

Tea Party Dramaturgical Research

ACT I

Scene 1

P.4

Philadelphia 1776: August 2, 1776, is one of the most important but least celebrated days in American history when 56 members of the Second Continental Congress started signing the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia. Then on July 8, 1776, Colonel John Nixon of Philadelphia read a printed Declaration of Independence to the public for the first time on what is now called Independence Square.

Paris 1789: French Revolution: The underlying causes of the French Revolution are usually attributed to the Ancien Régime's failure to manage social and economic inequality. Rapid population growth and the inability to adequately finance government debt resulted in economic depression, unemployment and high food prices. Combined with a regressive tax system and resistance to reform by the ruling elite, it resulted in a crisis Louis XVI proved unable to manage. Continuing unrest culminated in the Storming of the Bastille on 14 July, which led to a series of radical measures by the Assembly, including the abolition of feudalism, the imposition of state control over the Catholic Church in France, and extension of the right to vote.
(January 21, 1793 Louis XVI executed)

St. Petersburg 1917: The Russian Revolution was a period of political and social revolution that took place in the former Russian Empire, and began during the First World War. This period saw Russia abolish its monarchy and adopt a socialist form of government following two successive revolutions and a bloody civil war. The Russian Revolution can also be seen as the precursor for the other European revolutions that occurred during or in the aftermath of WWI, such as the German Revolution of 1918.
(16–17 July 1918 Tsar Nicholas II and his family were executed by the Bolsheviks in Yekaterinburg.)

Berlin 1930s: The grip of Nazism in the German capital of Berlin had begun the decade before, but it hit fever pitch in 1930 as Hitler and his Nazi Party launched a campaign to be voted into parliament. There were thousands of meetings, torchlight parades, propaganda posters and millions of Nazi newspapers in circulation. Hitler restored much of the population's hope with vague promises of employment, prosperity, profit and the restoration of German glory. On election day on September 14, 1930, the Nazis were voted into parliament and thus became the second largest political party in Germany. This power increased by 1933, with Hitler named the Chancellor of Germany.
(Sept 1st, 1939 Hitler invades Poland and officially begins WWII)
(Dec 7, 1941 Pearl Harbor. US officially entered WWII)

Note: Berlin was the most liberal German city—people came from all over the world to visit its gay and gender queer clubs in the 20s, so Nazis overrunning it was like the Proud Boys taking control of SF or Manhattan. It happened quickly and at the last minute bc people didn't think it could happen there. See Cabaret (or better I Am a Camera) and Babylon Berlin (Netflix)

Zuccotti Park:

- **American Revolution:** The site was the location of the first coffeehouse in colonial New York City, The King's Arms which opened under the ownership of Lieutenant John Hutchins in 1696. It stood on the west side of Broadway between Crown (now Liberty) Street and Little Queen (now Cedar) Street.[3] On November 5, 1773, summoned by the Sons of Liberty, a huge crowd assembled outside the coffee house to denounce the Tea Act, and agents of the East India Trading Company who were handling cargoes of dutied tea. It was perhaps the first public demonstration in opposition to the Tea Act in the American colonies.
- **September 11th 2001:** The park was one of the few open spaces with tables and seats in the Financial District. Located one block from the World Trade Center, it was covered with debris, and subsequently used as a staging area for the recovery efforts after the destruction of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.
- **Occupy Wall Street:** Beginning on September 17, 2011, Zuccotti Park was occupied by protesters during Occupy Wall Street during the Occupy Wall Street movement, many protesters inhabited Zuccotti Park and spent their days and nights there, despite park rules prohibiting staying overnight. Attempts were made by the NYPD to disperse the protesters, but not until November 15, 2011 were they substantially evicted. At that time, police officers lit up the area with floodlights and began to clear out the park. Tents, tarps, and other forms of shelters were immediately removed, but protesters began to resist being driven out of the park. This led to the pepper-spraying and detainment of some protesters. After the park was reopened to the public, it was made known that protesters were still permitted to exercise their civil rights, but that this did not include sleeping and camping out at the park. Some protesters attempted to remain at the site after this, which led to continuing conflict with the police. After the complete eviction of the protesters from Zuccotti Park, they rallied again and attempted to take over other locations.

