

## Period 3: 1754-1800

AP Exam Weighting: 10-17%

### 3.2 Seven Years' War (The French and Indian War)

- French - Small population footprint, more co-equal coexistence with Native Americans, intermarriage, fur trade
- British - Large population footprint, continuous mercantilist and land pressures, view of Native Americans as a barbaric impediment to their control of the continent

#### Seven Years' War

- 4 wars between England and France, 1689-1763
  - England makes gains in each
- French and Indian War = the culmination of this competition between empires
  - Origins = competing claims in Ohio Valley
  - The first truly world war

#### The Albany Plan of Union

- Basis for the 1754 political cartoon "Join or Die," by Ben Franklin
- Britain rejects the plan for its potential to put too much power in colonial hands
- Colonies themselves reject the plan; shows they do not trust one another at this stage

#### American Indian Perspective

- Tribes practice a strategy of realpolitik - diplomacy term = "political realism"
- They shifted alliances through the conflict, siding with whomever they felt could benefit them the most
- Predominantly with the French at first, mostly with the British by the war's end

#### Treaty of Paris of 1763

- France loses all North American continental possessions
- England gains Canada and North America from the French, along with Florida from the Spanish
- This consolidates British control of the eastern half of the North American continent
- British victory was total, but at considerable cost; this will be the ultimate consequence of the war, though no one knew it at the time

#### Consequences of War

- Economic - England wants more colonial subordination and sharing of imperial expenses
  - This means the end of the long-standing British policy of salutary neglect, whereby the colonies had largely been left alone to make their own decisions
- Political - England now had to keep the peace over half the continent
  - This meant managing disputes between American Indians and westward colonial expansion

#### American Indian Perspectives on the War's Meaning

- Land claims of Native Americans not recognized in the Treaty of Paris
- Tribal strategy of shifting their alliances between British and French no longer possible
- The result = Pontiac's Rebellion, 1763

The Imperial Solution = Stop Westward Settlement

- The Proclamation of 1763
  - Forbids colonial settlement west of Appalachian Mountains
  - A financial cost-reducing measure; this was easier and cheaper for England than a permanent military presence on the frontier to keep the peace

Imperial Perspectives on the War's Meaning

- As a mercantilist power, England was in the business of making money, not spending money
- This would require more imperial oversight of colonies

Colonial Perspectives on the War's Meaning

- Colonists felt they had made great sacrifices and contributions to the war effort
- Felt that they had "earned the right" to those lands...
- They believed that access to the western lands was the whole point of why the war had been fought

### 3.3 Taxation Without Representation

The problem with Coalition Warfare - With the removal of the French as a geopolitical threat, the necessity which had bound colonial subjects and their Imperial masters together began to unravel.

Imperial priorities

- a) Reducing expenses of Empire = Initiate new taxation policies
- b) Fully integrate Colonial American into the Empire
- c) Impress upon colonists that they had responsibilities to the Empire
- d) Hold the line on Mercantilism
  - i) Reduce illegal smuggling within the Colonies
  - ii) Restrict colonial manufacturing development

Imperial Means to Imperial Ends

- a) Proclamation of 1763
- b) Sugar Act
- c) Currency Act
- d) Quartering Act
- e) Stamp Act

Collective intent = have the colonists "pay their fair share" as members within the British empire

British lawmaking for the colonies was based upon the theory of "virtual representation," by which the role of Parliament was to legislate on behalf of the Colonists.

