

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Shatter the Empire: An American Revolution Quiz for College Students

Mercantilism, diplomatic maneuvering, and Enlightenment thought—this assessment provides a comprehensive review of the ideological hurdles and global conflicts of the 1770s.

1. Which intellectual movement provided the foundational rhetoric for the American Revolution, particularly through the concept of 'natural rights'?

Answer: B) The Enlightenment

The Enlightenment, specifically the work of John Locke, introduced the idea that individuals possess inalienable rights that governments cannot infringe upon.

2. The 1763 Proclamation Line was designed by the British Crown to prevent colonial settlement west of the _____ Mountains.

Answer: C) Appalachian

The Proclamation of 1763 forbids colonists from settling west of the Appalachian Mountains to avoid further conflict with Indigenous tribes.

3. The Olive Branch Petition was the final attempt by the Continental Congress to avoid a full-scale war with Great Britain.

Answer: A) True

Sent in 1775, the Olive Branch Petition was a final appeal to King George III to resolve grievances peacefully, which he subsequently rejected.

4. Which European officer played a crucial role in training the Continental Army in professional military tactics and hygiene?

Answer: B) Baron von Steuben

Baron von Steuben, a Prussian officer, standardized the drilling and discipline of George Washington's troops.

5. Thomas Paine's influential 1776 pamphlet _____ argued that it was 'common sense' for the colonies to break away from a distant monarchy.

Answer: B) Common Sense

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Common Sense used plain language to convince the average colonist that independence was the only logical course of action.

6. During the war, African Americans only fought on the side of the Patriots.

Answer: B) False

Many African Americans joined the British forces because the British offered freedom to enslaved people who escaped and fought for the Crown.

7. What was the primary purpose of the 'Committees of Correspondence' formed in the early 1770s?

Answer: B) To facilitate communication between the colonies

These committees were instrumental in sharing information and coordinating resistance efforts across different colonies.

8. The _____ was the first internal tax levied directly on American colonists by the British government in 1765.

Answer: C) Stamp Act

The Stamp Act required a tax on all printed materials, sparking widespread protest and the slogan 'no taxation without representation'.

9. The Battle of Trenton in 1776 was significant because it boosted morale by defeating Hessian mercenaries after a surprise river crossing.

Answer: A) True

Washington's crossing of the Delaware River led to a victory that revived the dwindling spirits of the Continental Army.

10. Which of the following describes 'Republican Motherhood' in the post-revolutionary era?

Answer: D) Women should be educated to raise virtuous citizens

Republican Motherhood suggested that women had a civic duty to educate their children in the principles of liberty and democracy.