**Chapter 5**

**The Road to Revolution 1745–1776**

**What You Will Learn**

Britain and the American colonists win the French and Indian War. When Britain tries to exert greater control over the colonies, tensions mount and finally erupt into a war of revolution.

**Chapter 5 Focus Question**

As you read this chapter, keep this question in mind: **How did the relationship between Britain and the colonies fall apart?**

**Section 1**

**Trouble on the Frontier**

**Section 1 Focus Question**

How did the British gain French territory in North America? To begin answering this question,

- Understand how territorial conflicts caused war between Britain and France.
- Find out why British generals suffered so many early defeats.
- Learn about the Battle of Quebec and how the Treaty of Paris increased British territory.

**Section 1 Summary**

Britain and France fought over North American territory. After several defeats, the British rallied to win the key battle of Quebec. The French surrendered their American territories to Britain and Spain.

**Competing Empires**

France and Britain controlled large areas of North America by the mid-1700s. In 1753, the French began building forts to back their claim to the Ohio River valley. The Virginia Colony disputed France’s claim. The governor of Virginia sent soldiers, led by young George Washington, to build a fort where the Ohio River forms. But the French were already building Fort Duquesne (du KANE) at the spot. A large French army forced Washington and his men to return to Virginia.

At the request of the British government, colonial leaders met in Albany, New York. They discussed the war looming with France and a possible alliance with the Iroquois. An alliance is an agreement made between two countries to help each other. The Iroquois, believing the French had the stronger military advantage, chose not to ally with the British. At the meeting, Benjamin Franklin pre-
resented his Albany Plan of Union. Under this plan, colonial assemblies would elect a council that had authority over western settlements, as well as the power to organize armies and collect taxes to pay war expenses. The Albany Congress agreed to the plan, but the colonial assemblies, fearful of losing control of their taxes and armies, rejected it.

**Early British Defeats**

In 1755, the British government sent General Edward Braddock to push the French from the Ohio River valley. Braddock was not familiar with the fighting tactics of Native Americans in the wilderness. As Braddock’s British troops and Virginia militia neared Fort Duquesne, the French and their Native American allies launched a crushing ambush. Braddock and more than half his men were killed. During this same year, the British colonials were also defeated at Fort Niagara and suffered heavy losses near Lake George.

In May 1756, Britain declared war on France—the official beginning of the Seven Years’ War. Shortly after, the French captured two more British forts.

**The British Turn the Tide**

When William Pitt became Britain’s prime minister in 1757, he appointed superior generals whose talents were equal to the French challenge. This change of military command paid off. In 1758, Britain captured the fort at Louisbourg and then Fort Duquesne. These two victories, followed by others, finally convinced the Iroquois to ally with the British. With growing confidence in their military strength, Britain prepared to attack the city of Quebec, the capital of New France.

The Battle of Quebec took place in September 1759. General James Wolfe led the British. The French were led by General Montcalm. The British won a key victory. Without Quebec, France could not defend the rest of its territories. In 1763, the two countries signed the Treaty of Paris. France ceded, or surrendered, almost all of its North American possessions to Britain and Spain.

**Checkpoint**

State the cause of the initial clash between the British and the French.

**Checkpoint**

Explain why Braddock’s well-trained troops suffered defeat at Fort Duquesne.

**Checkpoint**

Name two victories that convinced the Iroquois to ally with the British.

**Check Your Progress**

1. What were the provisions of the Albany Plan of Union?

2. What two military changes helped the British win?
Section 1 Notetaking Study Guide

Question to Think About  As you read Section 1 in your textbook and take notes, keep this section focus question in mind: How did the British gain French territory in North America?