### The Colonial Competing Narrative

- Identified themselves as Englishmen, in full possession of all the political rights of Englishmen, who just happened to live on this side of the Atlantic
- Fell back upon traditions of Salutary Neglect, as well as the democratizing influences of the Great Awakening, and Enlightenment ideals about the Social contract/consent of the governed to argue that British legislating for the colonies was tyranny

This starts a process by which Colonists, irrespective of their colony of residence, become increasingly suspicious of Imperial motives, and begin to see things being done to them instead of for them

This represents the beginning of an intercolonial common cause, as shared grievances begin to gradually draw the 13 previously nonaligned colonies into an alignment

### Gradual steps towards organized colonial unity

- a) Committees of Correspondence
- b) Stamp Act Congress
- c) First Continental Congress, 1774

These groups all focused upon philosophical points of principle; legalistic formulations of an argument and discussions of liberty and governance - led and driven by the elite members of colonial society.

### More grassroots movements of protest

- a) The Sons of Liberty
- b) Nonimportation Agreements
- c) The Minutemen

These groups and movements involved colonial persons from all levels of society.

- Embodied a much greater working class presence
- Prone to more direct physical action (tarring and feathering, intimidation of royal officials, destruction of property)
- Boston Massacre and Boston Tea Party; examples of public defiance as public statements or propaganda victories

### Gender and Revolutionary Activism

- Women were critical to the success of the boycott movement
  - The production of handmade alternatives to British produced (and purchased) goods became a political statement
  - The success of boycotts as tools of economic warfare required the disciplined participation of persons from all levels of society

### Colonial Mobilization

- The Sons of Liberty began to collect and store weapons and supplies, establish intelligence networks, and create shadow governments at the local level
- The semi-regular militia (the Minutemen) was the outgrowth of these processes
- Women allied with the Patriot cause produced bandages, clothing, foodstuffs, gunpowder, bullets, and provided general supplies to the Army
- Once hostilities commenced, some traveled with the Army as camp followers, tending to wounded and providing general support

### 3.4 Philosophical Foundations of the American Revolution

The major claim of Enlightenment thought was a belief in reason as the key to understanding the universe, hence an emphasis upon science, testing, rationality, and logic.

- John Lock, Natural Law
- Jean Jacques Rousseau, The Social Contract

According to the concept of Natural Law, all people have inherent rights, not given to them by governments, but instead granted by God, nature, or reason.

Enlightenment thinkers believed that understanding nature's laws could lead to improvements in society.

As Deists, they questioned the established religious practices, dogma, and doctrines of their era.

Based upon Enlightenment thinking, the divine right of kings to rule people absolutely was both illogical and illegitimate. It ran counter to the natural order of the universe and was an artificial construction. The notion of the right to rule being passed down within a family was seen as fraudulent, and only beneficial to those who ruled by it.

Instead, Enlightenment philosophy claimed that the role of government was to be an agent to assure that people had access to their natural rights of life, liberty, and property. Any government which did not advance the cause of providing people with these rights was unjust and should be cast aside.

Hereditary privilege stood in the way of the natural order of things, conferring greater power, liberty, and rights to the few and less so the many, irrespective of how hard the many worked or how skilled and talented they were.

#### Religious Influences on Colonial Political Thinking

- The Great Awakening of the 1730s and 1740s cast a long shadow, influencing later colonial thought in two major ways:
  - Politically - diversity in religious opinion translated into diversity in political thought
  - Socially - the Great Awakening was an anti-hierarchical, anti-elitist movement

#### Putting Together Colonial Thinking on the Eve of Revolution

- Not a unified body politic, but a combination or amalgamation

- There's no one set narrative concerning:
  - What liberty is,
  - What it means to be a British subject,
  - What it means to defy crown law
- But among American political thinkers, an ideology begins to emerge
  - Ideology - body or set of political ideas that are connected to a movement or philosophy

The King and Parliament were both tyrannical and arbitrary; seen as takers-away of civil and economic rights. The British government (and governance) was increasingly seen as despotic, conspiratorial, rotten, and corrupt. This sort of thinking fueled an increasing Colonial paranoia over the “real” intent of British laws over time.

American political thinkers came to see their role in this drama as being the antidote to that corruption, in a Classical Republican sense.

