

U.S. History to 1865 Study Guide – 2020 update

US1.6 – Revolutionary War

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE STANDARDS OF LEARNING
CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK – 2015 STANDARDS
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STANDARD US1.6A

DISSATISFACTION WITH GREAT BRITAIN

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the causes and results of the American Revolution by

- the issues of dissatisfaction that led to the American Revolution.

As Great Britain expanded control over the American colonies, many colonists became dissatisfied and rebellious.

Great Britain's reasons for controlling the colonies

- Great Britain desired to remain a **world power**.
- In the American colonies, Great Britain's desire to remain a world power resulted in a conflict with the French known as the **French and Indian War**.
- Great Britain imposed **taxes**, such as the **Stamp Act**, to raise necessary revenue to pay the cost of the French and Indian War.

Great Britain's reasons for taxation

- To help **finance** the **French and Indian War**
- To help finance the maintenance of **British troops** in the colonies

Sources of colonial dissatisfaction

- The colonies had **no representation** in Parliament.
- Some colonists resented the power of the **colonial governors**.
- Great Britain wanted **strict control** over colonial legislatures.
- The colonies opposed the **British taxes**.
- The **Proclamation of 1763**, which followed the French and Indian War, **restricted the western movement** of settlers.

STANDARD US1.6B

REVOLUTION - POLITICAL IDEAS

- identify how political ideas shaped the revolutionary movement in America and led to the Declaration of Independence.

New political ideas led to a desire for independence and a democratic government in the American colonies.

The Declaration of Independence proclaimed independence from Great Britain. It stated that people have natural

(inherent) rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. In practicality, it only applied to white men at this time.



Declaration of Independence

Key philosophies in the Declaration of Independence were based upon ideas first expressed by **European philosophers** (e.g., **John Locke**).

Key philosophies in the Declaration of Independence

- People have "**certain unalienable rights**" (rights that cannot be taken away)—to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness.
- People establish **government to protect those rights**.
- Government **derives power from the people**.
- People have a right and a duty to **change a government that violates their rights**.

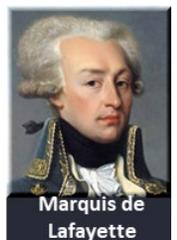
STANDARD US1.6C

REVOLUTION - EVENTS & PEOPLE

- describe key events and the roles of key individuals in the American Revolution

Key individuals in the American Revolution

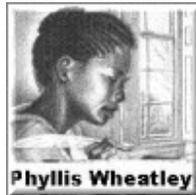
- King George III**: British king during the Revolutionary era
- Lord Cornwallis**: **British general** who surrendered at Yorktown
- Crispus Attucks**: Fugitive enslaved African American who was the first person to die in the **Boston Massacre**
- John Adams**: Championed the cause of independence
- George Washington**: **Commander** of the Continental Army
- Thomas Jefferson**: Major author of the **Declaration of Independence**
- Patrick Henry**: Outspoken member of the House of Burgesses; inspired colonial **patriotism** with his "**Give me liberty or give me death**" speech
- Thomas Paine**: Wrote the pamphlet **Common Sense**, promoting American independence
- Benjamin Franklin**: Prominent member of the Continental Congress; helped frame the **Declaration of Independence**; helped gain **French support** for American independence
- The Marquis de Lafayette**: French nobleman who served in the **Continental Army**; worked with the king of France to send French troops, ships, and funds that assisted the colonists in the American Revolution and contributed **to the victory at Yorktown**



- **James Armistead Lafayette:** Enslaved African American from Virginia, served as a **spy in the Continental Army** during the Revolutionary War. James Lafayette then had to fight for his freedom and **won his freedom** many years after the war, with the support of the Marquis de Lafayette.

