

French & Indian War

- ⊗ Arose out of dispute over land in Ohio River Valley
 - ⊕ French retained to link Canadian, Mississippi & Louisiana holdings;
 - ⊕ VA gov't sent George Washington to demand French leave land granted by British crown;
 - ⊕ French refusal & battle at Fort Necessity led to 7 Years War in America & Europe.
- ⊗ British victory led to removal of French from area east of Mississippi River
 - ⊕ British army & naval supremacy;
 - ⊕ Colonists perceived of lands to west as open to speculation & settlement with removal of French & many Native American tribes allied with them.

Impact of French & Indian War

- ⊗ British Resentments
 - ⊕ American shippers traded with enemy ports throughout war;
 - ⊕ Many colonies refused to send troops until Pitt offered reimbursement;
 - ⊕ Cost of war & defense of frontier began to outstrip colonies' mercantilist value.
- ⊗ British views of the colonies:
 - ⊕ No longer devoted members of the empire;
 - ⊕ Needed to be protected, regulated & taxed;
 - ⊕ Needed to be ruled.
- ⊗ Colonial Resentments:
 - ⊕ Confident in the military strength of their volunteer army, but colonial officers could not advance;
 - ⊕ Felt they did not need the protection of the British army on the frontier;
 - ⊕ Did not want to pay for an "imperial war."
- ⊗ American views of themselves:
 - ⊕ True beneficiaries of removal of France;
 - ⊕ Independent to the point of considering Franklin's Albany Plan of Union.

Pontiac's Rebellion & Proclamation of 1763

- ⊗ Pressures on & from Native Americans
 - ⊕ Rate of colonial expansion increased rapidly;
 - ⊕ Resentment over treatment of natives by British in French & Indian War festered;
 - ⊕ Influenced by the Prophet Neolin, Ottawa Chief Pontiac led a pan-Indian alliance that wiped out

British forts in the Great Lakes & Ohio River Valley regions.

- ✿ Defeat of Pontiac in October 1763 followed by Proclamation of 1763 to prevent future conflicts
 - ⊕ Perceived by American colonists as confirmation of their right to expand west;
 - ⊕ Angered by British establishment of Proclamation line to prevent future conflicts with Native Americans.

Sugar/Revenue Act & Currency Act (1764)

- ✿ Designed to raise revenue through reinvigoration of Mercantilism.
 - ⊕ Created Vice-Admiralty Courts to end smuggling.
- ✿ Formal Colonial Response:
 - ⊕ Separate petitions from 8 different colonial legislatures
 - ⊕ Popular Colonial Response:
 - ⊕ Frustration at timing, but no action

Stamp Act (1765)

- ✿ Major in scope, exclusively an Internal Tax to raise revenue not regulate trade
- ✿ Formal Colonial Response:
 - ⊕ James Otis, *The Rights of British Colonists Asserted & Proved*
 - ⊕ **Virginia Stamp Act Resolves**
 - ⊕ **Loyal Nine** hang Stamp Man effigy in Boston Common
 - ⊕ **Stamp Act Congress & early Non-Importation Associations**
- ✿ Popular Colonial Response:
 - ⊕ Anti-Stamp Act demonstrations throughout colonies
 - ⊕ Boston mob attacks homes of Custom Officials, destroys home of Thomas Hutchinson
- ✿ Division Because of Booming Economy
 - ⊕ Merchants opposed protests that threaten trade.
 - ⊕ Artisans supported protests that bring new customers.

Townshend Duties (1767)

- ✿ Created Board of Customs & formalized powers of Admiralty Courts outside control of colonial courts;
- ✿ Applied Customs Duties to items shipped from Britain;
- ✿ Restraining Act limited power of MA Assembly.
- ✿ Formal Colonial Response:
 - ⊕ John Dickinson, *Letters from a Farmer in PA* published;

- ⊕ Letters passed among Colonies, including MA Circular;
- ⊕ **Non-Importation Agreements** formalize boycotts;
- ⊕ **Daughters of Liberty & Homespun.**
- ⊗ Popular Colonial Response:
 - ⊕ Mobilized with Stamp Act Anniversary Dinners, Public Meetings, Songs
 - ⊕ Involvement in & Enforcement of Non-Importation Agreements
- ⊗ **Division Because of Booming Economy**
 - ⊕ Merchants opposed protests that threaten trade.
 - ⊕ Artisans supported protests that bring new customers.

Townshend Duties Repealed

- ⊗ Left intact Board of Customs & Standing Army in MA
- ⊗ Popular Colonial Response:
 - ⊕ Riot after John Hancock's Ship *Liberty* Seized for Smuggling
 - ⊕ Crowd Taunting (March 1770) turns into **Boston Massacre.**
- ⊗ Formal Colonial Response:
 - ⊕ John Adams Defends Soldiers on Trial
 - ⊕ Radicals Make Martyrs out of victims of "Massacre" with propaganda;
 - ⊕ **Committees of Correspondence** formed to both mobilize & control response to future British actions.

Tea Act (1773)

- ⊗ Sweetheart deal for East India Co. lowered price of tea in colonies.
- ⊗ Formal Colonial Response:
 - ⊕ NY, PA, SC—Turned ships back, destroyed tea;
 - ⊕ Boston Town Meeting requested that customs officials send ships carrying tea back to England; Request denied;
 - ⊕ **Boston Tea Party** was the response of the radicals after formal requests were denied.
- ⊗ Popular Colonial Response:
 - ⊕ No True Popular Response of Any Consequence

Coercive/ Intolerable Acts (1774)

- ⊗ Boston Port Act; MA Government Act; Justice Act; & Amendments to Quartering Act; Followed by Quebec Act
- ⊗ Opposition to British Policy Coalesces to a Degree that Popular & Formal Opposition Finally Merge.

✿ **Colonial Response:**

- ✿ First Continental Congress passes Declaration of Rights & Grievances:
- ✿ "From the necessity of the case, a regard to the mutual interest of both countries, we cheerfully consent to the operation of such acts of the British parliament, as are bona fide, restrained to the regulation of our external commerce."
- ✿ Continental Assoc. calls for Non-Importation, Non-Consumption, & Non-Exportation enforced by Committees of Observation
- ✿ Associations grow to police trade, root out dissent, & eventually become provincial conventions.

Beginning of Hostilities

- ✿ Lexington & Concord (April 1775) British Military sought to suppress opposition, secure colonial arsenal;
 - ⊕ Militias fought back, and British Army took fire from houses as retreated;
 - ⊕ 273 British & 95 American casualties.
- ✿ Battle of Bunker Hill (May 1775)
 - ⊕ Over 1,000 Redcoats mowed down;
 - ⊕ George III declared colonists outside his protection & in open rebellion;
 - ⊕ Hired 18,000 Hessian mercenaries.
- ✿ Second Continental Congress
 - ⊕ Washington & Continental Army
 - ⊕ Declaration of Independence
 - ⊕ Franco-American Treaty
 - ⊕ Articles of Confederation