

CAUSES OF THE REVOLUTION

Article Questions

Answer the following questions in complete sentence, in your own words, on your own paper. One copy should be turned in with the group project.

"Therapy of Distance" by Daniel Boorstin

1. In comparing Ireland to America, what is meant by "three-thousand miles accomplished what could not be accomplished by a thousand years of history?"
2. What two events made the Mayflower Compact necessary, and why is this document important?
3. "In America, need and opportunity upstaged ideology." Explain what the author meant by this quote.
4. What was the significance of the New England Town Meetings, and what restriction was put on them in 1774?
5. What were the five major "monopolies" that existed in England. How and why did each transform when transferred to the American colonies?
6. Which of the Ten Characteristics of the American Experience reflects the most outstanding theme of this article. Explain.

"A Sticky Business--Colonial Smuggling"

Answer "Historical Understanding," 1-5 and "Reviewing the Facts of the Case," 19 + last 3 questions

"James Otis and the Writs of Assistance" by Richard Morris

1. What were "Writs of Assistance," and why did their use upset the colonists?
2. What case brought the issue before the colonial courts, and what feud fueled the conflict?
3. What importance did John Adams place on the case?
4. What "natural rights" did Otis claim the writs destroyed?
5. Why did Thomas Hutchinson want to delay the decision of the court, and what reason did he use for delay?
6. What effect did this case have on Hutchinson's career and welfare?
7. What events added to Otis' mental instability, and what were the results?
8. How did Otis die?
9. What three documents did Otis' case influence in 1776, 1780 and 1787?
10. What recent court rulings have reflected the influence of Otis' philosophy?

"Defending the Redcoats--John Adams"

Answer "Historical Understanding," 1-4 and "Reviewing the Facts of the Case," 1-4.

"George III, Our Last King" by J.H. Plumb

1. What are the different ways George III has been evaluated by historians, and what factors affected the changes in perspective?
2. What did George's mother always say to him, and how did it affect his actions as King?
3. Why was George III "as unlucky in his heredity as in his environment?"

4. What were George III's positive characteristics?
5. What were George III's negative characteristics?
6. What problems did George have with his advisors?
7. What were the two political parties in England at this time, and what did they represent?
8. Why did George III refuse to compromise, and how did this "polarize" British politics?
9. Could George III have averted the loss of the American colonies? Why or why not?

"American Firebrand--Thomas Paine: *Common Sense*"

1. What occupations did Thomas Paine pursue, and what pattern of behavior did he establish?
2. When did Paine arrive in the colonies, and who was his sponsor?
3. When was *Common Sense* published, and what was its impact?
4. What was Paine's attitude toward government?
5. What British institution did Paine criticize the most severely? What was his best argument against that institution?
6. What arguments did Paine use against continued connection with Great Britain?
7. Why is *Common Sense* considered a great document?
8. What other famous document of the time did Paine's work influence and how?
9. What else did Paine write, and how was it misinterpreted?
10. What problems did Paine have after the French Revolution?