► Use this chart to record key information from the section. Some information has been filled in to get you started.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competing Empires</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The French and Indian War begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• By the 1750s, the British and French were in conflict over the Ohio River valley.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To protect Britain’s claim to the valley, built Fort Necessity south of France’s Fort Duquesne.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• A large French army forced Washington to __________________________.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Albany Congress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• During a meeting in Albany, New York, colonial leaders discussed how to win the war and forming an alliance with the ________________________, who refused to ally with the British.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• __________________________ drew up the Albany Plan of Union.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provisions of the Plan:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. A council would have authority over __________________________ and relations with __________________________.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The council could organize __________ armies and collect __________________________.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Colonial assemblies __________________________ the plan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early British Defeats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• British General __________________________ was defeated at Fort Duquesne when he ignored warnings about the dangers of ambushes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In May 1756, Britain declared war on France, the official beginning of the __________ __________.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• French General Montcalm captured __________________________ on Lake Ontario and __________________________ on Lake George.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The British Turn the Tide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• British Prime Minister __________________________ sent top generals to command the British.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In the fall of 1758, the British took __________________________.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• In 1759, the British captured __________________________, the capital of New France. The other major French city, __________________________, fell in 1760.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Terms of the Treaty of Paris, 1763
• Britain’s new territories: __________________________
• Spain’s new territories: __________________________

Refer to this page to answer the Chapter 5 Focus Question on page 77.
Section 2 Focus Question
How did the French and Indian War draw the colonists closer together but increase friction with Britain? To begin answering this question,

- Find out why Britain prevented colonists from settling beyond the Appalachian Mountains.
- Learn why Britain tried to increase the colonists’ taxes.
- Find out how the colonists reacted to the Stamp Act.
- Understand why the Townshend Acts provoked protest.

Section 2 Summary
To pay its war debts, Britain levied new taxes and controls on the American colonists. Each new act caused greater disunity between the British government and the colonies.

Conflict With Native Americans
By 1763, Britain controlled most of North America east of the Mississippi River. Native Americans within this region feared the encroachment of British settlers onto their lands. In May 1763, the Ottawa leader, Pontiac, attacked British forts and settlements. Many settlers were killed, and Britain retaliated. By August 1763, Pontiac’s forces were defeated. Pontiac fought for another year, but by the fall of 1764, the war was over.

To avoid more conflicts, Britain issued the Proclamation of 1763. It banned colonial settlements west of the Appalachian Mountains. Many colonists felt the ban violated their right to live where they pleased. The ban was largely ignored.

British Rule Leads to Conflict
The colonists were proud of their contribution to winning the French and Indian War. Although most colonists felt a degree of independence from Britain, they were still loyal British subjects. That loyalty began to erode when Britain, now deeply in debt from the French and Indian War, began to impose new taxes.

In 1764, Parliament passed the Sugar Act, which put a duty, or import tax, on several products, including molasses. Colonial merchants protested. A year later, Parliament tried to save money with the Quartering Act, requiring colonists to provide housing and provisions to British troops stationed in the colonies. The colonists angrily complained that the Quartering Act violated their rights.

Key Events

- 1754: French and Indian War begins.
- 1765: Stamp Act is passed.
- 1775: Fighting at Lexington and Concord marks the beginning of the American Revolution.

Vocabulary Builder
Reread the underlined sentence. To encroach means “to intrude gradually.” Why did Native Americans fear the encroachment of settlers?

Checkpoint
Explain why Britain banned the colonists from settling west of the Appalachian Mountains.

Checkpoint
Describe what the Quartering Act required colonists to do.
**The Stamp Act**

In 1765, Parliament passed the Stamp Act. This required colonists to buy special tax stamps to put on products, newspapers, and legal documents. In protest, some colonies passed a resolution declaring that only the colonial governments had the right to tax the colonists. Merchants in major cities boycotted, or refused to buy, British goods.

Finally, colonial delegates sent a petition, a written request to the government, demanding an end to the Sugar Act and the Stamp Act. Parliament repealed the Stamp Act, but it passed the Declaratory Act, which said that Parliament had full authority over the colonies. ✓

**Protests Spread**

In 1767, Parliament passed the Townshend Acts, which declared that only products imported into the colonies would be taxed. To enforce these taxes, as well as to find smuggled goods, customs officers used writs of assistance. These legal documents allowed customs officers to make searches without saying what they were looking for.

Colonists boycotted British goods to protest this violation of their rights. Merchants in Britain suffered from the boycott. They pressured Parliament to repeal the Townshend duties, which it did—except for the tax on tea.