- ➔ Classical Republicanism - A nation of virtuous, civic-minded citizens, with the collective good at the forefront of their minds and deeds, but that are not tyrannized as a result

Colonists increasingly embraced the concept of a “New World;” a place that was fresh, vibrant, pure, and fine, as opposed to the rotten, despotic, tyrannical “Old World” of Europe.

An evolution of the old Puritan ideal of “A City On A Hill;” older ideas shifted/modified to meet newer needs.

April 1775 - Lexington and Concord

May 1775 - Second Continental Congress meets

June 1775 - Battle of Bunker Hill

July 1775 - Olive Branch Petition

August 1775 - Royal Proclamation of Rebellion

October 1775 - Prohibitory Act (Britain forbids trade)

January 1776 - Publication of Common Sense

Even at year's end, many colonists, including those in positions of political and economic leadership, were hesitant to take the final step and declare a permanent break with Britain.

Thomas Paine -

- Paine arrived in the colonies in late 1774 and was frustrated by this course of events
- He put together a set of reasons for breaking away from England language that was well argued and articulate, yet concise and to the point
- The end result was a pamphlet that was easily produced, widely distributed, and ideal for mass consumption
- As a result, Common Sense became by far the most widely-read tract on political discourse within the colonies of the entire 18th century

### Three Main Themes of Common Sense

- 1) Divine right of kings was outdated, and Parliament was completely insensitive to colonial needs
- 2) England was using the colonies; the relationship between the two parties was of absolutely no economic benefit to the colonists whatsoever
- 3) American rights were being systematically taken away

June 1776 - Second Continental Congress debated independence, approved a draft declaration

- Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Ben Franklin, Robert Livingston, and Roger Sherman draft the document; Jefferson is lead author.

A sales pitch - designed to educate, inform, and persuade

Declaration structure -

- a) Opens with Lockean ideas of natural law/natural rights, and Rousseauian ideas of the social contract and consent of the governed
    - i) “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness - That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”
  - b) Then moves into a list of accumulated grievances that the colonies have endured under British rule
    - i) “The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.”
  - c) Concludes with separation as the only possible solution
    - i) “That these united Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states”
- Makes no mention of women, enslaved people, or American Indians
  - But these and numerous other politically marginalized groups would incorporate the language and reasoning of the Declaration into their own struggles to claim rights, opportunities, and equality from this point forward.

- ★ The importance of Thomas Paine’s *Common Sense* and the Second Continental Congress’ Declaration of Independence to the cause of the Revolution cannot be overstated. N
- ★ Both gave clarity and direction to the passions of their age

### 3.5 The American Revolution

- ⅔ Pro-revolution, ⅓ Pro-loyalist, ⅔ Non-aligned
- Partially explains why the war took 9 years
- Two sub-conflicts to warfare in the Colonies:
  - British v. Colonial conflict
  - Loyalist v. Patriot conflict

### The Respective Colonial Disadvantages

- No industrial base
  - Underfinanced/broke
  - Undersupplied and outgunned
  - Untrained in modern warfare techniques of this era
- ★ Consider the Revolution as “England’s Vietnam”
- War being fought on colonial soil, on colonial terms
  - Highly motivated; “Our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor”
  - Enemy easily identifiable
  - The ability for rapid movement
  - Washington’s leadership
  - Foreign assistance - Franco-American Alliance of 1778

### Unanticipated Challenges for the British Forces

- Asymmetrical warfare; guerilla conflict vs. a continental war
  - Fruits of experiences in French and Indian war
  - Conventional = big and heavy
- Long lines of communication for the British...extremely difficult to coordinate movement and strategy
- The sheer vastness of the territory over which the conflict would be waged

### Strategy and Tactics

- Great Britain
  - Divide and conquer
  - Control cities and the coast
  - Crush Continental army
- U.S. - guerilla war
  - Avoid major military battles - hit and run
  - Draw the British inland
  - Control the countryside
  - Fight at times and places of their own choosing