P.5

Berlin Brown-shirts: The SA were the Sturmabteilung, meaning 'assault division'. The group were also known as the Brownshirts or Storm Troopers. It was a violent paramilitary group attached to the Nazi Party in pre-World War Two Germany.

The SA was instrumental in the Nazi's rise to power yet played a diminished role during the Second World War. The Brownshirts are infamous for their operation outside of the law and their violent intimidation of Germany's leftists and Jewish population.

However, it was the SA's thuggish vigilantism, independence from the regular army (which caused hostility between the two), and anti-capitalist sentiments of its leader, Ernst Röhm, that ultimately caused its undoing.

Hitler formed the SA in Munich in 1921, drawing membership from violent anti-leftist and anti-democratic former soldiers (including the Freikorps) in order to lend muscle to the young Nazi Party, using them like a private army to intimidate opponents. According to the Nuremberg Military Tribunal, the SA was 'a group composed in large part of ruffians and bullies'.

Many of the SA were former soldiers, upset with the way they had been treated after World War One. Germany's defeat in the war had come as a surprise to the German people, which led to a theory that the brave German army had been 'stabbed in the back' by the politicians.

P. 6

Warsaw: Before World War II, the city was a major center of Jewish life and culture in Poland. Warsaw's prewar Jewish population of more than 350,000 constituted about 30 percent of the city's total population. The Warsaw Jewish community was the largest in both Poland and Europe, and was the second largest in the world, second only to New York City.

Following the German invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939, Warsaw suffered heavy air attacks and artillery bombardment. German troops entered Warsaw on September 29, shortly after its surrender.

Less than a week later, German officials ordered the establishment of a Jewish council (Judenrat) under the leadership of a Jewish engineer named Adam Czerniaków. As chairman of the Jewish council, Czerniaków had to administer the soon-to-be established ghetto and to implement German orders. On November 23, 1939, German civilian occupation authorities required Warsaw's Jews to identify themselves by wearing white armbands with a blue Star of David. View This Term in the Glossary The German authorities closed Jewish schools, confiscated Jewish-owned property, and conscripted Jewish men into forced labor and dissolved prewar Jewish organizations.

On October 12, 1940, the Germans decreed the establishment of a ghetto in Warsaw. The decree required all Jewish residents of Warsaw to move into a designated area, which German authorities sealed off from the rest of the city in November 1940. The ghetto was enclosed by a wall that was over 10 feet high, topped with barbed wire, and closely guarded to prevent movement between the ghetto and the rest of Warsaw. The population of the ghetto, increased by Jews compelled to move in from nearby towns, was estimated to be over 400,000 Jews. German authorities forced ghetto residents to live in an area of 1.3 square miles, with an average of 7.2 persons per room.

Hang-fly: They are solitary. When disturbed they fly away, flying only in short bursts.

They tend to be weak, slow, flapping fliers. Hanging-flies hang from plants by their forelegs waiting to catch prey with their hind legs. Both hanging-flies and scorpion-flies tend to be predators preying on flies, moths, bees, spiders and various larvae. Some are also scavengers taking nectar as they hunt. They are active during the day.

Scene 2

P. 7 “how much do you have to know about a person to care?”

Third Man scene

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21h0G_gU9Tw

Scene 3

P.12

Frat-fucking/Rat Fucking (Dirty trickster): Ratfucking is an American slang term for political sabotage or dirty tricks, particularly pertaining to elections. It was brought to public attention by Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein in the book which chronicled their investigative reporting of the Watergate affair, *All the President's Men* (1974).

Woodward and Bernstein's account in *All the President's Men* reports that many Republican staffers (H. R. Haldeman (pre-1948), Donald Segretti (early 1960s), White House aide Tim Elbourne, Ronald Louis Ziegler, and Dwight Chapin) had attended the University of Southern California and participated in the highly competitive student elections there. At USC, future Watergate scandal participants Dwight Chapin, Tim Elbourne, Donald Segretti, Gordon Strachan, Herbert Porter, and Ron Ziegler were members of Trojans for Representative Government. UPI reporter Karlyn Barker sent Woodward and Bernstein a memo, "Notes On the USC Crowd", that outlined the connection. Fraternities, sororities, and underground fraternal coordinating organizations—such as Theta Nu Epsilon and their splintered rival "Trojans for Representative Government"—engaged in creative tricks and underhanded tactics to win student elections. Officially, control over minor funding and decision-making on campus life was at stake, but the positions also gave bragging rights and prestige. The tactics were either promoted by or garnered the interest of major political figures on the USC board of trustees, such as Dean Rusk and John A. McCone. The young operators called these practices ratfucking.

