Boston “Massacre” (cont.)**

- Nonimportation agreements were renewed against Townshend Acts, but
 - Colonists took the light new tax less seriously.
 - They found they could get cheap tea via smuggling.
- To enforce order, British then landed two regiments of troops in Boston in 1768.

- March 5, 1770: A clash erupted that became known as the Boston Massacre.

30 ☐31 ☐32 ☐ **VI. The Townshend Tea Tax and the Boston “Massacre” (cont.)**

- Crispus Attucks, a “mulatto” and a leader of the mob, was one of the first to die.
- Both sides shared blame for the incident, but only two redcoats were found guilty.
- The soldiers were then released after being branded on the hand.

33 ☐ **VII. The Seditious Committees of Correspondence**

- By 1770, young King George III was attempting to assert the power of monarchy.
- He surrounded himself with “yes men,” notably his prime minister, Lord North.
- Townshend Acts:
 - They failed to generate revenue.
 - But they did produce near-rebellion.
 - Nonimportation actions hurt English economy.

34 ☐ **VII. The Seditious Committees of Correspondence (cont.)**

- Parliament eventually repealed most Townshend duties but kept the tax on tea.
- But flames of discontent continued because:
 - British officials increased efforts to enforce the Navigation Laws.
 - Zealous Samuel Adams continued to incite what was called his “trained mob.”
- Adams organized first committees of correspondence in Massachusetts.
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35 ☐36 ☐37 ☐ **VII. The Seditious Committees of Correspondence (cont.)**

- Committees of correspondence:
 - After one was organized in Boston (1772), some 80 towns set up similar organizations.

- They exchanged letters that kept alive opposition to British policy.
- Intercolonial correspondence committees were the next logical step.
- Virginia led the way in 1773.
- Twelve other colonies soon joined the effort.

38 ☐ **VII. The Seditious Committees of Correspondence (cont.)**

- They played a key role in stimulating and disseminating sentiment in favor of united action.
- They evolved directly into the first American congresses.

39 ☐ **VIII. Tea Brewing in Boston**

- By 1773, the powerful British East India Company was facing bankruptcy:
 - It had 17 million pounds of unsold tea.
 - British ministry awarded it a complete monopoly of the American tea business.
 - It could sell its tea at a very low price.
 - But colonists saw this as an attempt to trick them into accepting taxes.

40 ☐ **VIII. Tea Brewing in Boston (cont.)**

- British authorities decided to enforce the law:
 - Colonists rose up in anger.
 - Mass demonstrations forced tea-bearing ships to return to England with their cargo.
 - Only in Boston did a British official refuse to be cowed.
 - Governor Thomas Hutchinson refused to budge.

41 ☐ **VIII. Tea Brewing in Boston (cont.)**

- Hutchinson infuriated Boston's radicals when he ordered tea ships not to leave Boston until they had unloaded their cargoes:
 - December 16, 1773: About 100 Bostonians, loosely disguised as Indians, boarded the ships.
 - They smashed open 342 chests of tea and dumped the contents into the harbor.
 - This action became known as the Boston Tea Party.

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43 ☐ **VIII. Tea Brewing in Boston (cont.)**

- Reaction varied:
 - Sympathetic colonists applauded.
 - Referring to tea as “a badge of slavery,” they burned the hated leaves in solidarity with Boston.
 - Hutchinson, chastened and disgusted, retreated to Britain, never to return.
 - The British chose a perilous path that led only to reprisals, bitterness, and escalating conflict.
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44 ☐ **IX. Parliament Passes the “Intolerable Acts”**

- Parliament responded with measures in 1774 that brewed a revolution:
 - It passed a series of acts to chastise colonists, especially in Boston.
 - The acts were branded in colonies as “the massacre of American Liberty.”
- Most drastic was the Boston Port Act:
 - It closed the port until damages were paid.

45 ☐ **IX. Parliament Passes the “Intolerable Acts” (cont.)**

- Other Intolerable Acts limited rights traditionally practiced in Massachusetts:
 - Restrictions were placed on town meetings.
 - Unlike before, officials who killed colonists in line of duty could now be sent to Britain for trial.
 - New Quartering Act gave local authorities power to lodge soldiers anywhere, even private homes.

