

Rights, Rivers, Revolution

Read how colonial rights and New York's location shaped the Revolution.

4.3d "Growing conflicts between England and the 13 colonies over issues of political and economic rights led to the American Revolution. New York played a significant role during the Revolution, in part due to its geographic location."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words or sentences that explain why conflict between England and the colonies grew. Circle words or sentences that explain why New York was important during the war.

New York in a Growing Conflict

- ① In the 1760s, England asked colonists to pay new taxes on items such as paper and tea. Many colonists said this was unfair because they had no elected representatives in Parliament, the lawmaking body in England. They also wanted more control over trade and local laws. These arguments about political and economic rights increased conflict between England and the colonies.
- ② New York was important because its harbor opened to the Atlantic Ocean, and the Hudson River reached far inland. Control of these routes could move soldiers and supplies. In 1776, British forces won the Battle of Long Island and captured New York City. They used the city as a major base for much of the war.
- ③ Farther north, American forces defeated a British army at Saratoga in 1777. The British had hoped to control the Hudson River valley and separate New England from other colonies. Instead, the American victory helped persuade France to become an ally. France sent money, supplies, and soldiers. Many historians call Saratoga a turning point because it changed the war in this important way.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Why did many colonists think the new taxes were unfair?

2 What political and economic rights did colonists want more control over?

3 How did New York's harbor and the Hudson River make the colony important during the war?

4 Why is the Battle of Saratoga called a turning point in the passage?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write three sentences that connect a conflict over rights, New York's location or a battle, and an effect on the Revolutionary War. Use one detail from each part of the passage.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline words or sentences that explain why conflict between England and the colonies grew. Circle words or sentences that explain why New York was important during the war. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did many colonists think the new taxes were unfair?	They had no elected representatives in Parliament.
2	What political and economic rights did colonists want more control over?	They wanted representation in lawmaking and more control over trade and local laws.
3	How did New York's harbor and the Hudson River make the colony important during the war?	They were routes that could be used to move soldiers and supplies.
4	Why is the Battle of Saratoga called a turning point in the passage?	The American victory helped persuade France to become an ally, and France sent money, supplies, and soldiers.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Colonists protested taxes because they had no elected representatives in Parliament. New York's harbor and Hudson River made it important to both armies. After the American victory at Saratoga, France became an ally, which helped change the war.

Accept equivalent wording that accurately connects rights conflicts to the Revolution and explains New York's strategic role. In the open response, look for three connected sentences with a rights detail, a New York detail, and a historically accurate effect.