Then, on March 5, 1770, a small group of soldiers in Boston fired into an angry crowd, killing five citizens. After this incident, which became known as the Boston Massacre, Samuel Adams established a Committee of Correspondence in Massachusetts. Soon other colonies set up committees. They wrote letters and pamphlets to keep colonists informed of British actions. This helped to unite the colonies. ✓

**Check Your Progress**

1. Why did Britain impose the Sugar Act and Quartering Act?

   ____________________________

2. How did the Committee of Correspondence help to unite the colonists?

   ____________________________
**Section 2 Notetaking Study Guide**

**Question to Think About** As you read Section 2 in your textbook and take notes, keep this section focus question in mind: How did the French and Indian War draw the colonists closer together but increase friction with Britain?

- Use this chart to record key information from the section. Some information has been filled in to get you started.

### The Colonists Unite to Resist British Control

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1754–1763</td>
<td>Colonists fought alongside the British to win the French and Indian War, expecting gratitude for their service. But the war put Britain deeply in debt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1763</td>
<td>Britain issued the Sugar Act, banning settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains. The British hoped to avoid more wars with Native Americans, but the colonists largely supported the ban.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1764</td>
<td>Colonists protested the Stamp Act, which put a tax on items such as newspapers and legal documents. Colonial governments declared that only they could tax British goods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1765</td>
<td>Colonists protested the Quartering Act, which required them to provide homes and food for British soldiers. Colonial merchants boycotted British goods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1766</td>
<td>Parliament repealed the Declaratory Act, but passed the Townshend Acts, which claimed that Parliament had total authority over the colonies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1767</td>
<td>The Townshend Acts set up a system to enforce new import duties. Colonists protested court orders called writs of assistance, which were used to search for illegal goods. Once again, the colonists boycotted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1770</td>
<td>Parliament repealed all the Townshend duties, except the one on tea. That tax was left in force to demonstrate British authority over the colonies. On March 5, the Boston Massacre occurred, in which five Boston citizens were killed and six were injured. The colonies set up Committees of Correspondence to keep colonists informed of British actions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Refer to this page to answer the Chapter 5 Focus Question on page 77.
Section 3 Focus Question
How did British tax policies move the colonists closer to rebellion?
To begin answering this question,
• Understand why the colonists resented the Tea Act.
• Learn how Britain responded to the Boston Tea Party.
• Read about events that led to the battle that began the Revolution.

Section 3 Summary
The colonists’ protests over British policies continued to escalate until the British sent in troops to control the situation. This caused a confrontation that started the American Revolution.

A Dispute Over Tea
Although most of the Townshend duties had been repealed, the tax on tea remained. Then in 1773, Parliament passed the Tea Act. It gave the British East India Company a monopoly on British tea. This meant that the company had total control over all tea sold in the colonies. Although the Tea Act actually lowered the price of tea, it also kept colonial merchants from selling Dutch tea at competitive prices.

The colonists resented the tea tax and the way it limited competitive commerce. To protest the Tea Act, the Sons of Liberty prevented the unloading of tea from the East India Company at many of the colonial ports. However, in Boston, Governor Thomas Hutchinson decided not to allow the tea ships to leave port until they were unloaded.

On the night of December 16, 1773, a large group of men disguised as Native Americans boarded the tea ship waiting in Boston harbor. The ship’s cargo of tea, worth thousands of dollars, was tossed into Boston harbor. This event became known as the Boston Tea Party.

The Intolerable Acts
In response to the Boston Tea Party, the enraged British government passed harsh laws that the colonists called the Intolerable Acts. The laws closed the port of Boston, increased the powers of the royal governor, decreased the power of colonial self-government, and strengthened the Quartering Act. Parliament also passed the Quebec Act. This set up new Canadian boundaries that blocked colonists from moving west.

As citizens in all the colonies sent food and supplies to help Boston through the embargo, the Committee of Correspondence held a meeting to discuss what to do next. This meeting, known
as the First Continental Congress, took place in Philadelphia in 1774. Delegates from all the colonies except Georgia participated. The Congress demanded that Parliament repeal, or officially end, the Intolerable Acts. It also declared that the colonists had a right to tax and govern themselves. The Congress made it a priority to begin training militias, and the delegates called for a new boycott against British goods. Finally, the Congress voted to meet again in May 1775 if their demands weren’t met. ✓

The Shot Heard Round the World
Britain rejected the demands of the First Continental Congress. It decided to restore its authority in the colonies by force. Anticipating this move, the colonists formed new militia units called minutemen. These were citizen soldiers who could be ready to fight in a minute.