46 ☐ **IX. Parliament Passes the “Intolerable Acts” (cont.)**

- Quebec Act (1774) covered French subjects in Canada:
 - It guaranteed their Catholic religion.
 - They could maintain institutions (which did not include representative assembly or trial by jury).
 - Québec’s boundaries extended to the Ohio River.
- From French viewpoint, the Quebec Act was a shrewd and conciliatory measure.

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47 ☐ **IX. Parliament Passes the “Intolerable Acts” (cont.)**

- From American viewpoint, the act was noxious:
 - It had a much wider range.
 - It set a dangerous precedent by denying jury trials and by allowing unrepresentative assemblies.
 - It alarmed land speculators by snatching a huge trans-Allegheny area from their grasp (Map 7.1).
 - It angered anti-Catholics by extending Catholic jurisdiction south into a region about the size of the 13 colonies.

48 ☐ **X. Bloodshed**

- American dissenters responded to the plight of Massachusetts:
 - Colonies sent food to the stricken city of Boston.
 - Rice was shipped from faraway South Carolina.
- Most memorable was summoning of the First Continental Congress in 1774:
 - It met in Philadelphia to redress grievances.
 - 12 of 13 colonies (except Georgia) sent 55 men: S. Adams, J. Adams, G. Washington, P. Henry.

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50 ☐ **X. Bloodshed (cont.)**

- First Continental Congress (cont.):
 - Deliberated for 7 weeks in fall 1774.
 - Not a legislative but a consultative body.
 - A convention rather than a congress.
 - John Adams played a key role.
 - It drew up a Declaration of Rights as well as a solemn appeal to other British colonies, to the king, and to the British people.

51 ☐ **X. Bloodshed (cont.)**

- Most significant action was creation of The Association:
 - Called for complete boycott of British goods: nonimportation, nonexportation, nonconsumption
- Delegates were not calling for independence.
- They sought merely to repeal offensive legislation.

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52 ☐ **X. Bloodshed (cont.)**

- But fatal drift toward war continued:
 - Parliament rejected Congress's petitions.
 - Violators of Association were tarred and feathered.
 - Muskets were gathered and men began to drill openly.
 - April 1775: British commander in Boston sent troops to Lexington and Concord to seize stores of gunpowder.

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54 ☐ **X. Bloodshed (cont.)**

- Troops were also supposed to arrest ringleaders Samuel Adams and John Hancock.
- At Lexington, "Minute Men" refused to disperse.
- Shots were fired, killing 8 Americans and wounding several more.
- Redcoats then pushed on to Concord, where they suffered heavy losses.
- Britain now had a war on its hands.

55 ☐ **XI. Imperial Strength and Weakness**

- Americans brashly rebelled against a mighty empire:
 - Population: 7.5 million Britons to 2.5 million colonists
 - Monetary wealth and naval power overwhelmingly favored England.
 - Britain's professional army equaled some 50,000 men as compared to numerous but poorly trained American militia.

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56 ☐ **XI. Imperial Strength and Weakness (cont.)**

- Mighty empire (cont.):
 - George III could also hire foreign soldiers, including some 30,000 Germans (the Hessians).
 - British enrolled about 50,000 American Loyalists and enlisted some Indians.
- Yet Britain was weaker than it seemed:
 - Oppressed Ireland required troops to maintain British control.

–France was waiting to get even with Britain.

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57 ☐ **XI. Imperial Strength and Weakness (cont.)**

- Britain's weakness (cont.):
 - The London government was weak and inept.
 - There was no William Pitt, only stubborn George and his pliant prime minister, Lord North.
 - Many Britons had no desire to kill Americans.
 - English Whigs opposed Lord North's Tories.
 - Whigs believed a battle for British freedom was being fought in America.

58 ☐ **XI. Imperial Strength and Weakness (cont.)**

- Britain's army in America operated under numerous difficulties:
 - Generals were second-rate.
 - Soldiers were brutally treated.
 - Provisions were often scarce, rancid, and wormy.
 - Britain had to operate 3,000 miles from home.
 - Distance greatly increased delays and uncertainties from storms and mishaps.

