

Causes of the American Revolution

7 Years War Ends - The Fall of Quebec

- The fortress and city of Quebec surrendered to the British (Wolfe's army) in 1759.
- The Treaty of Paris is signed in 1763 - _____
 - Treaty said France gives up all rights and colonies in North America to Britain
 - Spain gets Louisiana, and New Orleans
 - France gets to keep the island of St. Pierre and Miquelon near Newfoundland
- _____



First Nation Peoples Resistance to British

- Not happy with the results of the 7 Years War because the _____
_____.
- Several Native Chiefs protested to British authorities in Canada, but nothing changed.
- British factories began to sell goods through traders, _____
_____.
- As well, land speculators (people who buy and sell land for profit) had a massive amount of power and were supported by the British: _____
_____.
- Pontiac, an Ottawa chief, tried to unite many tribes to fight the British but he needed the support from the French, and he didn't get it. British forces defeated Pontiac and his warriors.

What Even is the American Revolution?

- British had control of the 13 colonies
- 13 colonies were made up of British people who had come to North America
- BUT, the issue was that the British

- they were being taxed like British citizens, they had to follow the same rules as british citizens, etc, _____



- Some people were okay with this - _____

(They eventually came to Canada! That's one reason why we are a British colony).

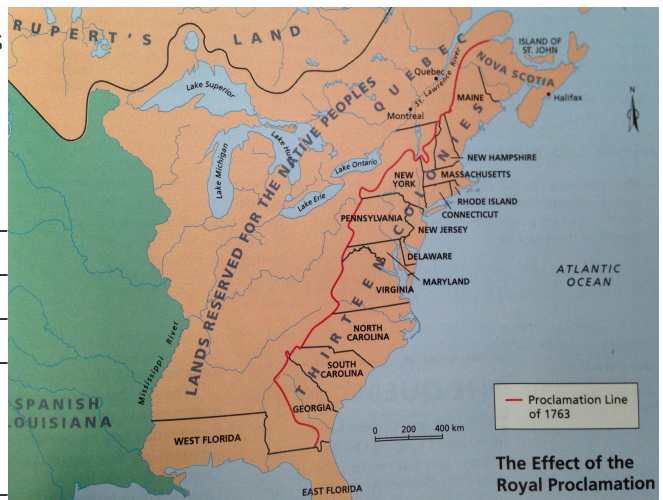
- Some people were so not okay with this - _____
- A bunch of events and battles happen where the Americans fight the British. The Americans eventually win, which means they were now independent from Britain. Called themselves THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Cause - Royal Proclamation

- To please Pontiac and the First Nations Peoples the King of Britain issued a Royal Proclamation that cut off land speculation west of the Appalachian Mountain. _____

- Also meant the Native peoples would be more happy because settlers would _____



The Effect of the Royal Proclamation

Consequence

Americans were NOT happy about this

- Patriots started to think that the British government was _____

- This proclamation was only good for the British and their ties with First Nations people - it was bad for the Americans because they could not move into awesome lands that could make them loads of money!
- _____
- They were right. The British did look down upon the American colonists.

Because of the Proclamation, _____
_____, which eventually led to the beginning of the American Revolution. So, this is an underlying cause of the American Revolution.

Cause - The Quebec Act

- Passed in 1774 by the British government
- It made all conquered territory into a new British Colony
- Recognized the Catholic Church, kept French law for business and personal law matters, and introduced English (British) criminal law
- Made Quebec larger by setting its boundaries farther to the north and west
- Would not let Quebec have an elected assembly (A government the citizens vote in). Retained the feudal system (Church pretty much governs the country - not democratic at all!) Quebec had no elected assembly
- On the surface it seemed good for Canada and for the French population, but created major problems with the Americans who disagreed with almost every part of it.

Consequence

Made things worse in the 13 colonies!!

- Was seen as INTOLERABLE by the patriots
- They were super angry because it gave Quebec some of the Ohio Lands, which patriots were banned from going into due to the Royal Proclamation
- Patriots were not happy that Quebec did not have an elected assembly (a government that was elected by the people of Quebec - democracy). The Patriots saw this as anti-democracy, and thought that Britain may oppose these same laws onto the 13 colonies. But, the 13 colonies were pro-democracy, so this totally went against what they believed!!

Now the Patriots are real mad. The Quebec Act accelerated the confrontation between the Patriots and British - it was a direct cause of the American Revolution.

Cause - The Stamp Act

- Put in place in 1765
- Made Americans pay a tax on many goods and most government services (Similar to our Canadian Goods and Services Tax today)
- The tax was in the form of a stamp that people had to buy and stick to EVERYTHING - even a deck of cards.
- Money made from the Stamp Act was supposed to pay for costs of defending the 13 colonies

Consequence

ENRAGED THE AMERICANS

- Americans had no representation in the government, there were only British in the government, so they were being taxed without their consent
 - They refused “taxation without representation”
- Newspapers and speakers started to protest
- Officers of the crown who were sent out to enforce the act were often attacked
 - Some were covered in hot tar and then rolled in feathers...
- Mobs destroyed the houses of government officials
- A radical group called the “Sons of Liberty” formed
- Act was a total disaster and was repealed in 1766

Direct cause of the American Revolution

Cause - The Boston Massacre

- British troops were all over the 13 colonies
- Americans were asked to keep these troops in their houses and pay for their lodgings
- On March 5, 1770, some nervous British troops were handling a protest and suddenly misunderstood an order from their leader. They ended up firing their muskets into the crowd of Boston protesters, killing several of them and injuring many more.



Consequence

- Americans became full of anger: they continued to brew violence
- Americans, especially in Boston, became afraid and weary of the British troops that were around. They did not know if they would randomly kill them, like they did the protestors
 - This led to major DISTRUST of the British troops and the British government
- This event turned many people against the British, it even turned many americans who were on the British side against them

Known as one of the most important events leading to the American Revolution - the Patriots gained many more followers that were very angry and disappointed with the British.

Cause - The Tea Act and the Boston Tea Party

- The Tea Act was passed in 1773
 - It allowed the British East India Company to ship Tea to America at a large rate.
 - Businesses who sold the Tea had to pay a large tax on it, and consumers who bought the tea had to pay a tax on it as well. These taxes were given straight to the British East India Company as profit.
 - The British also became very strict about illegal tea smuggling - if people were caught buying tea from anyone other the British East India Company, they would be fined and even jailed

Cause - The Tea Act and the Boston Tea Party

- The Boston Tea party took place later in 1773
 - 50 “Sons of Liberty” dressed up as Mohawks, boarded a ship in the Boston harbour that was full of British tea, and dumped all of the tea into the ocean in the harbour
 - It was a very well organized and thought out event
 - It was supervised by leaders and was not the action of a wild mob

Consequence

- Government closed the port of Boston and demanded that all the spilled tea must be paid for by the people living in Massachusetts
 - This angered Americans and made them fear that the government could demand any american to pay any price at any time. They saw this as unconstitutional and began to edge closer to war.
- This event showed the British that the Patriots were becoming VERY organized and planned.
- The act of dumping tea into the ocean was seen as completely revolutionary and inspired Patriots to begin to fight back!

The inspiration this gave to Patriots gave them a fighting attitude that led directly to the American Revolution