In April, the governor of Massachusetts sent for troops to seize the colonists’ weapons stored at Concord, Massachusetts, and capture important colonial leaders. On April 18, 1775, Paul Revere and William Dawes rode all night to warn the minutemen that the British were on the march. The British soldiers and the minutemen had their first confrontation in the town of Lexington, Massachusetts. A shot now known as “the shot heard round the world” was fired, setting off gunfire between the soldiers and the minutemen. In nearby Concord, another battle was taking place. The American Revolution had begun. ✓

**Check Your Progress**
1. What event prompted the British to pass the Intolerable Acts?

2. What did the First Continental Congress accomplish?
**Section 3 Notetaking Study Guide**

**Question to Think About**  As you read Section 3 in your textbook and take notes, keep this section focus question in mind: **How did British tax policies move the colonists closer to rebellion?**

- Use this chart to record key information from the section. Some information has been filled in to get you started.

### Escalating Toward Rebellion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Tea Act</strong></th>
<th><strong>What it did:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• It lowered the price of tea, but kept the tea tax.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• It gave the East India Tea Company a British tea monopoly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• It prevented colonial merchants from ______________________.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial reaction:</td>
<td>• They stopped East India ships from ______________________.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• They dumped ______________________.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>The Intolerable Acts</strong></th>
<th><strong>What prompted their enactment:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• They were Britain’s response to ______________________.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>What they did:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• ______________________.</td>
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<td>• ______________________.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• ______________________.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Quebec Act</td>
<td>• Took away ______________________.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Blocked ______________________.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>First Continental Congress</strong></th>
<th><strong>What it was:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• a meeting in ______________________ in September and October of ___________ to decide what to do next</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>What it did:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• ______________________.</td>
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<td>• ______________________.</td>
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<td>• ______________________.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• ______________________.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Britain’s reaction</td>
<td>• Britain chose to use ______________________.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Battles of Concord and Lexington** | **On the night of April 18, 1776, ______________________ and William Dawes rode to warn the ______________________ that the British were on their way. The first shot was fired at ______________________. By the time the British retreated to Boston, almost ___________ British soldiers had been killed or wounded.** |

Refer to this page to answer the Chapter 5 Focus Question on page 77.
Section 4 Focus Question
How did the American Revolution begin? To begin answering this question,
- Learn what happened when the Second Continental Congress started to act like a government and began to prepare for war.
- Understand why the Battle of Bunker Hill was such an important conflict for the colonists.

Section 4 Summary
The Second Continental Congress prepared for war with Britain, while Parliament sent a large army to end the revolt. Early battles between the British and the colonists indicated that the colonists could and would fight for their freedom.

The Second Continental Congress
In May 1775, the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia. The delegates were divided about what to do. Some wanted to declare independence from Britain, while others wanted more diplomatic action. Nearly all, however, realized that they had to prepare for war. They formed the Continental army, made George Washington the commander, and printed paper money to pay for war expenses.

Like the delegates, the American people themselves were split in their loyalties. Farmers, workers, and many merchants who were affected by the new tax laws were willing to fight for independence. They were called Patriots. Those who owned property and held government positions had more to lose if America lost a war with Britain. These colonists, called Loyalists, remained loyal to the British monarchy in order to keep their lands and positions. Also siding with the British were many enslaved African Americans who hoped to win their freedom, and most Native Americans who feared losing their lands if the colonists won the war. Thousands of Loyalists fought for Britain, and most of them left the colonies during or after the war.

As the Second Continental Congress began, Patriot Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys captured Fort Ticonderoga, a British garrison near Lake Champlain. This victory gave the Continental army control over the main water route between Canada and the Hudson River valley. It also provided the colonists with much-needed weapons, especially cannons.