### Critical Phases of the War

- New York, Philadelphia - Washington gradually learns to win by not losing, established a stalemate in the North
- Saratoga and the French alliance of 1778
  - “Realpolitik” - the enemy of my enemy is my friend!
- War in the South - A dual conflict
  - An internal American Civil War of Loyalists v. Patriots, layered into a British-American conflict
    - The inability of the British to keep the peace here will be critical to their failure to win the Revolutionary War

British frustrations - Military victories were irrelevant

Southern disorder - British pursuit of American forces over the entire region, ultimately brought the undecided population to the Patriot side, which ended in siege at Yorktown

Treaty of Paris Terms of peace

- U.S. recognized

- Mississippi River = western boundary

- U.S. fishing rights off Canada

- British promise to evacuate the Great Lakes Northwest

- U.S. promises to compensate loyalists for lost properties

### 3.6 The Influence of Revolutionary Ideals

The Revolution and its rhetoric set loose forces that colonial elite leadership never anticipated (or wanted); one consequence was a culture of social leveling:

- An anti-aristocratic, pro-egalitarian, distrustful of distant authority movement
- Indentured servitude declines sharply

Consequences of Liberty's Democratization -

- Pre-revolution, no serious consideration was given to the abolition of slavery anywhere
- Postwar, abolition as an actual political position emerges
  - Vermont (1777), Pennsylvania (gradual abolition starting in 1780) lead the states in abolishing slavery
  - By 1800, all the Northeast except New Jersey were legally free states

Disestablishment -

- The elimination of official state-supported religions also came with independence
- No one faith denomination was any longer dominant enough throughout the colonies to control secular state power
- Freedom of religion emerged as a right in several states as they transitioned from colonies to states

Emerging state governments-common themes

- Limit governmental power
- Rejection of monarchy
- Emphasize civic and public virtue
- Political equality and egalitarianism
- Anti-deference

National government = more of the same

- Evidence of this was demonstrated in the crafting of the first document outlining the American system of national government, the Articles of Confederation, which created a loose network that tied the states together only when necessary



- A Nation of state dominance: A “Club”

#### Prewar Women’s Engagement

- Patriot women also picked up on the messages of liberty
- Emerged as local community activists
- Were particularly vital to the success of boycotts of English goods
- Wartime challenges -
  - Had to maintain households, farms, and commerce in absences of husbands
  - Formed groups and associations with other women to help one another and supply troops

#### Liberty’s ramifications

- Patriotic messaging of “tyranny” and “freedom” led women to consider their own positions in society
- This is the intellectual birth point of the American women’s movement - which argued that unlimited power in the hands of husbands was as bad as unlimited power in the hands of kings/governments!

“Republican Motherhood” - A philosophy which argued that women had a major role to play in securing the future of the new nation by raising the next generation of patriotic, virtuous, classical republican (male) citizens who would grow to lead the country

- First articulated by Benjamin Rush, *Essay on Female Education*, 1787
- In order to fulfill this patriotic duty, women would have to have greater access to education and intellectual development
- So, women’s *roles* remained the same, but their *status* in these roles was elevated.

#### Global Reach of the American Revolution -

- In France, similar beliefs to those that propelled the American Revolution led to the overthrow of the Monarchy and rejection of the theory of divine right of kings.
- Ideas like the natural inalienable rights of all persons, consent of the governed, and (small-”d.” small-”r”) democratic-republican rule of law resonated with groups striving for independence globally
- In South and Central America, nineteenth-century decolonization and independence drew heavily upon the ideas and tactics of the American Revolution in a series of campaigns that liberated the regions from Spanish Imperial Rule
- Simon Bolivar was the most prominent of the revolutionary leaders in these movements that were influenced by North American events

### 3.7 Articles of Confederation

The Fear of Tyranny - appointed special Constitutional Committees to draft state constitutions, as opposed to allowing the state legislatures to do it themselves; *if legislatures could make constitutions, they could also unmake them* = shifting the law to meet their own interests, as opposed to the people’s interests.