P. 13 “burn you all”

Heathers ref:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zf1z17EJ-Vg>

Scene 4

P.15

“The 16th Amendment was fraudulently ratified”: The Law That Never Was: The Fraud of the 16th Amendment and Personal Income Tax is a 1985 book by William J. Benson and Martin J. "Red" Beckman which claims that the Sixteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, commonly known as the income tax amendment, was never properly ratified. In 2007, and again in 2009, Benson's contentions were ruled to be fraudulent.

Under Article V of the U.S. Constitution, an amendment proposed by Congress must be ratified by three-fourths of the states to become part of the Constitution. The Article permits Congress to specify, for each amendment, whether the ratification must be by each state's legislature or by a constitutional convention in each state; for the Sixteenth Amendment, Congress specified ratification by the legislatures. There were 48 states in the Union in 1913 — the year when the Sixteenth Amendment was finally ratified — which meant that the Amendment required ratification by the legislatures of 36 states to become effective. In February 1913, Secretary of State Philander C. Knox issued a proclamation that 38 states had ratified the amendment. According to Congressional analysis, a total of 42 states had ratified the amendment as of 1992.

P.16

Hue City: The Battle of Huế (31 January 1968 – 2 March 1968), also called the siege of Huế, was a major military engagement in the Tết Offensive launched by North Vietnam and the Việt Cộng during the Vietnam War. After initially losing control of most of Huế and its surroundings, the combined South Vietnamese and American forces gradually recaptured the city over one month of intense fighting. The battle was one of the longest and bloodiest of the war, and the battle negatively affected American public perception of the war.

Stalingrad: The Battle of Stalingrad (23 August 1942 – 2 February 1943)[16][17][18] was a major battle on the Eastern Front of World War II where Nazi Germany and its allies unsuccessfully fought the Soviet Union for control of the city of Stalingrad (later renamed Volgograd) in Southern Russia. The battle was marked by fierce close-quarters combat and direct assaults on civilians in air raids, with the battle epitomizing urban warfare.[19][20][21] The Battle of Stalingrad was the deadliest battle to take place during the Second World War.

The Battle of Berlin: Designated as the Berlin Strategic Offensive Operation by the Soviet Union, and also known as the Fall of Berlin, was one of the last major offensives of the European theatre of World War II.

Soviet offensive resumed on 16 April, two Soviet fronts (army groups) attacked Berlin from the east and south, while a third overran German forces positioned north of Berlin. Before the main battle in Berlin commenced, the Red Army encircled the city after successful battles of the Seelow Heights and Halbe. On 20 April 1945, Hitler's birthday, the 1st Belorussian Front led by Marshal Georgy Zhukov, advancing from the east and north, started shelling Berlin's city centre,

while Marshal Ivan Konev's 1st Ukrainian Front broke through Army Group Centre and advanced towards the southern suburbs of Berlin. On 23 April General Helmuth Weidling assumed command of the forces within Berlin. The garrison consisted of several depleted and disorganized Army and Waffen-SS divisions, along with poorly trained Volkssturm and Hitler Youth members. Over the course of the next week, the Red Army gradually took the entire city.

Prenzlaur Berg: From the 1960s onward, Prenzlauer Berg was associated with proponents of East Germany's diverse counterculture including Christian activists, bohemians, state-independent artists, and the gay community. It was an important site for the peaceful revolution that brought down the Berlin Wall in 1989. In the 1990s the borough was also home to a vibrant squatting scene. It has since experienced rapid gentrification.

P. 17

“Most of them”

▶ **Michael Cohen to CNN: What polls show Donald Trump is losing?**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2Kb7IDmFF4>

P.18

Prisoner Kisses Prisoner 2

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gpK6uc2yD3w>

ACT II

Scene 3

P.29

Baader-Meinhof: The Red Army Faction (German: Rote Armee Fraktion), also known as the Baader–Meinhof Group or Baader–Meinhof Gang, was a West German far-left Marxist-Leninist urban guerrilla group founded in 1970.