In July 1775, the Second Continental Congress sent two petitions to the King. The first one, called the Olive Branch Petition after an ancient symbol of peace, stated that the colonists were the King’s
loyal subjects. The second stated that the colonists were ready to fight for their freedom. The British Parliament ignored the Olive Branch Petition and voted to send 20,000 soldiers to the colonies to end the revolt. ✓

**Early Battles**

By June 1775, there were 6,500 British troops camped in Boston, while about 10,000 Americans surrounded the city. Nearly 1,600 of the colonial militia were atop Breed’s Hill, which overlooked the city and the harbor. Nearby were more Americans on Bunker Hill. These colonial troops were farmers and workers, not trained soldiers. British General William Howe decided to attack straight up the hill. His first and second attacks failed, and many of his men were killed. His third attack succeeded, but only because the Americans ran out of ammunition. Although the British won this battle, known as the Battle of Bunker Hill, it proved that the Americans could successfully fight professional British soldiers.

In July 1775, George Washington took charge of the army surrounding Boston. He had the cannons seized earlier at Fort Ticonderoga moved to high ground overlooking Boston, thus making it impossible for the British to defend the city. On March 17, 1776, the British withdrew from Boston. Although the Americans won this battle, Britain still held most of the advantages. Its navy blocked, or shut off, American ports. The British also strengthened their ranks with hired mercenaries, soldiers who serve another country for money.

While Washington trained one army outside Boston, two other armies attempted to invade Canada and take Quebec. One was led by Richard Montgomery; the other by Benedict Arnold. Due to severe winter weather, sickness, and hunger, the attack failed. The Americans withdrew, leaving Canada to the British. ✓

**Check Your Progress**

1. What three things did the Second Continental Congress do to prepare for war?

2. Why was the Battle of Bunker Hill so important to the Americans?
**Section 4 Notetaking Study Guide**

**Question to Think About**  As you read Section 4 in your textbook and take notes, keep this section focus question in mind: *How did the American Revolution begin?*

- Use this chart to record key information from the section. Some information has been filled in to get you started.

### Preparing for War

**Second Continental Congress**

- Date: May 1775
- New delegates: Thomas Jefferson, ______________, and ________________
- Steps taken:
  - ________________
  - ________________
  - ________________

**Colonists Divided**

- Colonists who wanted independence were called ________________.
- Colonists who were loyal to the British Crown were called ________________.

**Fort Ticonderoga**

- On May 10, 1775, ________________ and 83 men, called the ________________ captured Fort Ticonderoga. The men seized weapons, including ________________, which were later moved to Boston.

**Petitions to Britain**

- These two resolutions showed the uncertainty among the colonists:
  - The ___________ stated that ________________.
  - The ___________ stated that the ____________.

### Early Battles

**Bunker Hill**

- The British won the Battle of Bunker Hill after the third ________________ because the American militia ran out of _________________. This battle proved that the Americans could ________________.

**Canada**

- In December 1775, one army led by ________________ and another led by ________________ invaded Canada and attacked the city of ________________. The attack failed.

Refer to this page to answer the Chapter 5 Focus Question on page 77.
Chapter 5 Assessment

Directions: Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. Over which area did Britain and France go to war?
   A. the city of Quebec  C. land east of the Appalachians
   B. the Ohio River valley  D. Spanish Florida

2. Why did Britain increase the colonists' taxes?
   F. to exert control over the colonies  H. to pay for war debts
   G. to pay for the costs of imports  I. to purchase Louisiana

3. What did the colonists resent most about the Tea Act?
   A. It raised the price of tea.
   B. It gave Britain a tea monopoly.
   C. It strengthened the law against smuggling.
   D. It limited the amount of tea for sale.

4. What was one advantage of the capture of Fort Ticonderoga?
   F. It provided cannons for the rebellion.
   G. It proved the Americans could fight against overwhelming odds.
   H. It became a strategic fortress for the colonists.
   I. It convinced the Iroquois to ally with the Americans.

Directions: Follow the steps to answer this question:

How united were the colonists against Britain?