To avoid the centralization of power...

- Adopted State Bills of Rights
- Constrained the Executive's power, or had executive powers carried out by committee
- Voting rights mostly maintained by white owners of property
- Legislatures, "the law-making," seen as the most important branch of government

Under the Articles of Confederation, there was no executive branch of the government to oversee the coordination of the laws Congress passed; that was Congress' job. It was felt that having an executive branch was too much like having a king, and that was something the framers of the Articles wished to avoid. This organizational defect wound up having several unintended consequences.

#### Struggling With the Peacetime Issues -

- Demobilization of the army
- National debt
- Inability to regulate foreign commerce
- No restrictions on states printing currency
- Inability to force Britain to leave military installations in the Northwest Territory

The weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation outweighed its strengths, but this is not to say that it did not have any positive accomplishments - successfully prosecuted the Revolutionary War, gave the ex-colonists a form of national citizenship, was able to successfully get the states to cede their Western land claims to the federal government.

#### A significant AOC accomplishment - Northwest Ordinance (1787)

- First major allotment of western land to be opened for settlement - set up the township system and admission process (once settlers reached a certain number, they would be allowed to enter the Union as a fully equal state)
- Eliminated the problem of colonies for the ex-colonies
- Specifically resourced the establishment of public schools
- One major proviso of this ordinance was that slavery was NOT allowed

#### The Consequences of a Limited National Government

- The united States was a weak new republic in a world of strong imperialism monarchies
- Inability to regulate foreign commerce
- National debt and the challenges of revenue
- Inability to force Britain to leave military installations in the Northwest Territory

#### Government at the National Level

- The framers of the AOC had wanted a loose organization of states that had more power than the central government. While this may have been a good idea when crafted, it was not long into practice that severe problems emerged.
- Congress could not stop one state from raising taxes on imports while another one lowered them to draw new customers to their market!

- The same thing occurred with money. Congress could not stop states from printing money to pay their debts. Many states printed freely, with nothing of value backing the money. Such reckless decisions led to inflation and made the paper money worthless.

Two undying problems...

1. Issues with paper currency and debt
2. Arguments on political equality and the limits of republicanism
  - a. A gradual shift to conservatism...some began to feel that the equality movement had gone too far towards “mob rule”; think the “better sort” should rule.
  - b. EXAMPLE: in PA, the radical, “leveling” state constitution of 1776 was replaced by a document that centralized power.

### 3.8 The Constitutional Convention and Debate over Ratification

In the Constitutional Convention,

- Federalists and anti-federalist factions formed
- Key leaders emerged on each side
- Convention lasted from May-September 1787

Convention compromises -

1. Representation in bicameral legislature
2. Executive branch (electoral college)
3. Central vs. state power (federalism) - more thoroughly discussed in 3.9
4. Slavery (% Compromise) - more thoroughly discussed in 3.9

Bicameral legislature -

- Senate = 2 per state
- House of representatives = proportional to population (census every 10 years)

Electoral college -

- System for electing the President
  - Each state elects “electors” (Nov. Election)
  - The “electors” represent their state in the electoral college (Dec. Vote)
  - The number of electors for each state equals the state’s number of senators + the number of members of the House
  - “Winner take all” format
- Reasons for electoral college in 1787
  - Control voter fraud
  - Informed voters
  - Distribute voting power between large and small states
  - Modern implications???

The bicameral legislature and the electoral college were created as compromises between the large states and small states at the Constitutional Convention.