The RAF described itself as a communist, anti-imperialist, and urban guerrilla group engaged in armed resistance against what they deemed to be a fascist state.

The RAF engaged in a series of bombings, assassinations, kidnappings, bank robberies, and shoot-outs with police over the course of three decades. Their activity peaked in late 1977, which led to a national crisis that became known as the "German Autumn". The RAF has been held responsible for 34 deaths, including industrialist Hanns Martin Schleyer, the Dresdner Bank head Jürgen Ponto, and the federal prosecutor Siegfried Buback, as well as many secondary targets, such as chauffeurs and bodyguards, with many others injured throughout its almost thirty years of activity; 26 RAF members or supporters were killed.

Red Brigades: The Red Brigades (Italian: Brigate Rosse [bri'ga:te 'rosse], often abbreviated BR) was a far-left Marxist–Leninist armed organization operating as a terrorist and guerrilla

group based in Italy responsible for numerous violent incidents, including the abduction and murder of former Prime Minister Aldo Moro, during the Years of Lead.

Formed in 1970, the Red Brigades sought to create a revolutionary state through armed struggle, and to remove Italy from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). The organization attained notoriety in the 1970s and early 1980s with their violent acts of sabotage, bank robberies, the kneecapping of certain industrialists, factory owners, bankers, and politicians deemed to be exploitative; and the kidnappings and/or murders of industrialists, prominent capitalists, politicians, law enforcement officials, and other perceived “enemies” of the working-class revolution. Nearly fifty people were killed in its attacks between 1974 and 1988.

Scene 4

P. 34

Models for Sarah as Republican

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEpOK2cb0w4>

A bunch of them <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqPI-CIVWs8>

ACT III

Scene 1

P.38

Robespierre: Maximilien Robespierre (born May 6, 1758, Arras, France—died July 28, 1794, Paris), was a radical Jacobin leader and one of the principal figures in the French Revolution. He called for King Louis XVI to be put on trial for treason and won many enemies, but the people of Paris consistently came to his defense.

In December 1792, he successfully argued in favor of Louis XVI's execution, and in May 1793 he encouraged the people to rise up in insurrection over military defeats and a food shortage.

In the latter months of 1793 he came to dominate the Committee of Public Safety, the principal organ of the Revolutionary government during the Reign of Terror (In less than a year, 300,000 suspected enemies of the Revolution were arrested; at least 10,000 died in prison, and 17,000 were officially executed, many by guillotine in the Place de la Revolution. In the orgy of bloodshed, Robespierre succeeded in purging many of his political opponents.), but in 1794 he was overthrown and executed in the Thermidorian Reaction.

In the aftermath of the coup, the Committee of Public Safety lost its authority, the prisons were emptied, and the French Revolution became decidedly less radical. The Directory that followed saw a return to bourgeois values, corruption, and military failure. In 1799, the Directory was

overthrown in a military coup led by Napoleon Bonaparte, who wielded dictatorial powers in France as first consul and, after 1804, as French emperor.

Hitler: Adolf Hitler was born in Braunau am Inn in Austria-Hungary and was raised near Linz. He lived in Vienna later in the first decade of the 1900s and moved to Germany in 1913. He was decorated during his service in the German Army in World War I. In 1919, he joined the German Workers' Party (DAP), the precursor of the Nazi Party, and was appointed leader of the Nazi Party in 1921. In 1923, he attempted to seize governmental power in a failed coup in Munich (Beer Hall Putsch) and was imprisoned with a sentence of five years. In jail, he dictated the first volume of his autobiography and political manifesto *Mein Kampf* ("My Struggle"). After his early release in 1924, Hitler gained popular support by attacking the Treaty of Versailles and promoting pan-Germanism, anti-Semitism and anti-communism with charismatic oratory and Nazi propaganda.

