

American Revolution study questions and key concepts are below. Remember that you need to be able to answer each question using relevant, specific details. A thorough, complete answer would be about 1-2 paragraphs long.

1. What characteristics defined the American identity as it began to emerge in the 18th century? How did the formation of an American identity play a role in the revolution?

Key terms, concepts and documents: "Letters from an American Farmer" (Crevecoeur), Poor Richard's Almanack (Ben Franklin), "Yankee Doodle"

2. What caused the French and Indian War? What impact did it have on the colonies?

Key terms, concepts and documents: "Join or Die" cartoon, Albany Plan of Union, George Washington, Proclamation of 1763

3. How did the relationship between Britain and the colonies change between the 1750's and the 1770's? Why did it change (what events caused these two groups to think differently about each other)?

Key terms, concepts and documents: Mercantilism, image of a colonial dining room, Provincials, Customs Duty, Writs of Assistance, Sugar Act, Stamp Act, Quartering Act, Townshend Acts, Tea Act

4. What rights did the colonists have? What were the legal sources of these rights?

Key terms, concepts and documents: Magna Carta, English Bill of Rights, Mayflower Compact, Virginia Charter, Massachusetts Bay Charter, Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, John Locke

5. Why did Boston become a key location in the revolution (the "cradle of the revolution")?

Key terms, concepts and documents: Paul Revere, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Abigail Adams, John Hancock, Boston Massacre, Boston Tea Party, Intolerable/Coercive Acts, Boycotts, Lexington and Concord, Siege of Boston, Bunker Hill, Patriots, Minutemen

6. How did the radicals/revolutionaries/patriots encourage others to support independence?

Key terms, concepts and documents: Propaganda, "Bloody Massacre" by Paul Revere, "Common Sense" by Thomas Paine, Patrick Henry

7. Was independence inevitable (unavoidable)? What key events lined the "road to revolution?" What point was the "point of no return" (when independence became the only course of action)?

Key terms, concepts and documents: Thomas Jefferson, Olive Branch Petition, King George III, Enlightenment, natural rights

8. Was there more of a "U.S. IS" or a "U.S. ARE" feeling in the revolutionary period? Were the colonies more united or divided?

Key terms, concepts and documents: "Join or Die," Stamp Act Congress, committees of correspondence, First and Second Continental Congresses