#### Federalist leaders -

- James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay
- Wrote essays for New York Newspapers (Oct. 1787 - May 1788)
- Series of 85 essays (collectively the *Federalist Papers*)
- Authored under pseudonym, "Publius"
- Explain rationale for new government structure and ratification

#### Anti-federalist leaders -

- George Clinton, Patrick Henry, Samuel Adams, George Mason, Richard Henry Lee, and John DeWitt
- Anti-federalist essays written under the name "Cato," "Brutus," and "Federal Farmer"
- Primary questions about the proposed Constitution
  - Need for a Bill of Rights
  - Protection of state power

Opinions on a Bill of Rights - Hamilton (Federalists) believed that defining a specific list of rights actually limits the rights of the people. DeWitt (Anti-federalist) believed that the governed must have explicit protection from the government.

### 3.9 Constitution

State power	National power
Public safety Schools Intrastate commerce Anything not specifically given to nat. Gov't	Coin money Foreign affairs Mail service War declaration Intl. trade and interstate trade

National government structure	State government structure
Executive = President Legislature = Senate + House Judicial = Supreme Court + Federal Courts	Executive = Governor Legislature = General Assembly (GA ex.) Judicial = State Court System (state law enforced)

#### Checks and Balances -

Legislative branch	Executive branch	Judicial branch
(Makes laws) Impeach president Approve treaties Override vetoes Impeach judges' amendments	(Implements the laws) Appoint judges Veto laws	(Interprets the laws) Overturn laws Overturn Exec. orders

What changed?

- Federal power superior to state power
- Federal power to tax (states already had the power)
- Created new federal court system and President
- Representation in federal legislature changed
- Easier to amend Constitution than Articles
- Federal regulation of trade between states and internationally
- Federal responsibility for foreign affairs

What stayed the same?

- Type of government (Republic - not a monarchy)
- Some individuals were still denied rights or freedoms

### 3.10 Shaping a New Republic

George Washington's Cabinet

- Thomas Jefferson - Secretary of State
- Alexander Hamilton - Secretary of the Treasury
- Henry Knox - Secretary of War
- Edmund Randolph - Attorney General

Reign of Terror - During George Washington's presidency was the French Revolution, where France had declared war on Great Britain. This was a big debate within the government because half of his cabinet (such as Alexander Hamilton) wanted to support the British for a better economy. On the other hand, the anti-federalists (such as Thomas Jefferson) thought it was more ideal to support the French because the French had supported them during their revolution.

National economy was in trouble!

- War debt
- Creditors want payment
- Trade limited

Enumerated powers (Article I, Section 8)

- Specific list of legislative powers
- 18 are listed
- None specifically say the legislature can create a bank

Strict Construction = only what is specifically list is allowed - nothing more

Loose Construction = additional powers allowed through necessary and proper clause (implied powers)

	Federalists	Anti-federalists Jeffersonians
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		Democratic Republicans Republicans
Leaders	A. Hamilton J. Adams	T. Jefferson J. Madison
Interpretation of the Constitution	Loose ... (implied powers) Wanted a strong central government	Strict Favored states' rights and weak national government
Hamilton's program	Favored - beneficial to economic interests	Opposed - too much power to government

### 3.12 Movement in the Early Republic

Movement west -

- Western farmers distilled surplus grain crops into whiskey
- Hamilton's Financial Plan = Excise Tax on whiskey
- Western Pennsylvania farmers resisted paying the tax

Whiskey Rebellion

- Farmers were frustrated because they lost their profit from whiskey sales
- They engaged in violence towards tax collectors
- Initially sent negotiators - no success
- Washington and Hamilton led approximately 12,000 militia troops to Pennsylvania to enforce the federal tax and stop the rebellion
- Rebels dispersed before the force arrived
- Importance: Demonstrated the strength of the new federal government

Shay's Rebellion (1786) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Western Massachusetts farmers</li> <li>- Challenged farm foreclosures</li> <li>- Articles of Confederation - no national power to stop rebellion</li> </ul>	Whiskey Rebellion (1794) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Western Pennsylvania farmers</li> <li>- Challenged national tax</li> <li>- United States Constitution - national power stopped rebellion</li> </ul>
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