Step 1: Recall information: Identify the colonists who supported independence from Britain and those who did not.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who Supported America’s Independence?</th>
<th>Who Did Not Support America’s Independence?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step 2: Compare and contrast: Briefly describe the differences between the two sides.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Those Who Supported American Independence</th>
<th>Those Who Did Not Support American Independence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step 3: Draw conclusions: Complete the topic sentence that follows. Then write two or three more sentences that support your topic.

The colonies’ conflict with Britain also caused a conflict between ________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
Now you are ready to answer the Chapter 5 Focus Question: **How did the relationship between Britain and the colonies fall apart?**

- Complete the charts to help you answer this question. Use the notes that you took for each section.

### The Path to Revolution

#### Result of the French and Indian War

- Although the Treaty of Paris gave Britain more North American territory, Britain banned settlement west of the _______________________________. Britain hoped this would _______________________________.
- Because the French and Indian War left Britain in debt, Parliament increased the colonists’ _______________________________ to raise money, and expected the colonists to house and feed _______________________________ to save money.
- Expecting gratitude for their role in winning the war, the colonists became outraged. The colonists organized _______________________________ against British goods.

#### Cause and Effects of the Tea Act

- Colonists protested the Tea Act by _______________________________.
- The British retaliated by _______________________________.
- The First Continental Congress called for _______________________________.
- The “shot heard round the world” occurred in _______________________________.

#### Preparing for War

- The Second Continental Congress established the _______________________________ with _______________________________ as its commander.
- Ethan Allen and his men captured Fort _______________________________.
- The Second Continental Congress sent Britain a declaration stating that they were willing to die fighting for freedom.

#### Results of Early Battles

- The Americans lost the Battle of Bunker Hill because they ran out of _______________________________.
- The British finally left Boston, but their navy was able to _______________________________. American ports, and their army was strengthened because they hired _______________________________.
- After an American attack on Quebec failed, Canada was left for the _______________________________.

Refer to this page to answer the Unit 2 Focus Question on page 119.
Practice: Determining the Main Idea

The main idea of a passage is its essential meaning or message. Details in the passage support and explain the main idea. In some cases, the main idea may be clearly stated in one or two sentences. In other cases, the main idea may just be implied by the supporting details. Tools for finding the main idea of a passage include paraphrasing (restating in your own words) and summarizing (writing a brief account with only the main points).

Read the following passages. Then summarize the passages as concisely as you can.

Example:

1. By the middle of the 1700s, France and Britain each controlled large areas of North America that bordered on each other for thousands of miles. Each country feared the other and sought to increase the area it controlled. These ambitions collided on the frontier and eventually led to war.

   France and Britain came into conflict as they sought to expand their adjacent land holdings in North America.

2. The British Parliament passed the Stamp Act on March 22, 1765. The Stamp Act was a direct tax on the colonies. It required colonists to pay a tax on 54 kinds of printed documents. Taxed documents included newspapers, wills, licenses, insurance policies, land titles, contracts, and even playing cards.

3. Colonists who remained loyal to Britain and the king called themselves Loyalists. As many as one-third of the colonists may have had Loyalist sympathies. Many leading merchants and large landowners were Loyalists. They feared a rebellion would lead to a change in government, and they would lose their property. Government officials who owed their jobs and place in society to the British Crown were often Loyalists.
Read the excerpt “The Group.” Then, answer Numbers 1 through 5.

The Group

Mercy Otis Warren was the first American female playwright. Known as the “Conscience of the American Revolution,” she anonymously wrote anti-British and anti-Loyalist propaganda plays. She was married to James Otis, considered the original “Patriot,” and counted John Adams among her friends. Warren’s play The Group was printed two weeks before the Battle of Lexington. It championed the Patriot cause by ridiculing the self-serving Loyalist administration in Massachusetts. Following is an excerpt.

Act I, Scene I. A little dark Parlour in Boston:
Guards standing at the door.

Simple Sapling.
I know not what to think of these sad times,
The people arm’d,—and all resolv’d to die
Ere they’ll submit.—

Crusty Crowbar.
I too am almost sick of the parade
Of honours purchas’d at the price of peace.

Simple Sapling.
Fond as I am of greatness and her charms,…
But yet, ere this I hop’d more solid gains,
As my low purse demands a quick supply.—
Poor Sylvia weeps,—and urges my return
To rural peace and humble happiness,
As my ambition beggars all her babes….