59 ☐ **XI. Imperial Strength and Weakness (cont.)**

- Difficulties of British army (cont.):
 - Military orders issued in London but received months later did not fit a changing situation.
 - America's geographical expanse was enormous: roughly 1,000 by 600 miles.
 - Colonies had no urban nerve centers.
 - British armies took every city of any size.
- Americans wisely traded space for time.

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60 ☐ **XII. American Pluses and Minuses**

- American advantages:
 - They had outstanding leaders: George Washington, Benjamin Franklin.
 - Eventually they had foreign aid from France.

- European officers volunteered to fight for pay.
- Marquis de Lafayette proved invaluable in securing further aid from France.

61 ☐62 ☐ **XII. American Pluses and Minuses (cont.)**

- Other conditions aided Americans:
 - They were fighting defensively, with odds favoring the defender.
 - Colonies were self-sufficient in food.
 - Americans enjoyed a moral advantage from belief in a just cause.
- But American rebels were poorly organized:
 - Continental Congress was mostly a debating society.

63 ☐ **XII. American Pluses and Minuses (cont.)**

- Americans poorly organized (cont.):
 - Disorganized colonists fought almost the entire war before adopting a constitution—the Articles of Confederation—in 1781.
 - Jealousy hindered the war effort:
 - Individual states, regarding themselves as sovereign, resisted attempts by Congress to exercise its powers.
 - Sectional jealousy boiled over the appointment of military leaders.

64 ☐ **XII. American Pluses and Minuses (cont.)**

- Economic difficulties:
 - Metal money had been drained away.
 - The Continental Congress, unwilling to raise taxes, massively printed “Continental” paper money.
 - Confusion proliferated when individual states issued depreciated paper money.
 - Inflation skyrocketed prices.

65 ☐66 ☐67 ☐ **XIII. A Thin Line of Heroes**

- Military supplies in colonies were scanty:
 - In earlier wars, England provided funds and weapons.
 - Rebels were caught: the cost of home defense mounted just as the

supply of British funds and war material evaporated.

- Sufficient stores of gunpowder, cannon, and other armaments could not be found in agricultural colonies.

68 ☐ **XIII. A Thin Line of Heroes (cont.)**

- Lack of military supplies (cont.):
 - Among the reasons for alliance with France was need for a reliable source of military supplies.
 - At Valley Forge, Pa., soldiers went without bread for 3 days in the cruel winter of 1777–1778.
 - In one campaign, some men fainted for lack of food.
 - Manufactured goods were in short supply.
 - Clothing and shoes were appallingly scarce.

69 ☐ **XIII. A Thin Line of Heroes (cont.)**

- Militiamen were numerous but unreliable:
 - They received only rudimentary training.
 - Besides desertion, troops were hit by smallpox.
- Women played a significant part in the Revolution:
 - They maintained farms and businesses while fathers and husbands fought.

70 ☐ **XIII. A Thin Line of Heroes (cont.)**

- The part of women (cont.):
 - Many female camp followers accompanied army:
 - They Cooked and sewed in return for money and rations.
 - One Massachusetts woman dressed in men's clothing and served in the army for 17 months.
- Seven to eight thousand regulars were finally whipped into shape by stern drillmasters:
 - German Baron von Steuben was an organizational genius.

71 ☐ **XIII. A Thin Line of Heroes (cont.)**

- Blacks fought and died for the American cause:
 - Many states initially barred them from the military.
 - But eventually more than 5,000 blacks enlisted.

- The largest contingents came from northern states with substantial numbers of free blacks.
- Blacks fought at Trenton, Brandywine, Saratoga, and other important battles.

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73 ☐ **XIII. A Thin Line of Heroes (cont.)**

- African Americans also served on the British side:
 - In November 1775 the governor of Virginia promised freedom for any slave who joined the British army.
 - Eventually thousands of slaves fled to the British.
 - At the end of the war, the British evacuated 14,000 “Black Loyalists.”

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74 ☐ **XIII. A Thin Line of Heroes (cont.)**

- Morale in the Revolutionary army was undermined by American profiteers:
 - They sold to the British because British could pay in gold.
 - Speculators forced prices sky-high.
 - Some Bostonians made profits of 50% to 200%.

75 ☐ **XIII. A Thin Line of Heroes (cont.)**

- Brutal truth: Only a minority of colonists selflessly devoted themselves to the cause of independence.
- Seldom have so few done so much for so many.

76 ☐