By November 1932, the Nazi Party held the most seats in the German Reichstag but did not have a majority. As a result, no party was able to form a majority parliamentary coalition in support of a candidate for chancellor. The former chancellor Franz von Papen and other conservative leaders persuaded President Paul von Hindenburg to appoint Hitler as chancellor on 30 January 1933. Shortly after, the Reichstag passed the Enabling Act of 1933 which began the process of transforming the Weimar Republic into Nazi Germany, a one-party dictatorship based on the totalitarian and autocratic ideology of Nazism. On 2 August 1934, Hindenburg died and Hitler replaced him as the head of state and government.
(30 April 1945 Hitler committed suicide to avoid capture by the Soviet Red Army)

Scene 2

P.41

Rome *"They gave the provinces citizenship. What it stood for changed the numbers"*

The *Constitutio Antoniniana* (Latin for: "Constitution [or Edict] of Antoninus") (also called the Edict of Caracalla or the Antonine Constitution) was an edict issued in AD 212, by the Roman Emperor Caracalla. It declared that all free men in the Roman Empire were to be given full Roman citizenship (by extension all free women in the Empire were to be given the same rights as Roman women, such as the *jus trium liberorum*), with the exception of the *dediticii*, people who had become subject to Rome through surrender in war, and freed slaves.

In the words of Cassius Dio: "This was the reason why he made all the people in his empire Roman citizens; nominally he was honoring them, but his real purpose was to increase his revenues by this means, inasmuch as aliens did not have to pay most of these taxes." However, few of those that gained citizenship were wealthy, and while it is true that Rome was in a difficult financial situation, it is thought that this could not have been the sole purpose of the edict. Cassius Dio generally saw Caracalla as a bad, contemptible emperor.

Scene 4

ACCENTS

Russian

▶ How to pronounce Boris Sheremetev (Russian/Russia) - PronounceNames.com

<https://www.rbth.com/education/327126-10-steps-to-get-russian-accent> (they don't explain #9 right: questions in Russian have a different inflection pattern than English)

Most sounds are made in the back of the throat, but a few upper front palate. It depends on the vowel after the consonant and there are diacritical marks that indicate them. If I say it's a Hard L, for example, that's heavy, back of throat, whereas a Soft L is made by touching the tip of the tongue to the back of the teeth and raising the tongue to the roof of the mouth

▶ From the 60 Minutes archives: Alexey Navalny (start at 2:51)

And hey, why not check out Putin himself? ▶ Vladimir Putin Speaks English (Compilation)

LANGUAGE

Has no word for "the" or "a"

On the other hand, there are a million words for getting around, four verb roots (go directionally on foot, go generally on foot, go directionally in a vehicle, go generally in a vehicle) plus prefixes that make them even more specific. Russians will never say "I'm going"—it's always "I'm popping out" "I'm going to one place for a while" "I'm going to wander around" "I'm going through a place" "I'm going just as far as a place but not in it." Each of these English phrases is one word in Russian.

There are no Th/th, h, j, w, x—these go to Z or D/S or T; G or Kh; Dzh; V; Ks

There are no variations within vowel other than them being Hard or Soft: Ah/yah, Eih (make with mouth in "a" as in "air")/(has no soft option), Eh/yeh, Ee/yee, Aw (a triphthong like New Yorkers say it)/yaw, oo/yoo. They don't know or uh as in Russian, so they say RAH-shyen

Has flexible word order—you put the new or otherwise important info at the end to make sure everyone gets it.

Parts of speech always mean the same thing, so you can invent words that all will understand.

Russians always ask requests in the negative "You wouldn't have any change, would you?"

More polite to offer that "no" is okay

But they join conversations with a challenge: "You can't POSSIBLY be saying... (whatever the person said)." I'm not kidding. I once heard one old woman on a bus say to another "You can't POSSIBLY be saying there's no such thing as absolute evil." This is also polite because everybody loves a good debate and you're offering a chance for the person to expound further.

Other typical Russian phrases:

There is never any food on the Russian table but there is ALWAYS food on the Russian table (their version of don't stick your nose in other people's business): Don't stick your dick in the tea.

This last one is from a swearing-based sublanguage usually confined to the military and the mafia—and [Putin is notorious for using it in govt](#)

RUSSIAN CULTURE

Russians pride themselves in being “long-suffering” as much as Americans take pride in being “free,” and their Russian soul is very important to them

<https://9gag.com/gag/a1RbrxD>

They’ve been living in desperation forever and chaos since 1917, so their humor is *dark* and they swing between grandiosity and nihilism

<https://www.instagram.com/lookatthisrussian/feed/?hl=en>

And then just plain weirdness—this guy is one of their most famous singers (now hes more into crooning cliched love songs) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVj0ZTS4WF4>