

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Dissect Your Revolutionary Roots: 11th Grade US History Quiz

Evaluate the radical shift from monarchical subjects to republican citizens by analyzing the ideologies of Mercy Otis Warren and the Olive Branch Petition.

1. Which intellectual shift, championed by figures like Benjamin Rush and Mercy Otis Warren, most significantly reinterpreted the role of women as 'Republican Mothers' following the war?

Answer: B) The idea that women were essential in nurturing the civic virtue of future citizens.

Republican Motherhood suggested that the success of the new republic rested on the moral foundation provided by women within the home, elevating their domestic role to a political necessity.

2. The 'Olive Branch Petition' was a radical document issued by the First Continental Congress that demanded immediate independence and an end to the British monarchy.

Answer: B) False

The Olive Branch Petition was a final attempt by moderates in the Second Continental Congress to avoid full-blown war by professing loyalty to the Crown and seeking a reconciliation.

3. The 1772 Gaspée Affair, involving the burning of a British customs schooner in Rhode Island, directly led to the formation of permanent _____ to coordinate inter-colonial resistance.

Answer: A) Committees of Correspondence

While the Sons of Liberty existed earlier, the Gaspée incident spurred the establishment of more formal and permanent Committees of Correspondence to share intelligence between colonies.

4. How did the 1768 'Circular Letter' authored by Samuel Adams affect colonial-British relations prior to the revolution?

Answer: B) It argued that the Townshend Acts were unconstitutional because the colonies were not represented in Parliament.

The Circular Letter was a key sophisticated argument that asserted the illegality of taxation without representation, leading the British to dissolve the Massachusetts legislature.

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5. General Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, a Prussian officer, was instrumental in transforming the Continental Army into a professional fighting force via rigorous drill instruction during the 1777-1778 winter encampment.

Answer: A) True

Von Steuben's training at Valley Forge was critical in instilling the discipline and tactical proficiency needed to face the British regulars in open field combat.

6. Lord Dunmore's Proclamation of 1775 complicated the Southern war effort by promising ____ to any enslaved person who fled rebel masters to fight for the British.

Answer: C) Freedom/Manumission

This proclamation had the unintended effect of driving many hesitant Southern white planters into the patriot camp out of fear of a slave insurrection.

7. In the 'Wealth of Nations' (1776), Adam Smith criticized the British colonial system primarily on the grounds of:

Answer: B) The inefficiency of mercantilism and the cost of maintaining an empire.

Smith argued that mercantilist restrictions hampered economic growth and that the costs of defending the colonies far outweighed the revenue gathered from them.

8. The 1780 Battle of Kings Mountain was a pivotal 'civil war' encounter because it was fought almost entirely between ____ and ____ corps.

Answer: B) Patriot militias; Loyalist militias

Kings Mountain demonstrated the deep internal divisions within the colonies, as it was a rare battle involving virtually no British regular troops, only local factions.

9. The Conway Cabal was a high-level conspiracy during the war that successfully replaced George Washington with Horatio Gates as Commander-in-Chief.

Answer: B) False

While there was a movement among some officers and Congress members to replace Washington with Gates, the 'cabal' failed and Washington retained his command.

10. Which of the following best describes the 'Suffolk Resolves' adopted in 1774?

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Answer: B) A declaration that the Intolerable Acts were void and a call for a colonial boycott.

The Suffolk Resolves were among the most defiant early documents, urging citizens to arm themselves and ignore the laws passed by Parliament which they deemed unconstitutional.