Lord Chief Justice Hazlerod.
Resolv’d more rapidly to gain my point,
I mounted high in justice’s sacred seat,
With flowing robes, and head equip’d without,
A heart unfeeling and a stubborn soul,…
I sold my country for a splendid bribe.
Now let her sink—and all the dire alarms
Of war, confusion, pestilence, and blood,
And tenfold mis’ry be her future doom—
Let civil discord lift her sword on high,
Nay, sheath its hilt e’en in my brother’s blood;
It ne’er shall move the purpose of my soul;…
We may live Demons, as we die like brutes,
I give my tears, and conscience to the winds.
Now answer Numbers 1 through 5. Base your answers on the article “The Group.”

LA.8.1.7.3 1 Which of the following BEST paraphrases Simple Sapling’s second piece of dialogue?
A. “My wife wants me to quit, but I choose to keep my position because it is very lucrative.”
B. “I enjoy the glory of my position, but I am unable to support my wife and children.”
C. “I would leave my position and return to my former life, but I never enjoyed being a simple farmer.”
D. “The importance of my position is all the payment I need.”

LA.8.1.7.3 2 Which of the following BEST expresses Warren’s message, through Hazlerod’s dialogue, about those in power in Massachusetts?
F. They are cruel and unethical.
G. They must purchase their positions.
H. They would not go so far as to kill their brothers.
I. They are reluctant to use violence.

LA.8.1.7.2 3 Which of the following BEST represents Warren’s opinion of the Patriots?
A. “honours purchas’d at the price of peace”
B. “greatness and her charms”
C. “war, confusion, pestilence, and blood”
D. “rural peace and humble happiness”

LA.8.1.6.11 SS.8.A.3.3 4 Warren looked up to John Adams as a writer. She submitted her plays to him for feedback and approval. In this role, which figure from Greek mythology does Adams represent?
F. Achilles
G. Paris
H. Mentor
I. Odysseus

LA.8.1.7.2 5 Which of the following BEST describes Warren’s approach to the subject matter?
A. Warren shows biased, emotional allegiance to the Patriots.
B. Warren shows sympathy for the Loyalist administration.
C. Warren does not take sides with the Patriots or the Loyalists.
D. Warren favors the Patriots but only on the surface.
Read the Writing Situation below and follow the steps for writing your essay.

**Writing Situation**

After the French and Indian War, British leaders believed the American colonists should pay part of the war debt. In 1764, the British began imposing new taxes on the colonies.

**Pre-Writing**

1. **Plan.** Identify at least five acts passed by the British Parliament leading up to the Revolutionary War. For each act, indicate the year in which it was passed.

   ____________________________________________________________

   ____________________________________________________________

   ____________________________________________________________

   ____________________________________________________________

   ____________________________________________________________

2. **Organize.** Next, complete the graphic organizer below with a description of each act and the reaction of the colonists. Make sure the acts are in chronological order.

   Act #1 ➔ Act #2 ➔ Act #3 ➔ Act #4 ➔ Act #5
Draft your essay. Write a brief history of the British acts that incited the colonists to protest and rebel. Remember to include a topic sentence, examples, and supporting details. Use the ideas in your graphic organizer to write your essay.
Review Your Writing

Read your essay. Answer each question below. Your answers to these questions will help you think about how you may improve your essay.

Focus
• Did I include a topic sentence?
• Did I only use information related to my topic to explain my ideas?
• Did I remain on topic throughout my essay?

Organize
• Did I relate one idea to the next through the use of transitional devices?
• Did I relate details back to my main topic?

Support
• Did I give vivid details and examples to explain my main topic?
• Did I show how details relate to each other and to my main topic?

Conventions
• Did I use appropriate punctuation, capitalization, spelling, usage, and sentence structure?
• Did I use a variety of sentences (length, style) throughout my essay?

Revise Your Writing

Improve your essay. Make corrections to your essay to be sure you have written a brief history of the British acts that incited the colonists to protest and rebel.

Share Your Essay

Exchange essays with a peer. Discuss ways that you could improve your essays.