Other important individuals

- **Phyllis Wheatley:** Enslaved African American who wrote **poems and plays** supporting American independence and who eventually gained her freedom
- **Paul Revere:** Patriot who made a daring **ride to warn colonists** of British arrival



Key events of the Revolution

- **Boston Massacre:** Colonists in Boston were **shot** after taunting British soldiers.
- **Boston Tea Party:** Samuel **Adams** and **Paul Revere** led patriots in throwing tea into Boston Harbor to **protest tea taxes**.
- **First Continental Congress:** Delegates from all colonies except Georgia met to discuss problems with Great Britain and to **promote independence**.
- **Battles at Lexington and Concord:** The **first armed conflicts** of the Revolutionary War
- **Battle of Bunker Hill:** This was the **first major battle** of the war
- Approval of the **Declaration of Independence:** The colonies declared independence from Great Britain (**July 4, 1776**).
- **Battle of Saratoga:** This American victory was the **turning point** in the war and led to **French support** for the patriot cause.
- **Surrender at Yorktown:** This was the colonial victory over forces of **Lord Cornwallis** that marked the **end** of the Revolutionary War.
- **Signing of the Treaty of Paris:** Great Britain recognized American Independence in this treaty.

STANDARD USI.6D

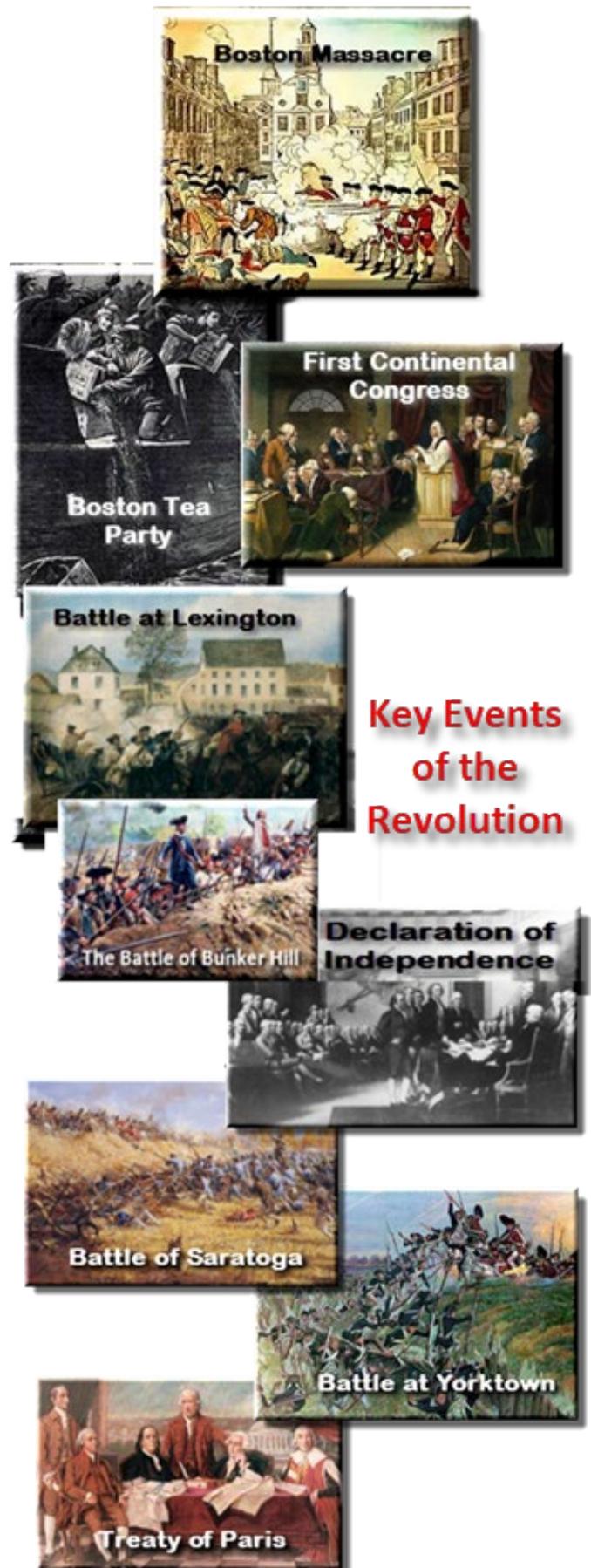
COLONIAL ADVANTAGES

d) reasons why the colonies were able to defeat Great Britain.

The colonists had many advantages that contributed to an American victory in the Revolutionary War.

Colonial advantages

- Some colonists' defense of their **own land**, principles, and beliefs
- Additional support from **France**
- Strong **leadership**



Key Events of the Revolution