

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: A Revolutionary Review: Your Guide to 1776 for 10th Graders

Assess basic recall of the social and political factors that drove American independence, serving as an introductory formative check for the US History unit.

1. Which influential pamphlet, written by Thomas Paine, used plain language to argue that common sense supported independence from British rule?

Answer: B) Common Sense

Thomas Paine wrote Common Sense in 1776 to explain the need for immediate independence in a style that was accessible to the average colonist.

2. The Proclamation of 1763 angered colonists because it prohibited them from settling west of the Appalachian Mountains.

Answer: A) True

The British government issued this proclamation to avoid conflict with Native Americans, but colonists viewed it as an unfair limit on their expansion.

3. Before the Continental Army was formed, many local volunteer soldiers were known as _____ because they were ready to fight at a moment's notice.

Answer: C) Minutemen

Minutemen were a specialized sub-group of the colonial militia known for their rapid deployment and readiness.

4. Who was the primary diplomat who traveled to France to secure a formal alliance for the American cause?

Answer: A) Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin's popularity in Paris helped convince the French government to provide military and financial support after the victory at Saratoga.

5. The 'Sons of Liberty' was a group formed mainly to support and enforce British tax laws in the colonies.

Answer: B) False

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

The Sons of Liberty was a secret revolutionary organization that protested British taxes and organized resistance against the Crown.

6. The concept of 'Natural Rights,' which influenced the Declaration of Independence, was originally popularized by the Enlightenment philosopher _____.

Answer: B) John Locke

John Locke's theories on life, liberty, and property were the foundation for the political arguments used by the American Founding Fathers.

7. Which woman is famously recognized for her role in managing the family farm and communicating political intelligence to her husband during the Revolution?

Answer: A) Abigail Adams

Abigail Adams was a key advisor to John Adams and famously reminded him to 'remember the ladies' when drafting new laws.

8. The Marquis de Lafayette was a French aristocrat who volunteered to help the Continental Army without pay.

Answer: A) True

Lafayette became a major general under Washington and provided a critical link between the American and French military efforts.

9. The primary grievance the colonists had against the British government was that taxes were being imposed without _____.

Answer: B) Representation

The slogan 'No taxation without representation' summarized the colonial belief that Parliament could not tax them because they had no elected representatives there.

10. What was the name of the German mercenary soldiers hired by the British to fight against the American colonists?

Answer: C) Hessians

Hessians were professional soldiers from the German state of Hesse-Kassel hired by King George III to bolster British forces.